

RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2016 at 8.00pm in Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors: John Gillies (JG), Anne Sword-Daniels (ASD), John Harvey (JH), David Smart (DS), Richard Sellick (RS), George Hickey (GH), & Jill Goldman (J Gm).
Derek Blackhall (DB: Clerk), East Sussex County Councillor Carla Butler (CB), Lewes District Councillor Vic Ient (VI) for part of our meeting, and 2 members of the public.

1	JG opened the meeting and asked for nominations for the Chair. John Gillies accepted a nomination and was unanimously elected .	
2	JG asked for nominations for Vice Chair. John Harvey was nominated and was unanimously elected .	
3	A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was completed by the Chairman & Vice Chairman.	DB
4	No apologies had been received.	
5	JG declared an interest in 2 cheques being signed. No requests to consider any dispensations had been received.	
6	It was agreed to structure future meeting agendas so that matters requiring input from CB & VI could be dealt with in the early part of the meeting.	
7	General Power of Competence The Council confirmed it had met the prescribed conditions set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) Order 2012 & unanimously resolved to readopt the General Power of Competence .	
8	<p>Public Question Time.</p> <p>In respect of the school closure consultation, it was noted there was a County Council meeting on 10 May. CB felt there had not been enough time or support allocated to this issue by ESCC, but that as there were over 5000 signatures objecting to closure, this would have to be a Council debate rather than just being dealt with by the Lead Member. JG felt that the general feeling in the village was against closure, and the Council agreed. Rodmell Parish Council would write to Councillor Nick Bennett, the Lead Member on this matter, before the closing date of 27th May 2016, expressing RPC support for the school.</p> <p>On Friday 13 May, Nick Bennett and the Governors were to meet at the school. It was felt that there was not much diocese or local authority support for the school, but Anne Roberts, the Vice Chair of school governors, stated there was a case for a ‘stay of execution’ in order to fully evaluate options. She believed that there appeared to be a possible partnership route (even if the partner were not a Church of England school).</p> <p><u>Shooting – application for a lawful development certificate</u></p> <p>More documents had recently been posted on the LDC planning website re the Application for Lawful Use. There was a long Statement of Case from a barrister and a response to letters of objection, plus a couple of</p>	DB

	<p>letters of support. The Council agreed to write to the planners and the LDC solicitor requesting that they should instruct suitable legal representation to match that retained by the applicants. It was noted there was no decision date yet.</p> <p><u>Buses</u></p> <p>VI felt it would be an opportune time to remind residents about the services so as to encourage them to use them. He would be producing an A4 four-sided leaflet with the timetables for both services on them together with other information about buses, for distribution to residents in the lower Ouse valley. The part cost for producing leaflets for Rodmell was likely to be less than £100 and this was approved. It was felt that we could find volunteers to deliver to all houses.</p> <p><u>C7 Safety & Strategy Group</u></p> <p>VI had reported previously on the successful workshop in March and said that a further workshop was proposed for this month. It was likely this meeting would be held on Thursday 26th of May at Northease School. It was hoped that a Councillor would be able to attend the Community & Safety Partnership Fund meeting to explore further the possibility of Grant funding.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th March 2016 had been circulated & were approved and signed as a correct record.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>8.1 The bank statement reconciliation for February and March 2016 were circulated, approved & signed.</p> <p>8.2 The following cheques were authorised for payment: -</p> <p>000250 £38.00 Helen Perris Website work-January. 000251 £101.00 Helen Perris March website work. 000252 £371.20 D I Blackhall April/May net salary. 000253 £92.60 HMRC income tax 000254 £130.18 D I Blackhall-computer consumables & mileage reimbursement. 000255 £607.95 (£111.33 VAT) D I Blackhall reimbursement for new parish laptop & scanner. 000256 £88.92 (£14.82 VAT) Lewes District Council - dog bin emptying 1/4/16 to 30/6/16 000257 £56.00 John Gillies - parish newsletter printing reimbursement. DB explained cheque number 249 had been cancelled; and that cheque 250 replaces cheque 247 dated 7/3/16 which had been lost in the post. A letter to the bank was signed, placing a stop on the original cheque.</p> <p>The revised grass cutting contract was approved. The insurance renewal was approved for one year.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p>

<p>10</p>	<p>11.1 SDNP/16/01373/HOUS. Creation of a first floor with a pitched roof at 3 Badgers Dene, Rodmell. It was agreed to post the following statement on the SDNP website:</p> <p>“Rodmell Parish Council discussed this application at their meeting on 9 May, 2016. The outcome was that they have no objection to the overall design of this proposed two story build, but do object to the proposed cladding. This is because it is not in keeping with the other houses on this small estate which use hung tiles rather than cladding of the type proposed. We also request that the brickwork and roof tiling used in the build should be chosen to match the existing.”</p> <p>11.2 SDNP/16/01030/FUL Rodmell Hill Cottage, Mill Lane, Rodmell, East Sussex, BN& 3HS. It was agreed to post the following statement on the SDNP website:</p> <p>“Rodmell Parish Council discussed this application at their meeting on 9 May, 2016. They did not object to the overall concept of a rebuild, but request the District Council to consider very carefully the proposed design and materials in the context of this small Downland village. The Parish Council did object to the proposed tree removals as it was felt trees were a valuable natural resource for the National Park. The Council considered that the generous overall size of this site should allow room for both the rebuild and the maintenance in its entirety of the small woodland involved.”</p> <p>11.3 SDNP/15/06146/LIS The Forge. It was noted the application for conversion of the Forge had been refused.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Maintenance reviews of The Dicklands, The School Playground and The Sports Field, including the Cricket Pavilion: Nothing to report</p>	
<p>12</p>	<p>Brief Reports from Clerk and/or Councillors on external meetings attended since the last Parish Council meeting, correspondence received, and any forthcoming meetings:</p> <p>JH agreed to attend the SDNPA meeting on 25th May 2016. It was agreed to respond to the Rights of Way consultation document on the ESCC website, after discussion at the next meeting. It was agreed to respond to the Boundaries Commission consultation document on the ESCC website. It was agreed to investigate the implications of hiring out the sports field for a wedding venue next summer-bookings/lease/insurance issues.</p>	<p>JH</p> <p>DB</p> <p>DB</p> <p>DB</p>

	<p>It was agreed to spend £350 on registering the school playground land title and that ASD would advise the Council at the next meeting regarding possibly registering the school as an asset of community value.</p> <p>Confirmation had been received of the ESCC highways liaison officers.</p> <p>Additional transparency funding was available this year, which could amount to approximately £360. This could fund a projector, in particular for easier viewing of planning application documents. DB to investigate.</p> <p>It was agreed to change the date of the November 2016 meeting to Tuesday 1st November.</p> <p>JG ran through the list of Council responsibilities for the coming year. John Gillies (Chair): Broadband and Website. John Harvey (Vice-Chair): Planning, wildlife, trees David Smart: Countryside and Agriculture. Richard Sellick: Sports field, Mowing and Hedge-trimming. (Working in tandem with DS). Jill Goldman: Council representative on Village Hall committee. Local transport, and working with AS on legal matters. Anne Sword-Daniels: Legal matters, C7 and Broadband. George Hickey: Rodmell school, C7 and Northease.</p> <p>JG reminded the Council that he still needed a volunteer to assist with website activities as Catriona Grant was seeking to give up her role. He would try advertising on the notice boards and Facebook.</p>	<p>ASD</p> <p>DB</p> <p>DB</p> <p>JG</p> <p>JG</p>
13	<p>The meeting closed at 10.00 pm. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 4th July 2016. Any suggestions for the agenda should be sent to the Clerk by Friday 24th June 2016.</p>	