

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 8 April 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

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| Present: | David Cumberland (Chairman) | Sue Hatton |
| | Leslie Campbell | Penny Wadsworth |
| | Steven Ecroyd | Ian Weir |
| | Judith Foot | Frank Rylance |
| | Peter Gibbons | Chris Bere |

Clerk: Linda Baker

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

14/30 Apologies for Absence. Apologies for absence were received from Jane Baker, Bill Hatton, Paul King and Darryl Sinclair. Absent without apology, Alan Berry.

14/31 Declarations of interest. None.

Public Participation. There were no questions from the public.

14/32 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 March 2014. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

14/33 Reports.

- a) **Police Report.** There was no police report. The crime statistics for Hassocks for March 2014, previously circulated, were noted.
- b) **District Councillor's Report.** Sue Hatton reported on:

MSDC Gatwick Airport Parishes Liaison Group. A report of the first meeting held on 4 April 2014 had been circulated and the parish council had been asked to forward any comments on the airport second runway consultation to the Chairman of Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common parish council, who was co-ordinating a response. A copy of the Gatwick Runway Options Consultation document was available in the parish office. Members expressed concerns about the effect expansion of Gatwick could have on Mid Sussex, and suggested that significant infrastructure improvements would be required to support any expansion. It was RESOLVED that:

A copy of the report prepared by Ian Weir would be emailed to councillors so that they could comment, and a copy revised in light of those comments would be sent to Hurstpierpoint Parish Council, and Gatwick Airport would be asked for clarification on a number of issues in the consultation document, including improved rail and road links,

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and likely increase in noise and air pollution in Mid Sussex. The response from Gatwick would be circulated to councillors.

District Councillor Gordon Marples reported on:

- Ham Field development application: this was likely to be considered at the 1 May 2014 MSDC Planning Committee Meeting.
- MSDC would be reviewing housing allocations at a meeting on 9 April 2014 with 5,000 households on the waiting list.
- Damage to verges in the village by contractors and lorries. This would be taken up with WSCC to see if the verges could be reinstated,

c) County Councillor's Report. County Councillor Andy Petch reported on:

- Ham Fields. He had had a meeting with WSCC Highways regarding the air quality and traffic congestion issues, and would be attending a meeting on 10 April 2014 with the MSDC Environmental team.
- A meeting had been held with Network Rail regarding the possibility of increasing car parking spaces at Hassocks Station, and a meeting on parking would be held with the WSCC project managers on 23 April 2014..
- A local group, Little Stompers, had obtained a £1,200 grant from the CLC
- The state of the Keymer Road road surface was being pursued
- Sainsburys had indicated a willingness to have a TRO put in place outside 22-24 Keymer Road, for deliveries.
- There was some developer funding available for play equipment..

d) Planning Committee Meetings 10 and 31 March 2014. The minutes were noted.

e) Grounds Committee Meeting 5 March 2014. The minutes were noted.

f) Adastra Bowling Green east Footpath. The recommendation from the Grounds Committee that the Adastra Bowling Club should meet half the cost of the repairs to the footpath, and the Club's letter dated 19 March 2014, were considered. The council was very disappointed by the Club's response and RESOLVED that the matter should go back to the Grounds Committee for further consideration, and that in the interim the Groundsman should be instructed to cordon off the footpath on safety grounds.

g) Adastra Park North Field Drainage. RESOLVED that the quotation from Bourne Amenity for drainage to the north field of Adastra Park should be accepted, the cost to be met by developer funding.

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- h) Adastra Park Memorial Garden.** RESOLVED that:
- i) A budget of £10,000 is set aside from reserves for the replanting and renovation of the Memorial Garden,
- j) The quotation from Rooted Garden Services for renovation, clearance and replanting in the sum of approximately £6,000 is accepted,
- k) A committee is set up, chaired by Chris Bere, to oversee the project, and to involve local schools to give pupils an understanding of the significance of the Memorial Garden and the events it commemorates. Councillors were asked to contact the Clerk if they who wished to join the committee.
- l) Hassocks Burial Ground,** RESOLVED that a second Memorial Wall should be installed in the Hassocks Burial Ground, the cost to be met from the Burial Ground Capital Budget, and the Grounds Committee to agree the size and location of the wall.
- m) Environment Committee Meeting 18 March 2014.** The minutes were noted.
- n) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting 27 March 2014.** The minutes were noted. The questionnaire would be distributed with the May 2014 Talk About, with responses requested by the end of May 2014.
- o) Rail Matters.** Work on the station was nearly complete, and an Opening Day would be held on 2 May 2014. Councillors expressed concern that the ticket office was frequently not manned during advertised opening hours. RESOLVED that Sue Hatton would draft a letter to Southern Rail regarding this issue, which would be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.
- p) Meetings of Outside Bodies.**
- q) Oldland Mill Trust. A meeting had been held on 7 April 2014, which David Cumberland had attended. The Chairman of the Trust had resigned and a new Chairman would be appointed in June 2014.
- r) Ian Weir had attended a meeting on 1 April 2014 with HCP and HAA when the problem of recruiting new members was discussed.
- s) Beacon Centre Management Committee. Ian Weir reported that the team were now meeting monthly, they had applied for charitable status and had opened a bank account, and were fund raising.
- 14/34 Chairman's Remarks.** There were no matters to report.
- 14/35 Clerk's Report.** There were no matters to report.
- 14/36 Financial Report.** The Financial Report and list of cheques presented for March 2014 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.
- 14/37 Request from Age Concern for Funding for a Minibus.** The letter dated 10 March 2014 from Age Concern was considered. RESOLVED that a response would be sent indicating that the council would contribute £3,000 from the funds remaining in the Parish Transport Grant, once Age Concern

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had raised the remaining £43,000, and on the proviso that appropriate insurance and driver training was in place.

14/38 Correspondence. None.



There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....