

RUSPER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 31st October 2017 at 8.00pm

Present: Cllrs. G. Hill (Chairman), G. Sallows (Vice Chair), V. Bender, G. Hussey, R. Allen, V. Saunders and N. Vance-Webb
L. Bannister (Clerk)
2 Members of the public
WSCC & HDC Cllr. Kitchen

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Gatt, Forrest, Lawton and Sheridan. These were accepted.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Hill.

4 OPEN FORUM

A member of the public asked for an explanation of the bollards in East Street. Cllr. Hill explained what Rusper PC is proposing.

5 VACANCY & CO OPTION

There is one vacancy and there have been three applicants – Gary Addams, Naomi Vance-Webb and Dean Smith. Members asked all applicants some questions. The successful applicant was Naomi Vance-Webb, decided by way of a vote.

The successful applicant signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.

6 PLANNING

DC/17/2127 Trisolde, Ashmore Lane

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application.’

Cllr. Kitchen arrived

DC/17/2184 Sweet Briar, Horsham Road

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council defer to the arboriculturalist on this application.’

DC/17/0942 Lower Langhurst Farm, Orltons Lane

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council strongly objects to this application and request to see a business plan to show the viability for the barn in this location, and an access statement for this site in general.’

Cllr. Kitchen will ask about the enforcement for Lower Langhurst Farm and report back to the Clerk.

DC/17/2259 Old Park House, Bonnetts Lane

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application.’

DC/17/2279 Oak Tree Farm, Ifield Wood

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council objects to this application as the previous permission hasn’t been acted on and so RPC can’t see a reason to justify the need for this. Also, this would only provide access to a small portion of the land.’

DC/17/1579 The Royal Oak, Friday Street

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council confirms their original comment and adds that with increased population, this public house is an important facility for the Parish. From the information given, it would appear that the viability for the pub is still there, but there seems to have been an issue with the management of it.’

DC/17/2164 Thatched Barn Cottage, Normans

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council objects to this application due to the size of the building and the fact it has two storeys. This area has had a lot of development in recent years, so something of this scale is inappropriate.’

DC/17/2289 Camelot Court, Arthur Road

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council objects to this application for the following reasons:-

- Over intensification of the area
- Potential loss of parking spaces that are already used
- Loss of trees
- Loss of habitat
- Access onto a narrow road is unsuitable and unsafe.’

Applications received since publication of the Agenda

DC/17/2342 4 Canonbury Villas, Lambs Green

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council supports this application as it is a needed provision.’

DC/17/1827 Stafford House, Bonnetts Lane

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Rusper Parish Council strongly objects to this application because of the traffic it would cause, and the unsuitability of this in this area. We would ask that enforcement visit the site and stop the activities already taking place there.’

Report on Rusper Road developments

Cllr. Bender reported that parking is still a big issue with workers for the developments parking on the road and particularly on the bend.

There is a lot of mud on the road as the vehicles from the Martin Grant development don’t wash

their wheels on exiting the site. The vehicles drive onto the pavements so these are also caked in mud. Construction workers have been working outside of the permitted working hours.

Health and Safety has been contacted as construction workers have been working on the roofs unsafely.

Residents have made numerous complaints to HDC, but they feel they are not being supported.

Cllr. Bender left the meeting

7 REPORTS FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

Cllr. Kitchen reported that Reigate and Banstead are collecting evidence on air quality and there appears to be a big problem in Horley.

All aircraft movements in the night will be counted.

Cllr. Kitchen attended an event at the Hindu Temple in Ifield Wood.

Cllr. Saunders reported that Britaniacrest are putting together new plans for the incinerator.

Cllr. Sallows asked about the S106 negotiations for the North of Horsham development. Cllr. Kitchen will be attending a meeting about this soon. North Horsham Parish Council is arranging a meeting with Liberty. They will invite Rusper PC to attend this.

8 LEASE OF RECREATION GROUND

The original Lease needs to be collected from the bank.

The Clerk has had two quotes for legal work from solicitors, they both quoted exactly the same, but one of the solicitors has experience working with Parish Councils. It was agreed to go ahead with Surrey Hills Solicitors at a cost of £800-£900 plus VAT and disbursements, including registering the lease at the Land Registry.

It was also agreed to cover the land owner's legal fees up to £800 plus VAT.

Cllr. Kitchen left the meeting

9 PREVENTION OF CRIME IN RUSPER

There has been lots of crime in the area lately, so Rusper PC considered how they could be involved in preventing this. The following suggestions were made:-

- CCTV
- Farmwatch
- Neighbourhood Watch

It was agreed that representatives from Farmwatch and Neighbourhood Watch will be contacted and invited to the next meeting.

The feeling was that street lighting does not prevent crime.

10 POTENTIAL CLOSURE OF FAYGATE TRAIN STATION

A resident of Faygate has been in touch looking for support to stop this. It was agreed to invite him to the next meeting.

11 LOCATIONS FOR VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS

This will be held over until the next meeting.

12 BOLLARDS IN EAST STREET – OBJECTION TO LICENCE APPLICATION

There has been an objection from the member of the public who parks his van on the verge to keep it off the road. In his opinion if he were to park it on the road it would restrict visibility for vehicles exiting the pub. He also pointed out that other vehicles park with wheels on the pavement which restricts the use of the pavement, especially for people with pushchairs.

RPC rejects this objection. Members of the public that Councillors have spoken to are in favour of the bollards. Councillors agreed that this objection is invalid for the situation.

If the licence is granted, it was agreed that the bollards will go ahead at a cost of £3837 plus VAT.

13 LOGO/ID CARDS

The proof was approved, except the wording will be included in the logo. They will cost around £3 each. This was approved.

14 STREET LIGHTS – CONVERSION TO LED

This will be held over until the next meeting.

15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Update

Data from the survey is still being processed. The call for sites notice has been published. The Committee is trying to set up focus groups.

Administration

There will be a need for administration. A budget for this will be agreed. The Committee will work out how many hours would be needed and present this to the Council. It is not possible to get funding to cover staff costs.

16 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr. Saunders attended the Britaniacrest meeting. They will be putting forward new plans for the incinerator soon.

Cllr. Sallows reported that the sports club has been doing some repairs on the building.

Cllr. Hussey needs an ‘odd job’ man to do some work on the playground and estimates this will cost around £400 plus materials up to £50. This was approved.

Work on the finger posts will start again in November.

17 CLERK’S REPORT

HDC are holding planning training on 19th December. Cllrs. Hussey and Vance-Webb will attend.

Highways are holding a Parish Council liaison event at Broadbridge Heath. This will be limited to two representatives. Cllrs. Hussey and Vance-Webb will attend.

18 TRAINING FOR CLERK

The Clerk will start CILCA soon. This will be a cost of £125 for Rusper PC. This was approved.

19 PARISH MAGAZINE

It was agreed to include the following:

- Co option of a new Councillor

- Neighbourhood Watch/Prevention of crime

20 FINANCES

Reconciled accounts & bank statements

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Hussey.

YTD budget comparison & budgeting for next financial year

Everything is within budget so far.

Cllr. Hussey will review the cost of maintenance work on the finger posts in the next financial year.

Review of payments made by Direct Debit/Standing Order

BT has amended their prices to £22 for broadband and £16 for the phone line and a new router for £8.

The following payments were approved:-

Payee	Reason	Amount	Due
HDC	Dog bins	21.58	Monthly
HDC	Car park rates	121.00	Monthly, for 10 months out of 12
EDF	Street lights	Circa £75	Monthly
Lloyds	Bank fees	£10-£15	Monthly
I&I Internet Ltd	Email & website	91.52	Monthly
BT	Broadband	31.20	Monthly
BT	Phone line	20.00	Monthly
ICO	Data protection subscription	35.00	Annually
1&1 Internet	Website	1.19	Monthly

Review of Clerk's salary

It was recommended to increase the Clerk's salary from £10.83 an hour to £11.41 per hour from November 2016. This was approved.

Cllr. Hill declared an interest in the following item as a director of the Village Store.

Grant for the Village Store

The store is running at a loss of £500. It was agreed to grant them £500 for the time being, and Rusper PC will encourage sponsorship for them in the future. This will be added to the next payment schedule.

Invoices to pay

It was agreed to pay the following:

Salary for Clerk (July) – £469.30

Litter Warden salary & expenses – £91.60 & £23.48 (£115.08)

PAYE - £8.40

SSALC Chair's Networking Day - £156

PKF Littlejohn for external audit - £240

Rusper Village Hall - £290

Sussex Land Services for grass cutting - £448.57

Streetlights for street light maintenance - £239.46

All of these payments will be sent via bank transfer.

21 OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Allen will set Cllr. Vance-Webb up with an official email address and will add details to the website.

Cllr. Allen also reported that Cllr. Lawton and a member of the public are still in contact with BT about superfast broadband.

22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Council meeting will be held on 28th November 2017. The next Neighbourhood Plan meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st November 2017.

The meeting closed at 10.25 pm

LEANNE BANNISTER
CLERK