

## HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 9 October 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

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

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were District Councillor Gordon Marples, PC John Miles, County Councillor Colin Wilsdon, and three members of the public.

**12/107 Apologies for Absence.** None.

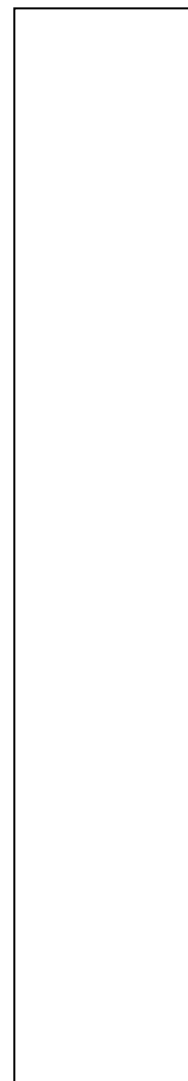
**12/108 Declarations of Interest.** None.

*The meeting was adjourned for public participation. A note of the comments from the public is attached at Attachment 1.*

**12/109 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 September 2012.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**12/110 Reports.**

- a) **Police Report.** PC Miles reported on crime statistics for the last month. There had been no significant incidents, and reported crimes were low, apart from the week of 10 to 16 September 2012 when 17 crimes were reported, which coincided with the travellers' occupation of Clayton Green. Reports of domestic disputes were on the increase, and in answer to a question PC Miles confirmed that there had been a reduction in reports of anti-social behaviour since the withdrawal of youth services at the Beacon Centre.
- b) **District Councillor's Report.** Sue Hatton reported that there were plans to introduce height barriers on MSDC land starting in Burgess Hill to discourage occupation by travellers. Gordon Marples reported on:
  - Travellers, discussions had taken place regarding the provision of transit and permanent travellers sites in MSDC as part of the new district plan. This was a county wide problem, and the number of incursions and numbers of vehicles involved had increased significantly this year. The government had announced plans for new powers for local authorities, and it



was hoped that improved legislation would enable local authorities to act more quickly and effectively.

- MSDC had an under-spend of £200,000 for the current year, in addition to rebuilding its reserves, and it had been decided to use the money to refurbish some of the council's sports pavilions to improve the facilities for playgroups. This would include the London Road pavilion in Hassocks. It was hoped the work would be completed by April 2013.
- Application HA/12/03165/TREE, Holm Oak Hassocks Station. He had written in support of the application, and asked if the officers were mindful to refuse the application, that it should be considered by the MSDC Planning Committee

c) **County Councillor's Report.** Colin Wilsdon reported on:

- CLC Meeting. A petition had been handed to the meeting from residents in Keymer asking for action to be taken on speeding and parking in Keymer
- A new local authority governor had been appointed for Windmills.
- Parish Councils had been circulated by WSCC about winter maintenance.
- Beacon Centre. The CCHF wanted to transfer the freehold of Stafford House and the Beacon Centre to Asprey Homes, and WSCC's property section was looking at the proposal.

d) **Environment Committee Meeting, 6 September 2012.** The minutes were noted.

RESOLVED that on the proposal by Light Up Hassocks to apply for a road closure on 30 November 2012 on Keymer Road, the council would respond to MSDC that it supports the closure, provided MSDC takes account of the following health and safety issues in considering the application:

- Access for emergency vehicles
- Consultation with bus companies
- Arrangements for a police presence
- Adequate training for marshals
- Adequate prior advice to drivers likely to be affected by the closure
- A police presence at the junction of the B2112 and A273 for diverted traffic
- Consideration of those who may need access to elderly or infirm people in the roads which will be blocked off

e) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting 13 September 2012.** The minutes were noted. Paul King reported that a further meeting would be held on 11 October 2012, when a plan would be considered for taking the project forward. A great deal of work would be required to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, and it would require

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input from all council members, not just the working group, to bring it to a successful conclusion. The working group would be looking at the work streams, and would put proposals for councillor involvement to the next meeting of the parish council.

- f) **Planning Committee Meeting, 17 September 2012.** The minutes were noted.
- g) **Policy, Resources and Communications Committee Meeting 25 September 2012.** The minutes were noted.

RESOLVED that, once the council had appointed a supplier for a new council website, responsibility for approving the content and design was delegated to the Policy, Resources and Communications Committee.

- h) **Grounds Committee Meeting 26 September 2012.** The minutes were noted.
- i) **Rail Matters.** A Meet the Manager day had been held at the Hassocks Hotel for members of the public to see the proposals for the station rebuild, and work should commence on 29 October 2012.
- j) **Meetings of Outside Bodies:**
  - Hassocks Community Partnership.** Phil Mead had attended a meeting of the HCP, when the possibility of running a fund raising lottery had been discussed.
  - Meeting with Kangaroos.** Judith Foot had met Kangaroos on 18 September 2012 to discuss the Beacon Centre. Kangaroos were still hoping to negotiate a 25 year lease. Kangaroos would receive a youth award from the Lord Lieutenant at an event at the Beacon centre at the end of October 2012.

**12/111 Chairman's Remarks. West SALC Meeting, Billingshurst, 18 October 2012.** The Chairman would be unable to attend, and asked any other councillor could attend on behalf of the Parish Council to let him know.

**12/112 Clerk's Report.** There were no matters to report.

**12/113 Financial Report.** The financial report and list of cheques presented for September 2012 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

**12/114 Planning Committee Membership.** RESOLVED that Frank Rylance was appointed as a member of the Planning Committee.

**12/115 Proposal by the Hassocks Amenity Association to set up a Village Lottery.** The council agreed in principle to support the proposal by the HAA to set up a lottery to raise funds for the HAA. It was not clear what involvement, if any, the HAA would like from the Parish Council, and it was agreed that a meeting would be held with the HAA to clarify the proposals.

**12/116 Jubilee Oak.** The Jubilee oak had been ordered for planting next to the Dale Avenue car park. It was agreed that, weather permitting, the tree would be delivered on 2 November 2012, the Groundsman would plant it, with the assistance of Phil Mead, and a small official planting ceremony would be held shortly afterwards, including Mavis Flowers, with parish,

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district and county councillors, and a representative of the HAA. The Mid Sussex Times would be asked to cover the event. MSDC would be informed where the tree had been planted.

**12/117 MSDC Draft Council Tax Scheme.** The letter dated 10 September 2012 from Councillor Jonathan Ash-Edwards regarding the Draft Council Tax Discount Scheme was considered. It was agreed the council would reply supporting MSDC's proposals.

**12/118 Correspondence.** None.

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There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....