

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

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

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were District Councillor Gordon Marples and two members of the public.

15/11 Apologies for Absence. Apologies for absence were received from Jane Baker, Paul King, Judith Foot, Sue Hatton, and Penny Wadsworth. An apology for absence was also received from County Councillor Andy Petch.

15/12 Declarations of Interest. Peter Gibbons declared an interest in item 10 as a member of the HAA.

Public Participation. There were no questions from the public.

15/13 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 January 2015. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

15/14 Reports.

a) **Police Report.** The crime figures for January 2015 were noted.

b) **District Councillor's Report.** District Councillor Gordon Marples reported on:

- **Gatwick.** MSDC had come out against a second runway at Gatwick because of a skills mismatch on employment at the airport with the creation of low skilled jobs in a high skill area, and the strain this would put on demand for housing.
- **Budget.** MSDC had agreed a nil council tax increase, and there would be no increase on other charges, such as green waste bins. The council's finances were in good condition, and MSDC had managed to increase its budget for community projects to £600,000.
- **Rydon.** Ward members and MSDC officers had met Rydon Homes for a consultation on a proposed development off the A273 in Hassocks. It was understood that a planning application would be submitted shortly.
- **Stonepound Crossroads.** The road surface had deteriorated and WSCC would be resurfacing the area in March 2015. The southern end of Lodge Lane also needed repair, and it was

understood that this was in the WSCC 2015/16 programme for resurfacing.

- c) **County Councillors Report.** A report from County Councillor Andy Petch had been circulated.
- d) **Planning Committee Meeting 19 January 2015.** The minutes were noted.
- e) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting, 22 January 2015.** The minutes were noted.
- f) **Rail Matters.** The Rail Group had not met since January 2015 but local MPs had called a meeting with the rail operators and Network Rail to discuss the unreliability of the London – Brighton rail service, and since the new timetable had been introduced in January 2015, 85 alterations had been made, some affecting Hassocks.
- g) **Meetings of Outside Bodies. Burgess Hill Green Circle Group.** Leslie Campbell had attended a meeting on 21 January 2015. He had brought up the idea of a bridleway/footpath from Burgess Hill to Woodside in Hassocks, but it was likely that a cycle way from Burgess Hill to Haywards Heath would get priority. The minutes of the meeting were available if councillors wanted to read them. The next meeting would be a walk about in June 2015.

15/15 Chairman's Report. Neighbourhood Plan Public Consultation 30/31 January 2015. The Chairman said that the public consultation had gone very well, was very well organised and he thanked councillors and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group for the effort they had put into organising the event. Dale Mayhew had given a very balanced introduction, giving the right level of technical information in a clear and concise way, and over 450 residents had attended.

15/16 Clerk's Report.

- a) **Office Staff.** The office assistant, Pat Elliott, had tendered her resignation, and steps were being taken to recruit a replacement.
- b) **Adastra Park Memorial Gardens.** Work was well underway on the refurbishment and replanting of the Memorial Garden in Adastra Park.

15/17 Financial Report. The financial report and list of cheques presented were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

15/18 Mobile Refuse Collections 2015/16. It was RESOLVED that the council would fund 8 mobile refuse collections in the village in 2015/16, at Dale Avenue and Belmont Close.

15/19 Adastra Community Pavilion Bi-Fold Doors. Following the discussion at the 13 January 2015 Parish Council meeting (minute 15/4 (e) (i) refers), the council considered three quotations to replace the bi-fold doors in the Adastra Community Pavilion. It was RESOLVED that the quotation from Clear View Sussex, in the sum of £13,192, plus VAT, would be accepted, the cost to be taken from reserves. The council's insurers would be asked to confirm if they would fund part of the cost relating to the damaged panels.

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