

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12 November 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: David Cumberland (Chairman) Peter Gibbons
Jane Baker Sue Hatton
Chris Bere Bill Hatton
Alan Berry Rev Mrs Darryl Sinclair
Leslie Campbell Frank Rylance
Steven Ecroyd Penny Wadsworth
Judith Foot Ian Weir

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were County Councillor Andy Petch and four members of the public.

13/119 Apologies for Absence. An apology for absence was received from Paul King. District Councillor Gordon Marples and PC Adam Duly also sent apologies.

13/120. Declarations of Interest. Rev Mrs Darryl Sinclair declared an interest in item 8 as a member of the Light Up Hassocks committee.
Public Participation. A note of the comment made by a member of the public is attached at Attachment 1.

13/121 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 October 2013. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

13/122 Reports.

- a) **Police Report.** The crime statistics for Hassocks for October 2013 had been circulated, and were noted. An email from PC Adam Duly dated 7 November 2013 had also been circulated regarding youths congregating in the memorial gardens in Adastra Park, and suspected drug dealing.
- b) **District Councillor's Report.** District Councillor Sue Hatton reported that the hearing on MSDC's duty to co-operate with regard to the District Plan had taken place today. The outcome would be notified in due course.
- c) **County Councillor's Report.** County Councillor Andy Petch reported on:
 - WSCC having to make cost savings of £140m over the next few years
 - South Mid Sussex CLC. The next meeting was on 26 November 2013 at 7.00 pm at Downlands. He urged parish councillors to attend to stress the importance of progressing the parking issues in the village.

- Footpath K12, Lodge Lane. A meeting had been held with the WSCC Head of Public Rights of Way, who had agreed that remedial works were required on the footpath surface, and the landowner had consented to allow access to the land. The work was out to tender and should be carried out in May 2014. There was no proposal to alter the route of the footpath
 - 22-24 Keymer Road. Andy Petch was having a site meeting on 14 November 2013 at 11.00 am to discuss the parking issues. Sue Hatton would attend. Andy Petch would remind the contractors of the LUH road closure on 29 November 2013.
 - The County Payback Team would be working on clearance on the Hassocks to Burgess Hill cycle path. Andy Petch would confirm if WSCC had to pay for the work done by the Payback Team.
 - Operation Watershed. There was still some funding available for flood defence schemes. Jane Baker would contact WSCC with regard to flooding in Clayton.
- d) **Planning.** The minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2013 were noted.
- e) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.** The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2013 were noted.
- f) **Update on Progress with the Neighbourhood Plan.** In the absence of Paul King, Judith Foot reported that work on a draft Neighbourhood Plan was progressing well. A meeting had been arranged with MSDC for 19 November 2013 to look at the Sustainability Appraisal. A copy of the questionnaire on a Neighbourhood Plan produced by the Hassocks Amenity Association had been circulated. While the council welcomed the interest the HAA were taking in a Neighbourhood Plan, and would consider the HAA's input, along with representations from other groups and individuals during the consultation stage, it was pointed out that the questionnaire contained some inaccuracies, and might mislead the public over the role and powers of a Neighbourhood Plan. It was also thought that setting up an HAA Neighbourhood Plan Working Group with the same name as the parish council's working group would cause confusion.
- g) **Rail Matters.** Leslie Campbell had attended a meeting of the Rail Group on 8 November 2013. Among the items discussed were:
- Access For All. Completion was expected by the end of February 2014, six weeks behind schedule.
 - Concern was expressed regarding the frequent closure of the ticket office in the afternoons and early evenings.
 - Southern had not responded on the request for car park charges to be reduced in the evenings and on Saturdays.

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- Concern was expressed about the condition of the steps on the west side of the station by the bridge.
- The next meeting would be in January 2014 when it was hoped that the area manager from Haywards Heath would be in attendance.

h) Meetings of Outside Bodies.

- (i) Hurst & Hassocks Community Bus.** Peter Gibbons reported on the continuing difficulties of finding a future for the bus service, and obtaining insurance for the vehicle.
- (ii) Neighbourhood Panel Meeting.** Jane Baker had attended the police Neighbourhood Panel meeting, and had circulated a note of the issues raised by email to councillors.
- (iii) Oldland Mill.** David Cumberland had attended the meeting on 15 October 2013.

13/123 Chairman's Remarks.

- (a) Hassocks Twinning Association.** The Chairman had received a letter from the Hassocks Twinning Association asking for an opportunity to meet him and the parish council Vice Chairman to discuss the work of the association, and the parish council's role in Twinning. A response would be sent welcoming a meeting.

13/124 Clerk's Report.

- (a) Winter Maintenance.** Agreement had finally been reached with WSCC regarding the delivery of salt bags in the event of severe winter weather. Burgess Hill Town Council would store five salt bags for Hassocks, which would be delivered to the village by contractors in the event of snow, to pre-designated locations. The cost of the exercise would be met by WSCC. The salt would have to be spread by local volunteers. It was agreed that an article would be submitted to Talk About asking for volunteers to come forward. WSCC were only arranging one salt delivery for the winter, and would not be topping up in the event of more severe weather episodes.

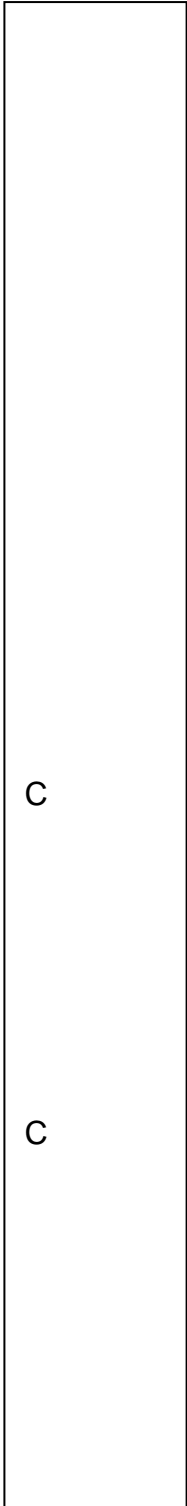
13/125 Financial Report. The Financial report and list of cheques presented for October 2013 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

13/126 Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Order, 29 November 2013. The Order, which had been signed off by MSDC, was noted.

13/127 Correspondence. None.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25 pm.

Chairman..... Date.....



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HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL, 12 November 2013

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

Shaun Phillips expressed her concern and disappointment at the lack of parish council representation at the Remembrance Sunday ceremonies in Hassocks, in that only one councillor had attended the service at Clayton, and one at Keymer. Young people took the trouble to attend with the scouts, guides etc, and she thought that the council was not setting a good example to young people, and not representing the parish, if councillors did not attend. She hoped that more parish councillors would attend the services next year.