

HASOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13 December 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present:	Bill Hatton (Chairman)	Peter Gibbons
	Jane Baker	Sue Hatton
	Kristian Berggreen	Ian Weir
	Leslie Campbell	Phil Mead
	David Cumberland	Penny Wadsworth
	Judith Foot	

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were four members of the public.

11/137 Apologies for Absence. Apologies for absence were received from Alan Berry, who had a work commitment, Chris Bere, who was abroad, Paul King who was held up in train disruption, and Frank Rylance who had a family commitment. An apology for absence was also received from District Councillor Gordon Marples.

11/138 Declarations of Interest. None.

The meeting was adjourned for public participation. There were no questions from the public.

11/139 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 November 2011. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

11/140 Reports.

- a) Police Report.** There had been a fight between a Downlands year 11 pupil and a former pupil in the village on 9 December 2011, and four arrests had been made. Crawley CID were investigating, and it was likely that further arrests would be made. An update would be given at the next HPC meeting.

The Light Up Hassocks evening had been a success and a de-brief would be carried out between the police and organisers on the organisation of the event. It was agreed the Environment Committee would consider the event, and make recommendations regarding future such events.

- b) District Councillors' Report.** Sue Hatton reported on the budget negotiations for 2012/13. It was likely that there would be no increase in council tax, but charges for services such as green waste bins and car parking charges were being reviewed and were likely to be increased. Redundancy notices were being issued to some council staff.

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- c) **County Councillor's Report.** Colin Wilsdon reported that the next CLC meeting would be held on 12 January 2012 at Downlands, when the WSCC infrastructure plan for south Mid Sussex would be approved. A pedestrian crossing for London Road, Hassocks was included in the plan for 2012/13.

The WSCC Bus User Survey was open for comments until 17 January 2012. WSCC had a Big Society Fund offering grants for community projects, and anyone interested could contact Colin for further details. He suggested that the Parish Council should review parking in Hassocks, and it was agreed that the Environment Committee would consider the question of parking, and put proposals to full council. Sue Hatton would ask MSDC for clarification of when parking enforcement patrols were carried out in the village.

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- d) **Grounds Committee Meeting, 23 November 2011.** The minutes were accepted by the council.

(i) Metal Football Goal, North Field

RESOLVED that the football goal in the north field of Adastra Park should be removed, and offered to Downlands or the Hassocks Football Club, or disposed of if they did not want it, the costs to be met from the Grounds Contingency.

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(ii) Keymer & Hassocks Cricket Club Fees 2011.

RESOLVED that if the outstanding fees for 2011 were not paid in full by the end of December 2011, the council would take legal action to recover the outstanding amount.

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- e) **Planning Committee Meeting, 28 November 2011.** The minutes were accepted by the council.

RESOLVED that the council would produce a Neighbourhood Plan. RESOLVED that Judith Foot, Peter Gibbons, Bill Hatton and Ian Weir would be responsible for overseeing the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Hassocks, and submitting the Plan to MSDC for assessment.

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- f) **Policy, Resources and Communications Committee Meeting, 30 November 2011.** The minutes were accepted by the council.

RESOLVED that councillors who had not undertaken Power of Well Being training should do so.

All

- g) **Rail Matters.** There was nothing to report.

- h) **Report from Councillors on Meetings of Outside Bodies.**

(i) Beacon Centre. Judith Foot reported that youth work was still taking place once a week, and Kangaroos were using the venue one evening per week. Bill Hatton had spoken to a local business regarding sponsoring youth work, but without success, so consideration would need to be given to approaching other businesses in the village.

- (ii) **Hurst & Hassocks Community Bus.** Peter Gibbons reported that the bus had been involved in a collision in Horsham. The driver of the other vehicle had accepted liability, and was being pursued for uninsured losses. A loan vehicle was being used while repairs were carried out.

11/141 Chairman's Remarks.

- (a) **Hassocks Library.** A meeting had been held with Lesley Sim of WSCC, and WSCC were changing their approach to cost saving in the library service, so Hassocks library was not under threat. WSCC were looking at different ways of delivering the library service including using volunteers in conjunction with qualified library staff.
- (b) **Light Up Hassocks.** The Chairman had attended the event on behalf of HPC.
- (c) **Civic Service.** The Chairman had attended the MSDC Civic Service.
- (d) **Community Infrastructure Levy Working Party.** The next meeting would be on 15 December 2011, to discuss the level of CIL charge per new dwelling.

11/142 Clerks Report.

- a) **Bring Site, Dale Avenue Car Park.** It was noted that MSDC were proposing to remove the fencing from around the charity containers in the Dale Avenue bring site. The containers had been broken into and the area was being used by young people when it was locked at night, and it was thought that there was less likely-hood of anti-social behaviour if the area was open to observation. The council agreed that they would prefer the containers to be taken away completely, or fenced on three sides. Sue Hatton would take the matter up with David Harper at MSDC.

11/143 Financial Report. The financial report and list of cheques presented for November 2011 were approved, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

11/144 Committee Membership. RESOLVED that Paul King would be a member of the Policy, Resources and Communications Committee.

11/145 Removal of Beech Tree, Adastra Park Memorial Gardens. Three quotations were considered. RESOLVED that the quotation from KPS would be accepted. It was agreed that the beech tree should be replaced.

11/146 Ravenswood. RESOLVED that the CLC should be asked to consider white lines near Ravenswood to deter parking which was making access difficult for waste freighters.

11/147 Precept 2012/13. The draft budget was considered and it was agreed that the provision for grants and donations should be increased to £1,750, and the provision for tree planting should be increased to £2,520. On the Neighbourhood Plan, it was not clear from the information available at the present time what producing a Neighbourhood Plan

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would cost, and expenditure would depend on how the council prepared the plan, but the figure granted by the government to the towns and parishes carrying out a pilot exercise was £20,000 per council.

RESOLVED that a budget of £20,000 was agreed for a Neighbourhood plan for Hassocks, to be funded over two years, 2012/13 and 2013/14, half to be taken from the council's free reserves, and the remaining £10,000 to be raised through the precept, at £5,000 per year.

It was RESOLVED that the precept for 2012/13 should be set at £174,383 and MSDC informed accordingly.

It was agreed that the Policy, Resources and Communications Committee should review the level of the council's free reserves.

11/148 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The note of the changes being brought in, in particular the abolition of the Sussex Police Authority and the election of a Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012, was noted.

11/149 Correspondence. The information from MSDC on Recycling Quality Key Messages was noted.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm, wishing everyone the compliments of the season.

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Chairman.....

Date.....