

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 8 October 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: David Cumberland (Chairman) Bill Hatton
Jane Baker Darryl Sinclair
Steven Ecroyd, Penny Wadsworth
Peter Gibbons Ian Weir
Sue Hatton

Clerk: Linda Baker

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

13/111 Apologies for Absence. Apologies for absence were received from Chris Bere and Leslie Campbell, who were away, Paul King and Judith Foot, who had family commitments, and Frank Rylance. Absent without apology, Alan Berry. District Councillor Gordon Marples also apologised, as he had a Scrutiny Committee meeting at MSDC, and PC John Miles sent his apologies.

13/112 Declarations of Interest. None.

Public Participation. There were no questions or comments from the public.

13/113 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 September 2013 and Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 24 September 2013. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

13/114 Reports.

- a) **Police Report.** The crime statistics were noted.
- b) **District Councillor's Report.** Sue Hatton reported that the planning inspector had until November 2013 to reach a decision on whether MSDC had complied with the duty to co-operate, before proceeding to consideration of the District Plan.
- c) **County Councillor's Report.** Andy Petch reported on:
 - **County Infrastructure Priorities.** The CLC had agreed to adopt the Hassocks parking scheme as a priority.
 - **Hassocks Infants School.** Work on the two new classrooms should commence in December 2013, with completion in August 2014.
 - **22-24 Keymer Road, Sainsburys.** A site survey of the possible loading bay area was awaited.

- **Hassocks Cycle Path.** A response was awaited from the Weald Tennis Club regarding possible access for a cycle path.
 - **Grass Cutting.** Andy Petch and Ian Weir had attended a meeting with WSCC to discuss grass cutting and path clearance and progress was being made.
 - **Lodge Lane Parking TRO.** The parish council had not been aware of the proposal, but the council's Parking Working Group would consider the matter.
- d) **Planning Committee Meetings 9 and 30 September 2013.** The minutes were noted.
- e) **Grounds Committee Meeting 18 September 2013.** The minutes were noted.
- f) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting 19 September 2013.** The minutes were noted.
- g) **Rail Matters.** There was no report.
- h) **Meetings of Outside Bodies where the council is represented.**
- (i) **Hurst and Hassocks Community Bus.** A working party had been formed to try to find a future for the bus, and a meeting would be held at Age Concern next week to discuss the options.
 - (ii) **WSCC Highways.** Ian Weir and Andy Petch had attended a meeting with WSCC to discuss cutting schedules, and WSCC had also agreed to clear the drains on the A273, near the Jack & Jill pub, every six months to avoid flooding on the road.

13/115. Chairman's Remarks.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan Publicity.** Paul King was preparing an article for the Mid Sussex Times to keep residents informed of progress on the Neighbourhood Plan, and would be preparing updates in the coming months for the council website, Talkabout etc to keep residents updated. Any councillor wishing to see the draft of the Mid Sussex article could contact the Clerk.
- b) **British Legion Remembrance Services, 10 November 2013.** The parish council had been asked for council representatives to lay a wreath at the Keymer and Clayton services. RESOLVED that Jane Baker would represent the council at Clayton, and Darryl Sinclair would represent the council at Keymer
- c) **MSDC Civic Awards Ceremony, 29 September 2013.** The Chairman and his wife had attended the event, which had been very successful. The nominees from Hassocks were very appreciative of having been nominated, and Derek Earl had written to thank the council.

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- d) Beacon Centre Public Consultation.** The community consultation would take place at the Beacon Centre on 12 October 2013 from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm. Any councillors able to attend were asked to contact Ian Weir.

13/116 Clerk's Report.

- a) Bus Shelter, West of Stonepound.** The new bus shelter had now been installed to replace the old shelter which had been damaged.
- b) New Play Equipment, Adastra Park.** MSDC had confirmed a grant of £28,145 for the new play equipment in Adastra Park, a climbing rock near the skatepark, and the netscape in the children's play area, so the quotation from Wickstead would be accepted, in accordance with the resolution at the 10 September 2013 council meeting, (minute 13/95 (e) refers).
- c) Winter Maintenance.** WSCC had asked towns and parishes to produce their own winter maintenance plans, and were withdrawing the service they have provided in recent years when crane bags of salt/grit had been delivered to pre-determined locations in the event of snow. WSCC were now proposing to make a single delivery at the start of the winter, so towns and parishes would have to store the salt and find means of moving it to required locations, and there would be no further deliveries in the event of continuing bad weather once the initial delivery had run out. Towns and parishes in Mid Sussex were concerned about the way in which WSCC had handled the matter, and the withdrawal of the salt delivery service. The issue had been discussed at the MSDC Emergency Planning Liaison Group Meeting on 25 September 2013, and Councillor Christopher Snowling would be writing to the cabinet member responsible at WSCC expressing the concerns of Mid Sussex, and asking that the policy be reviewed.

13/117 Financial Report. The Financial Report and list of cheques presented for September 2013 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

13/118 Correspondence.

- a) Sussex Police.** The response to the council's letter of 17 September 2013 regarding crime and policing in Hassocks from Mid Sussex District Commander Simon Beardwell was noted. An acknowledgement had been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner, but a substantive response was awaited.
- b) New Police Constable for Hassocks.** PC John Miles had emailed to inform the council that he was leaving as police constable for Hassocks on 21 October 2013 to take up a new role in Burgess Hill. He would be replaced by PC Adam Duly. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to PC Duly welcoming him to the village, and requesting that he attend parish council meetings when possible.

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There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.01 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....