

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 14 May 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present:	David Cumberland (Chairman)	Judith Foot
	Jane Baker	Peter Gibbons
	Chris Bere	Sue Hatton
	Paul King	Bill Hatton
	Leslie Campbell	Ian Weir
	Frank Rylance	Penny Wadsworth

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were the Chairman of Mid Sussex District Council, Councillor Gordon Marples, County Councillor Andy Petch and one member of the public.

13/43 Apologies for Absence. An apology for absence was received from Alan Berry, who had a work commitment . PC Paul Miles also apologised for absence.

13/44 Election of Chairman. David Cumberland was elected as Chairman for 2013/14.

13/45 Election of Vice-Chairman. Ian Weir was elected as Vice-Chairman for 2013/14.

There were no questions from the public present, so there was no adjournment for public participation.

13/46 Declarations of Interest. None.

13/47 Election of Committees. RESOLVED that the following committees were appointed:

- a) **Environment.** Alan Berry, Leslie Campbell, Peter Gibbons, Sue Hatton, Ian Weir
- b) **Grounds.** Alan Berry, Chris Bere, Sue Hatton, Bill Hatton, Paul King,
- c) **Parking Working Group.** Peter Gibbons, Sue Hatton, Ian Weir
- d) **Planning.** Jane Baker, Chris Bere, Leslie Campbell, Judith Foot, Bill Hatton, Frank Rylance, Penny Wadsworth
- e) **Policy, Resources and Communications.** Judith Foot, Frank Rylance, Peter Gibbons, Paul King, Penny Wadsworth.
- f) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.** Judith Foot, Peter Gibbons, Bill Hatton, Paul King, Penny Wadsworth, Ian Weir.

It was RESOLVED that the Chairman should be an ex-officio member of all council committees.

13/48 Representatives on Outside Bodies. The following were appointed to represent the council:



- a) **Adastra Hall Management Committee.** Sue Hatton
- b) **Ditchling Local Area Transport Group.** Ian Weir.
- c) **Hassocks Amenity Association Rail Group.** Leslie Campbell, Chris Bere, Peter Gibbons.
- d) **Hassocks Community Partnership.** Judith Foot.
- e) **Hassocks Twinning Association.** Sue Hatton.
- f) **Hurst & Hassocks Community Bus.** Peter Gibbons.
- g) **Police Neighbourhood Panel.** Jane Baker.
- h) **Mid Sussex Council for Voluntary Service.** Sue Hatton.
- i) **Mid Sussex District Association of Local Councils.** Ian Weir.
- j) **MSDC Green Circle Steering Group.** Bill Hatton, Leslie Campbell.
- k) **Oldland Mill Trust.** David Cumberland.
- l) **WSSC South Mid Sussex County Local Committee.** Ian Weir.

13/49 Appointment of Auditor. RESOLVED that Mr Shrubsole would be appointed internal auditor for 2013/14, and that a letter would be sent to Mr Shrubsole thanking him for his work in 2012/13.

13/50 Appointment of Tree Wardens. RESOLVED that David Brown would be appointed as Tree Warden for 2013/14. It was noted that Anne Fuller was resigning as a Tree Warden, and it was agreed to advertise for a replacement. It was agreed that letters should be sent to David Brown and Anne Fuller thanking them for their work in 2012/13.

13/51 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 April 2013. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

13/52 Chairman's Remarks.

The Chairman thanked the council for appointing him, and paid tribute to the work Bill Hatton had done as Chairman over the past five years. He congratulated Gordon Marples on his appointment as Chairman of MSDC, and welcomed Andy Petch to his first meeting since his election as County Councillor for Hassocks.

13/53 Clerk's Report.

- a) **Adastra Car Park.** The Clerk reported that a letter from a member of the public had been received for comment from the Mid Sussex Times regarding the cost of resurfacing the Adastra Car Park, and the pot holes in Keymer Road. A response had been sent to the Mid Sussex Times clarifying the difference in responsibilities between the parish council and WSSC, and details would be posted on the council website.

13/54 Minutes and Reports.

- a) **Police Report.** The email dated 4 May 2012 from PC John Miles on local crime statistics had been circulated. It was agreed that the information was not detailed enough to be meaningful, and members wanted the police to continue to send a representative to council meetings whenever possible so that they could maintain a channel of

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communication. It was agreed that members would let the Clerk know what information they would like included in the police report, and the Clerk would forward a list to PC Miles. The police would also be asked if HPC could be included in the circulation list for Neighbourhood Watch information.

- b) **District Councillors' Report.** Gordon Marples reported on the Sports Day held at the Jack & Jill Playgroup in the refurbished London Road Pavilion in Hassocks, which was providing an excellent facility for this well established playgroup.
- c) **County Councillor's Report.** Andy Petch wanted to concentrate on representing Hassocks, and hoped to attend parish council meetings regularly, but as he was a full time fire fighter, there might be occasions when work prevented him from attending.
- d) **Planning Committee Meeting 15 April 2013.** The minutes were accepted by the council.
- e) **Environment Committee Meeting 2 April 2013.** The minutes were accepted by the council. RESOLVED that the finger post at the junction of Ockley Lane/Keymer Road should be replaced at a cost of £979, plus VAT.
- f) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting, 18 April 2013.** The minutes were accepted by the council.

13/55 Financial Report. The Financial Report and list of cheques presented for April 2013 were approved, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

13/56 Co-option of Two Councillors for Keymer North Ward. Five candidates had been considered. RESOLVED that Rev Mrs Darryl Sinclair and Steven Ecroyd are co-opted to fill the vacancies for two councillors for Keymer North ward.

13/57 New Council Website: Update. Frank Rylance reported that the new website was now live. There were a few issues to be dealt with and arrangements had to be made with Trigger Solutions for training the office staff to update the website.

Members were asked to look at the site to see if it was working efficiently, and to report any problems, and to test that their email contacts on the website worked. Any members who had not yet submitted photographs of themselves for inclusion, and who wanted their photographs on the site, were asked to forward them as soon as possible.

The council thanked Paul King, David Cumberland and Frank Rylance for their work in overseeing the new website, and thanked Frank Rylance in particular for all the work he had done on the content of the website.

13/58 Response from WSCC on the Consultation on the Highways & Transport draft Programme. The response was noted.

13/59. MSDC Proposed Submission District Plan. It was noted that the Plan had been issued for comment.

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13/60 2012/13 Accounts.

- a) **Statement of Accounts 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013.** The Accounts were APPROVED and it was RESOLVED that the Chairman was authorised to sign them.
- b) **Report of the Internal Auditor.** The report of the Internal Auditor was noted. There were no matters the auditor wished to bring to the council's attention for action.
- c) **Annual Return for Year Ending 31 March 2013.** The Annual Return, the Accounting Statements and Annual Governance Statement were considered and APPROVED and it was RESOLVED that the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

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13/61 Correspondence.

- a) **West Sussex Local Access Forum.** The letter dated 5 April 2013 from the West Sussex Local Access Forum was noted. The question of public rights of way would be addressed in the Hassocks Neighbourhood Plan

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....