

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Parish Council** held on 12th September 2017
at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Attendees: Parish Councillors Ian Weir (Chair), Peter Gibbons, Jane Baker, Bill Hatton, Leslie Campbell, Chris Hobbs, Georgia Cheshire, Justine Fisher, Kate Bailey, Frances Gaudencio and Nick Owens.

Parish Clerk: Ian Cumberworth

Visiting Member: Gordon Marples, Michelle Binks (District Councillors)
Kirsty Lord (County Councillor)

MINUTES

PC17/73 APOLOGIES

Cllrs Judith Foot, Darryl Sinclair, Sue Hatton and Victoria Standfast.

PC17/74 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Disclosure by Councillors of personal interests in matters on the agenda, and whether the Councillor regards their interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.

None

PC17/75 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 11th July were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

PC17/76 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 2 Members of the public present who observed proceedings and did not raise any questions or comments.

PC17/77 MINUTES

To accept the following Minutes.

To agree the minutes of the Planning Committee 17th July 2017 and 7th August 2017 and to note the minutes of Planning Committee 29th August 2017.

To note the minutes of Grounds and Environment Committee 31st July 2017 and the Policy Resources & Communications Committee 25th July 2017.

PC17/78 FINANCE

The Finance report and payments totalling £18,475.58 for the period ending 30th June May 2017 were approved together with the payments totalling £45,647.66 for the period ending 31st July 2017.

The Chair requested that the Council consider item 7.2 first from County Cllr Kirsty Lord, Members agreed to this proposal.

PC17/79 Reports

- 79.1 County Councillor report: Cllr Kirsty Lord updated Members on a number of issues including the Speed Indicator Device which was to be considered later on this agenda. Cllr Lord identified a number of sites that she would like to see the system deployed including Ockley Lane/Keymer Road Underhill Lane/Lodge Lane junction and Brighton Road. Cllr Lord indicated that the machines would be available outside of the current time frame but acknowledged that at present the machine was out of operation therefore the current timings will need to be revisited. Cllr Lord indicated that she continues to raise concerns regarding parking near Downlands School in Dale Avenue and has a meeting scheduled with County in the near future to explore options to alleviate this problem. Cllr Ian Weir indicated that he would also be present at the meeting.

Cllr Lord also raised the issue that the Baby Clinics in Hassocks are no longer supported by a Health Visitor, Parish Councillors expressed the view that this support should be provided to the residents in the parish.

Cllr Lord also raised an issue about an incident regarding a Rights of Way near Ham Fields that is currently being investigated.

- 79.2 District Councillors reports: - Cllr Gordon Marples (GM) informed Members that he had just returned from a MSDC Scrutiny committee briefing together with Cllr Michelle Binks where Members were considering the proposed amendments to the District Plan including the item regarding the proposed strategic site in Hassocks. Concerns were raised by a number of Members re traffic however the traffic consultants employed by MSDC have indicated that the roads would be able to handle any increases, however some scepticism was expressed by MSDC Members. The changes to the District Plan are being driven by the Planning Inspector (Mr Bore).

Cllr Marples confirmed that a resident at a recent surgery had raised concerns regarding speeding in Grand Avenue therefore this could be considered as a potential location for the Speed Indicator Device (SID) and the installation of clearer speed control signage. In addition concerns have been raised regarding the condition of the footpath along the Cinder Track and representations have been made to undertake repairs.

Cllr Marples also informed Members that former District Cllr Peter Martin was very poorly (He has passed away since).

Cllr Michelle Binks (MB) informed Members that she had recently attended planning meetings on Ham Fields, the Golf Course site and the Strategic site recently identified as part of the District Plan.

Cllr Binks went onto inform Members that she has secured funding from MSDC grants to enable Age Concern to organise a Silver Sunday event on the 8th October serving cream teas. It was anticipated that Nick Herbert MP would be in attendance.

- 79.3 Rail matters – LC informed Members that he had recently attended a site visit of the Three Bridges Control centre which manages the movement of Thameslink and Southern trains which he found very interesting.

PG informed Members that 348 trains had been cancelled in July. Overall for the year to date 2175 trains in total scheduled to stop at Hassocks have failed to do so. 1759 were cancelled and 416 failed to stop. PG drew member's attention to the number of trains that failed to stop due to running less than 5 minutes late.

- 79.4 Youth Initiatives- Cllr Kate Bailey and Cllr Justine Fisher informed Members that the Youth club had taken a break over the summer period but propose to come forward with a report to full council in October to update Members on future proposals. Cllr Fisher informed Members that they had met with the Clerk to discuss this.

- 79.5 Police matters – nothing to report.

- 79.6 Report from Councillors on meetings of outside bodies where the Council is represented- None

PC17/80 CHAIRMANS REPORT –.

Cllr Ian Weir informed Members that he recently attended the inauguration of Reverend Alexander Baxter on behalf of the Council at St Cosmos and St Damien Church.

Cllr Weir informed Members he was due to attend a 'Cycle summit meeting' looking at ways of creating cycle routes, he encouraged other Members to attend if they wished.

Cllr Weir brought Members attention to the recent amendment in the District plan which has identified a strategic site in Hassocks and encouraged Members to read documents previously circulated. There will be opportunities for Members to raise questions relating to this proposal at the schedule Neighbourhood Plan Working Group meeting on the 14th September where representatives from MSDC will be present.

PC17/81 CLERK'S REPORT

81.1 GRANTS

Members were informed that the Council had received seven applications for grant funding through the Council's funding scheme. All applications met the qualification criteria therefore Members were requested to review each application in turn and determine whether they resolved to award the grant funding. The Council's budget was £3,000 and had received grant applications to the sum of £1,697.82. The Clerk advised Members that any unspent funds would be returned to General Reserves, however it should be noted that a funding bid had also been received outside of the normal grant funding process from the British Legion which was to be considered later on this agenda.

The Council carefully considered the following grants taking into account the purpose of the funding request:

The following grant requests have been received for **2017/18**

1	St Catherine's Hospice	£ 300.00
RESOLVED – to award St Catherine's Hospice £300.00		
2	Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance	£ 250.00 or any amount deemed appropriate
RESOLVED - to award Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance £250.00		
3	Victim Support	£100.00
RESOLVED - to award Victim Support £100.00		
4	St Peter & St James Hospice	£250.00
RESOLVED - to award St Peter & St James Hospice £250.00		
5	West Sussex Mediation Service	£100.00
RESOLVED - to award West Sussex Mediation Service £100.00		
6	Jack & Jill Playgroup	£197.82
RESOLVED -to award Jack & Jill Playgroup £197.82		
7	HKD Transition	£ 500.00
RESOLVED - to award HKD Transition £500.00		

81.2 BRITISH LEGION REMEMBRANCE PARADE

A separate grant funding request was submitted by the British Legion seeking a contribution towards the funding of security marshals for the Remembrance Parade scheduled on the 12th November 2017 to enable the event to be held. At the time of considering this request no detailed costs had been provided therefore Members were invited to consider firstly, whether they wished to support the event and secondly, determine an upper level of financial support. Members considered the request and

confirmed they would wish to support the event however they indicated if a request is made in future years it should be submitted via the main grants application process to enable it to be considered alongside other grant applications.

The Clerk informed Members that sufficient funds were held in the main grant budget to finance this.

RESOLVED – The Council agreed to approve a sum of up to £700 subject to receiving detailed costings and requested the Clerk to contact the British Legion requesting all future requests are submitted through the formal grants process.

- 81.3 **Speed Indicator Device** – Members were informed that the proposed date allocations for the device being available to Hassocks were in the process of being revised. In anticipation of receiving these dates in the future Members were invited to propose potential locations for the siting of the kit. Members put forward a number of potential sites including those raised by the County and District Councillors earlier in the agenda.

Potential sites to consider were identified as:

Underhill Lane/Lodge Lane junction

Ockley Lane/Keymer Road

Grand Avenue

Brighton Road

B2122

A273

Hurst Road

RESOLVED The identified locations should be referred to Grounds & Environment Committee to consider and determine the specific locations for the kit to be installed once it becomes available.

- 81.4 **Christmas Lights** Members considered Grounds & Environment Committee's recommendation (GE17/43.1) to purchase an additional set of 240m white LED tree lights at a cost of £705 plus VAT. As insufficient funds were available within the current budget, authority was being sought to release a further £500 from General Reserves to fund this.

After careful consideration Members **RESOLVED** to agree the release of £500 from general reserves to fund this initiative.

- 81.5 **Developers Protocol** The Council currently has a 3 part protocol which was adopted in March 2015. Members were invited to consider amending part 1 of the protocol for meeting with developers. It was proposed that the protocol would be amended to allow the Chair of the Parish Council and the Chair of Neighbourhood Plan Working Group or a nominated member to be present at meetings. In all other respects the protocol remains unchanged.

RESOLVED to amend the policy to allow the designated Members to attend.

81.6 **Business Plan** The Clerk updated Members on the progress of the plan and encouraged Members to continue to submit suggestions via the Clerk's office to enable them to be considered as part of the process.

81.7 **Resolution to extend 6 month rule section 85 Local Government Act 1972.**

This matter was not required to be considered as the member was in attendance.

81.8 **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**

Members considered the proposed Standing Orders /Financial Regulations set out in Appendix 7 of the agenda which had previously been considered by Full Council and Policy Resources & Communications Committee and had been amended to reflect comments made by both Committees.

The Clerk drew Members attention to page 51 of Standing Orders (paragraph 81 (a) and informed Members there would be a need to delete reference to various acts which have been superseded by the Equality Act 2010. Subject to these amendments Members were requested to consider and agree to adopt the proposed Standing Orders and Financial Regulations with immediate effect and to nominate an additional authorised signatory.

Members were informed by the Clerk that the Council would retain the ability to regularly review the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations if required.

Subject to the deletions referred to being made it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the proposed Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and to review them after six months.

Members were then requested to consider nominating an additional authorised signatory, Cllr Jane Baker and Cllr Peter Gibbons volunteered to fulfil this role. Members discussed the proposal and in agreement with Cllr Baker, agreed that Cllr Peter Gibbons be appointed as the authorised signatory.

RESOLVED Cllr Peter Gibbons be appointed as the additional authorised signatory.

81.9 **REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE – ROAD CLOSURE**

Members were requested to consider the road closure order for the Remembrance Day Parade and indicate whether they wished to make any representations. **RESOLVED** not to make any representations.

PC17/82 URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN for noting and/or inclusion on a future agenda.

There were none.

PC17/83 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the date of the next Council meeting is **Tuesday 10th October 2017 at 7.30pm.**

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