

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: David Cumberland (Chairman) Sue Hatton
Jane Baker Darryl Sinclair
Chris Bere Frank Rylance
Leslie Campbell Ian Weir
Steven Ecroyd Peter Gibbons
Bill Hatton

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were District Councillor Gordon Marples, County Councillor Andy Petch and nine members of the public.

14/99 Apologies for Absence. Apologies for absence were received from Judith Foot, Paul King and Penny Wadsworth.

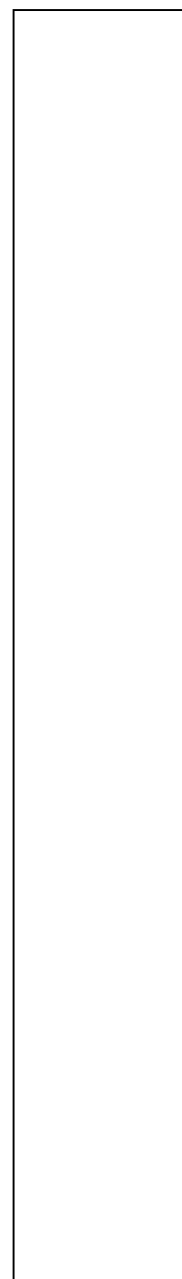
14/100 Declarations of Interest. None.

The meeting was adjourned for public participation. Note of the comments is attached at appendix 1.

14/101 Presentation by Downlands Community School. Downlands pupils, in co-operation with pupils at Windmills and Hassocks Infants, wanted to launch an initiative to reduce the use of plastic shopping bags in the village. Four pupils gave a presentation on the scheme. Plastic bags caused pollution of the seas, and plastic took a long time to degrade. The idea was to produce canvas bags with three different designs, one design from each school, which residents could buy and re-use. They would also be asked to pay for plastic bags, the money being collected for village projects. There would also be stations with used plastic bags in them around the village which shoppers could use instead of buying new plastic bags. Knights Budgens supported the idea and would fund the production of the canvas bags. Residents would be consulted on the scheme before it was launched. The group asked for the support of the parish council. The parish council were very supportive of the idea. It was suggested that other businesses in the village should be approached for financial support, and Ian Weir, the Chairman of the Environment Committee, said that he would welcome any other ideas for environmental initiatives from Downlands Eco Club which could be considered by the committee.

14/102 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 October 2014. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting with the following amendments: Minute 14/90 (a) Delete "Reform", substitute "Reformed", Minute 14/94 line 4, delete "rod", substitute "road", and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

14/103 Reports.



- a) **Police Report.** The crime statistics for October 2014 had been circulated.
- b) **District Councillor's Report.** Gordon Marples reported:
- The District Plan would be considered at the council meeting on 12 November 2014. It had undergone significant revision, and once approved, would be put out for public consultation.
 - A public enquiry on the Horsham District Plan was underway
 - The independent panel on members' allowances had recommended an increase in the allowances, but with the present pay restraint on staff, MSDC might decide not to implement the increases
- c) **County Councillor's Report.** Andy Petch reported:
- **Land Parcel at London Road, Hassocks.** The application had gone to appeal, and it was understood that WSCC were in consultation with Gleasons regarding the air quality issues at Stonepound. Andy Petch would send any information which was not confidential on the discussions, and his comments, to the Clerk.
 - **Public Footpaths.** He had met officers from WSCC regarding the footpath from Stonepound to the Jack and Jill, and it was hoped that some clearance work would be undertaken by WSCC shortly.
 - **Spitalford Bridge.** There was some question over ownership of the bridge and this would need to be resolved before any work was undertaken.
 - **CLC.** The next meeting of the CLC would be on 26 November 2014 at Downlands Community School. There was still £9,000 in the budget for community initiatives.
 - **WSCC Council Meeting.** The next meeting would be discussing the budget, and Gatwick
 - **Fire Cover.** Andy Petch, who is a member of the Fire Brigades Union, had expressed concern at WSCC about the level of fire cover in Mid Sussex in general and in Hassocks with reductions in the number of full time firefighters. It was agreed that this was an issue the parish council needed to monitor.
- d) **Planning Committee Meeting 27 October 2014.** The minutes were noted.
- e) **Policy, Resources and Communications Committee Meeting 15 October 2014.** The minutes were noted.
- f) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting 23 October 2014.** The minutes were noted.
- g) **Environment Committee Meeting 3 November 2014.** The minutes were noted. It was RESOLVED that nine litter bins in the village

should be replaced with new kick plate bins, which would be easier to open and secure, at a cost of approximately £4,500, the cost to be met £1,000 from the street furniture budget, and £3,500 from reserves.

h) Rail Matters. Peter Gibbons had attended a Rail Future meeting in Lewes on 3 November 2014. Considerable alterations to the timetable were proposed from December 2015, which would mean Hassocks losing a number of off peak services. The Hassocks Rail Group would be lobbying Thameslink about the proposed changes.

i) Meetings of Outside Bodies: Remembrance Sunday. Ian Weir and Leslie Campbell had attended the wreath laying at Keymer, and Jane Baker had attended the wreath laying at Clayton on behalf of the parish council.

14/104 Chairman's Remarks. There were no issues to raise.

14/105 Clerk's Report. There were no issues to raise.

14/106 Financial Report. The Financial Report and list of cheques presented for October 2014 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

14/107 TRO – SMS9009MM- Keymer Road. The TRO was considered and it was agreed that a response would be sent:

- (a) Accepting the proposal to prohibit waiting, except for loading and unloading, between 6 am and 8 am, and 6pm and 8pm any day,
- (b) Suggesting that the permission for limited waiting for 1 hour with no return within 1 hour between 8am and 6pm should only apply Monday to Saturday.
- (c) Pointing out that the regulation should refer to Woodland Road, and not Woodland Road.

14/108 Councillor Co-option. A panel consisting of the Chairman and Vice Chairman and chairs of committees had considered three applications to fill the vacancy for a parish councillor. RESOLVED that Ian Credland should be co-opted to fill the casual vacancy.

14/109. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. RESOLVED that Justine Fisher and Adrian Batchelor should be co-opted as members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

14/110. Annual Parish Meeting. RESOLVED that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held on 28 April 2015, before the May 2015 local elections.

14/111. Correspondence. The letter dated 27 October 2014 from WSCC regarding riparian ownership was noted.

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

Chairman..... Date.....

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HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL 11 NOVEMBER 2014

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

Kate Sexton read a statement expressing concern about the lack of progress on the Hassocks Neighbourhood Plan, as she regarded it as essential that a Plan was in place before Hassocks was swamped by excessive building. She urged the parish council to put more resources into completing the plan, deploying more of the council's resources, employing additional staff and adding a small amount to the precept, and thought that it was in the interests of the whole community that the Plan became the council's highest priority.

Penny Worth said that she had researched the local men who had died in the World Wars, and had set up a website with the results. The Memorial Garden in Adastral Park had been given to the parish as a memorial after World War One, but the original structure had been vandalised. She understood that the parish council's Grounds Committee had agreed to have the remaining memorial removed and disposed of, and she asked if the village were aware of this and said that the British Legion were not aware.

The Chairman confirmed that the council had not agreed to have the remaining memorial removed, but were discussing the addition of a more modern memorial, hopefully involving local schoolchildren in the design.