

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on 3 September 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present; Ian Weir (Chairman) Sue Hatton
 Leslie Campbell Peter Gibbons

Clerk: Linda Baker

1. **Apologies for Absence.** An apology for absence was received from Phil Mead, who was abroad. Absent without apology, Alan Berry.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 June 2013.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
4. **Tree Planting.** Phil Mead had sent a report on tree planting for the year. 7 trees are to be planted in Farm Close, 10 trees in Clayton Avenue, 8 trees in Mackie Avenue and the remaining 6 trees asked for by Mackie Avenue residents will be planted in the 2014 season. A tree planted in 2011 at 43 Bonnywood Road, died this year despite being watered by the resident, this is to be replaced by WSCC at no cost to HPC.
5. **Damaged Cherry Tree outside Budgens.** The tree had been vandalised and the bark split. The Tree Warden and Groundsman had propped the tree up and bound round the bark, and it was hoped that it might survive. The Tree Warden would be thanked for his assistance in this matter.
6. **Hanging Baskets.** It was agreed that quotations for Hanging Baskets for next year would be requested from Annies Baskets and Rushfields. A mixture of strong colours would be preferred. It was noted that the Hassocks Hotel has an outstanding display and it was agreed that they would be approached to find out who supplies their baskets.
7. **Parking Working Group.** Letters had been written to WSCC, MSDC, Network Rail and SDNP but to date there is nothing firm to report. These are being followed up. The forthcoming PWG meeting this month has been postponed until October.
8. **Finger Post, Ockley Lane.** It was noted that the new finger post should be installed shortly.
9. **Footpaths.** Leslie Campbell is to undertake a survey of local footpaths in November and will report back on the condition of the paths and fingerposts, and whether any clearance is needed.

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The condition of the footpath running across the Railway line would also be checked.

Footpath 12K – WSCC is undertaking ongoing discussions with the landowner regarding improving the surface of this footpath.

10. Bus Shelter, Hurst Road. The bus shelter to the west of Stonepound Crossroads has been damaged beyond repair. It was RESOLVED to recommend that a Littlethorpe ‘Hassocks’ wooden shelter should be installed at a cost of £6226 (excluding VAT) including a bus flag and a timetable holder, the work also to include a new Glasdon Litter Bin at an approximate additional cost of £370.

11. Memorial Seat, Grand Avenue. A request had been received from a local resident for a seat to be installed at the end of Grand Avenue in memory of their parents. It was RESOLVED to request WSCC for permission to place a new seat on the verge opposite the Thatched Inn and to remove the existing seat and re-site at the bus stop near the junction of Grand Avenue and Ockley Lane.

12. South Downs National Park Management Plan. The plan was considered and it was agreed to respond that while the PC supported the plan, more detail was required on proposals for Public Transport, particularly bus services.

13. Listing the Beacon Centre as a Community Asset. No further progress has been made on this. To be carried forward to the next meeting.

14. Street Lighting Column Replacement. An email been received from Simon Bushell, SSE Contracting Lighting Services regarding replacement lighting in Hassocks was noted.

15. Draft Budget 2014/15. The draft budget was agreed with the following amendments – Street Furniture to be increased from £750 to £1000 and Tree Planting to be reduced from £2520 to £0. It was agreed that £10,000 should be put in an earmarked reserve fund for a 3 year tree planting scheme for the village.

16. Date of Next Meeting. 18 November 2013 at 7.30 pm.

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

Chairman.....

Date.....

