

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: Ian Weir (Chairman) Darryl Sinclair
Leslie Campbell Penny Wadsworth (for items 1-14)
Sue Hatton Phil Mead
Peter Gibbons

Clerk: Linda Baker

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 September 2014.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
4. **Tree Planting: Update.** Phil Mead reported that 41 street trees would be planted this winter, two trees in Grand Avenue had been re-staked and one tree in Bonny Wood Road had been replaced at no cost.
5. **Parking Working Group: Update.** Ian Weir and Sue Hatton had attended a meeting on 10 October 2014 with WSCC, County Councillor Andy Petch and a consultant to discuss the parking report. The consultant would be putting together a proposal for some parking measures, which would be the basis for a public consultation.
6. **Public Rights of Way.**
 - a) **Footpath 12k: Surface.** The response dated 25 September 2014 from Jonathan Perks at WSCC was noted.
 - b) **Public Rights of Way Review.** The review, dated September 2014, carried out by Leslie Campbell and Ian Weir, was noted. Members were asked to notify Leslie of any other paths that should be included, and it was agreed that a list of 4 or 5 paths which needed the most urgent attention should be drawn up so that these could be given priority.
 - c) **Budget.** It was agreed that council should be requested to include a budget for footpath improvements in the precept for 2015/16, which could be used with matched funding from WSCC to improve the footpaths in the parish.
7. **Litter Bins.** Ian Weir proposed that the nine litter bins in the village should be replaced with a new style of bin, a Glasdon Jubilee Litter Bin, which did not need locking. The total cost would be approximately £4,500. **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** that nine village litter bins should be replaced at a cost of approximately £4,500, the cost to be met £1,000 from the 2014/15 street furniture budget, and the remainder from reserves.

- 8. Parklands Copse.** Ian Weir had received an environmental report from the Sussex Wildlife Trust, which would be circulated to members. It was agreed that the joint working group with the Grounds Committee would look at the report and the recommendations and put proposals to both committees for consideration.
- 9. Hanging Baskets 2015.** Penny Wadsworth had contacted the traders in the village, Southdowns Garden Centre and a landscape gardener about supplying hanging baskets for 29 shops and on some street lights in the village. It was agreed that proposals would be put to the next meeting, detailing the costs, including planting, installation, watering and maintenance, the form of written agreement with the shops and how public liability would be covered.
- 10. Youth Work.** Ian Weir had been talking to Sally Blackmore at MSDC and Father Christopher Powell about running some form of youth work in the Adastra Community Pavilion one night a week. It was understood that only one parish in Mid Sussex, Balcombe, ran a youth session one evening a week in term time, and the youth worker was employed by WSCC, which recharged Balcombe. Ardingly PC had recently stopped running their Youth Club due to low attendance and high costs. AIRS were no longer providing assistance in providing youth workers.
- 11. Application for Double Yellow Lines at the Junction of Ockley Lane and Newlands Close.** A request from a resident for support in having yellow lines introduced at a junction was considered. It was agreed that there were other areas in the village where similar problems were occurring, and that the process of having yellow lines approved and introduced by WSCC was very slow, so it was agreed that issues such as this should be recorded by the Parish Office for inclusion in the Hassocks parking initiative as this would probably be a more effective way of having action taken.
- 12. Bus Shelter Seating.** There were no seats in the two bus shelters on the London Road, one north of Stonepound and one near Little Copse Road. It was agreed that quotations would be obtained for installing seating in both shelters.
- 13. Cleaning of Bus Shelters, Waste Bins and Seats.** The bus shelters, waste bins and seats were not routinely cleaned, in common with most other towns and parishes. It was agreed that a quotation would be obtained for an annual clean in the spring.
- 14. Letter from HAA Re Planting in the Village.** The letter dated 30 September 2014 to Ian Weir from the HAA regarding the tubs etc at the southern end of Grand Avenue was considered. It was agreed that the committee had no objection to the HAA arranging for three of the concrete tubs to be moved, retaining the tub on the east side outside the former HSBC building. The committee also suggested that the HAA might negotiate with the new tenants of the building to provide planters on the wall, as the HAA had done with Mansell McTaggart on the west side. It was also suggested that Georgia Cheshire from the HAA Green Group be invited to attend an Environment Committee meeting to outline the HAA's plans for planting in the village.

15. Draft Budget 2015/16. The draft budget was approved for incorporation into the draft precept, with the addition of £1,200 for planting, £2,000 for bus shelters, £1,000 for street furniture and £3,500 for rights of way improvements.

16. Meeting Dates 2015. The following dates were approved:

26 January

20 April

30 June

14 September

16 November

17 Date of Next meeting. 26 January 2015 at 7.30 pm.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....