

RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd November 2015 at 8.00pm in Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors: John Gillies (JG : Chair) , John Harvey (JH) , David Smart (DS) , Anne Sword-Daniels (AS-D) & Jill Goldman (J Gm) .
 Judith Bradbury (JB :Clerk), East Sussex County Councillor Carla Butler (CB) , Police Community Support Officer Jodie Barden (JBn) & seven members of the public including Georgina Hickey(GH) .

Item No		Action
1	<p>Apologies were received & accepted from Councillor Richard Sellick . Councillor Jill Goldman declared a prejudicial interest in item 6.2 as owner of an adjoining property . She left the room during the discussion & voting on this item . Councillor John Gillies declared a prejudicial interest in item 6.3 as owner of an adjoining property . He took no part in the discussion or voting on this item . Councillor John Harvey declared a pecuniary interest in item 7.2 as a recipient of a cheque on the schedule. He took no part in the discussions or voting in this item . There had been no requests to consider any dispensations.</p>	
	<p>Public Question Time We welcomed PCSO Jodie Barden to our meeting . JBn outlined the geographic area she covers :- Ringmer , Firle , Glynde & the C7 communities of Kingston , Iford & Swanborough , Northease , Rodmell , Southease & part of Piddinghoe. Inevitably the larger communities take up the lion's share of her time. She updated everyone with the latest crime report for Rodmell which recorded just one incident – a burglary. JB drew JBn's attention to the results of the latest Speed Survey of the C7 at Rodmell (item 5) & in particular the worrying incidence of 13 cars in a 24 hour period recorded travelling in the 46 – 51 mph bracket , some during the middle of the day. JBn agreed to undertake some new speed monitoring exercises. Finally she explained that given the pressure to further reduce costs , the role of PCSO was likely to change & that she would know more about this early in 2016. Jodie left up-to-date cards with her contact details . We thanked her for her time & she left our meeting. Councillor Carla Butler directed everyone's attention to the next round of budget cuts that East Sussex County Council was faced with . It needed to save a further £70-£90 million by 2019. It was likely we would see a reduction on spending in adult social services of £40m . As part of this process ESCC has launched a consultation which runs to 18th December 2015 & she urged everyone to take part in this . There is a presentation at Lewes Town Hall on 11th November 12 pm – 2pm or documents can be viewed at local libraries or via the Have Your Say portal on ESCC's website.</p>	
2	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th September 2015 & the Extraordinary Meeting 15th October 2015 were approved & signed as a</p>	JB

	correct record.	
3	<p>Rodmell Parish Council : Casual Vacancy</p> <p>JB confirmed that following the resignation of Councillor Warner , a notice of vacancy was duly posted & the Electoral Services Manager at Lewes District Council subsequently confirmed no requests for a by-election had been received & that we may proceed to fill the vacancy by co-option. The vacancy had been advertised & Georgina Hickey , a resident of Northease had come forward to offer herself for the role & had completed an application form confirming her eligibility . The Council unanimously resolved to co-opt Georgina Hickey & she was invited to join the Councillors & welcomed . GH completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office . She has received a Register of Interests to complete & will return this to the Clerk within the next couple of weeks .</p> <p>JB explained that SSALC are offering just one further New Councillor Training session this year on 17th November . GH confirmed she would like to take part in a training session & will check if that date is suitable . Failing that a new calendar of workshops will be available early in 2016.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>JB</p>
4	<p>Future of Community Transport (Brighton , Hove & Area) Ltd's 130 Bus Service Rodmell – Iford – Kingston – Winterbourne</p> <p>The Clerk at Kingston Parish Council has confirmed that their Councillors were agreeable in principle to supporting a one or two days bus service & had suggested it was discussed further at the next POLO meeting . Iford had not managed to include the matter at their October meeting & the Clerk was now canvassing local residents to gauge their level of support. JB had yet to hear back from Lewes Town Council as to what their stance was. It was agreed to reconsider this item again at our January meeting .</p>	
5	<p>Speed Survey C7 at Rodmell September 2015</p> <p>The results of this survey had been circulated . It recorded the following average speeds over twenty four hours :-</p> <p>Southbound 32mph (2011 : 36mph)</p> <p>Northbound 31 mph (2011 : 34mph)</p> <p>Traffic volume is recorded as :-</p> <p>Southbound 3874 (2011 3668)</p> <p>Northbound 3550 (2011 3341)</p> <p>an increase of 415/6%.</p> <p>Whilst there has been a welcome reduction in average speeds pre & post installation of the traffic calming measures this is modest , although it was acknowledged a reduction of this level was typical in data available in studies before & after installation of Vehicle Activated Signs. The data has been shared with both our District & County Councillors as they were in the process of setting up a working group to look at developing a holistic approach to speeding concerns along the whole of the C7 . The Council unanimously resolved that the Clerk write to Rupert Clubb & Michael Higgs at ESCC Communities , Economy & Transport Department to thank them for agreeing & arranging for this new survey to be conducted.</p>	<p>JB</p>

6

Planning

6.1 SDNP/15/04859/FUL

Change of use of the Shoot Lodge at Iford to a mixed use as a facilities building for game shooting for no more than two days a week from 1st September - 2nd February in each year & for use as a Forest School & conference /training room , & associated parking with changes to the building or parking area for Mrs Ged Robinson.

The Council **unanimously resolved to not make a response** to this planning application .

As agenda items 6.5 & 6.6 were associated with 6.1 it was **unanimously resolved to bring these items forward on our agenda .**

6.5 SDNP/14/05468/CND & APP/Y9507/W/15/3002162

Appeal against change of use from agricultural to shoot The Shooting Lodge , Iford.

The Planning Inspector had allowed the appeal in favour of the appellant. JB explained that prior to making his decision he had sought clarification from Natural England as to their stance. Their response , which is available on the Planning Inspector's website , confirmed they had no evidence to show that the use of the lodge for up to four days per week to date has caused any damage to the special features of the SSSis. JB had subsequently spoken to Kristoffer Hewitt , Weald & Marshes Team Leader Sussex & Kent Area , who had confirmed they undertake little by way of monitoring of the level of the population of insects within the designated sites. JB had invited Natural England to attend a Parish Council meeting but they had declined as they felt unwilling to discuss what was private land albeit with free access to roam. KH had suggested he organise a series of guided walks over the site next year which it was hoped would be attended by all interested parties including Iford Shoot. From the floor Chrstine Hall thanked the Council for the work they had undertaken in responding to all the planning applications connected with this site & for their attendance at all the planning hearings. She understood there was the possibility that some local volunteers would undertake , with expert guidance , regular site visits to gather robust data on insect populations especially for endangered species.

6.6 SDNP/14/04465/FUL , SDNP/14/06320/FUL & APP/P1425/C/14/3001421

Appeal against Section 73a retrospective application for change of use of land from agriculture to mixed use of agriculture & game rearing . JB had not received any official notification of a decision from the Planning Inspector . Christine Hall advised she believed he had found in favour of the appellant although there were conditions attached.

6.2 SDNP/15/04987/HOUS

Erection of a replacement porch to side elevation , internal works , new windows in existing openings in rear elevation , conservation style roof-lights to side elevation & rear garden patio at Drummond House , The Street for Mr & Mrs A Last.

The council **unanimously resolved to raise no objection.**

6.3 SDNP/15/04482/HOUS

Erection of a detached garage with granny annex over for Mr W & Mrs L Saunders , Mill Furlong , Mill Lane

The Council **unanimously resolved to raise no objection.**

Other matters :-

JB

JB

	<p>Notification of Tree Works SDNP/15/106/TCA JB advised she had looked at this application for works at Monks House & after consultation with JH had objected to the proposed removal of two mature disease free Lime Trees & asked LDC to consider issuing Tree Preservation Orders.</p>	
7	<p>Finance Report 7.1 The bank statement reconciliation for September & October 2015 were circulated , approved & signed. 7.2 The following cheques were authorised for payment :- 000227 £26.00 John Harvey – reimbursement for purchase of the SDNP Local Plan – Preferred Options 000228 £21.50 Judith Bradbury – reimbursement for purchase of picture frame for Rodmell Resident of the Year 000229 £97.15 Lewes District Council – election expenses 000230 £75.00 (Vat £12.50) The Play Inspection Co – annual inspection of playground 000231 £73.15 Rodmell C of E Primary School – reimbursement of photocopying charges .</p>	JB
8	<p>Budgetary Process 8.1 Half yearly actual income & expenditure to budget The figures were circulated by the Clerk . The Council were pleased to note that actual income/expenditure continues to be on-track. 8.2 Commencement of the budgetary process for the financial year 2016/2017 . The Clerk had circulated a provisional budget on which to base the setting of the precept which had to be confirmed to LDC by the end of January 2016. She still awaited the confirmation of this year's tax base figure. It was agreed therefore to use the document as the basis for the final deliberations to be made at our January 2016 meeting.</p>	
9	<p>Clerk's & /or Councillor's Report on progress on items from the last meeting not otherwise covered on this Agenda & other items for noting & information purposes only :-</p> <p> [^] Defibrillators JB reported the figures provided by SADS UK for the installation of a cabinet/defibrillator at the school seemed prohibitively expensive notwithstanding the Government's current initiative & the Council unanimously resolved to not pursue this for the time being.</p> <p> [^] Rodmell Village Website JG was delighted to report that the new website has now been launched . The Council wished to minute their grateful thanks to all who had been involved & acknowledge the hard work that had been voluntarily undertaken . There was still much to be done & it remained very much work in process. JB reminded everyone we have the opportunity to make a claim under the Government's Transparency Fund in respect of expenses incurred this year in order that we fulfil the new transparency criteria . Any application must be submitted to SSALC no later than 10th February 2016.</p> <p> [^] Invitation to twin with Le Bourg Dun JB reported there had been an excellent response from villagers expressing</p>	

	<p>an interest in being involved in this twinning initiative. A meeting of all interested parties had been held . The consensus had been that Rodmell's preference would be for any twinning arrangement would be run on a low key , informal basis . Marcus Brown & Michael Sword-Daniels had agreed to take forward developing the dialogue with the contacts at Le Bourg Dun.</p> <p>▲ Rodmell Remembers Project</p> <p>JB confirmed she has finished researching the history of the nine soldiers commemorated as fatalities in the 1st World War on Rodmell's war memorial . A special service is to be held at our Church this Remembrance Sunday with nine readers sharing the biographical details discovered for each man . There was a personalised cross for each & these would be blessed & later that week taken to France to be left at their graves/memorials . Our local MP was sending a wreath which JG would lay on her behalf.</p> <p>▲ Resignation of the Clerk /recruitment process</p> <p>SSALC advise that so far seven application packs have been downloaded & one completed application received. The cut off date for applications was 13th November with interviews set to be held 25th November 2015.</p>	
10	<p>Maintenance reviews of The Dicklands , The School Playground & The Sports Field</p> <p>10.1 JB was pleased to report the Caretaker at the School , Brian Breeds had kindly undertaken the repairs to the wetpour area. About 50% of the repair kit had been used & the rest was in JB's garage for use at a future date . The Council unanimously resolved that the Clerk write to Mr Breeds to thank him for undertaking this work on our behalf.</p> <p>10.2 Deteriorating condition of wooden benches in the Cricket Field JGm had managed to speak to the Lees family who had decided they would like to replace the bench that commemorates David Lees. A new bench with a fresh inscription has been ordered & should be delivered shortly . DS has kindly offered to dispose of the old bench . The bench that commemorated Mark Hedger & Tom Calverley has now been disposed of as it was in a dangerous state . JB has retained the commemorative plaque which could at a future date be recycled.</p> <p>10.3 The annual playground inspection had been completed by The Play Inspection Co with the most pressing finding being the replacement of two rotten poles. The climbing frame continues under guarantee until 2017 & JB was talking to Hand Made Places to obtain a quote for the labour costs to undertake the remedial work . As next year would be the last year any work can be undertaken within the guarantee (ie no cost for parts) it was imperative the inspection report picked up as many faults as possible & it may be prudent to book an attended site inspection even if this proved slightly more costly .</p> <p>10.4 Martin Burnaby-Davies had confirmed that the Pavilion has been shut down for the winter . Water in the tank has been drained & the showers lagged . He had replaced three cracked tiles on the roof.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>JGm/DS</p>
11	<p>11.1 Invitation to attend the East Sussex Association of Local Councils Ltd AGM & Conference 2015 Thursday 12th November 2015</p> <p>No Councillors were available to attend this event.</p>	

12	<p>Brief report from Clerk & /or Councillors on external meetings attended since the last Parish Council meeting :-</p> <p>A S-D & JH had attended the LDC/ESCC Conference for Town & Parish Councils . The Chief Executive of ESCC had confirmed that the new Broadband mapping exercise has been completed & site surveys were now underway with the intention that the calendar of works be commenced early next year . The calendar schedule will be published by the end of November .</p> <p>The had also learnt at the meeting that , in an effort to improve its recycling rate of 24% , LDC was to move to a fortnightly refuse collection service with the recycling & food waste collection moving to weekly .</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.50 pm . Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday 4th January 2016 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall . Please get any items you would like to be considered for inclusion on the agenda to the Clerk by Friday 18th December 2015.</p>	