

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 January 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present:	David Cumberland (Chairman)	Sue Hatton
	Jane Baker	Bill Hatton
	Leslie Campbell	Darryl Sinclair
	Steven Ecroyd	Ian Weir
	Judith Foot	Peter Gibbons
	Penny Wadsworth (for items 4-10)	Ian Credland

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were County Councillor Andy Petch and 5 members of the public.

15/1 Apologies for Absence. Apologies for absence were received from Chris Bere, who was unwell, Paul King, who had a work commitment, and Frank Rylance. District Councillor Gordon Marples also sent apologies.

15/2 Declarations of Interest. None.

The meeting was adjourned for public participation. There were no questions from the public.

15/3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 December 2014. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

15/4 Reports.

a) **Police Report.** There was no police report.

b) **District Councillor's Report.** There were no items to report.

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

- Stonepound Crossroads. Substantial repairs should be carried out in March 2015.
- Footpath, Stonepound to South Downs garden Centre. This had been cleared and much improved.
- Flooding. Andy Petch had circulated a letter to affected local residents reporting on Operation Watershed. Hassocks should be one of four WSCC flood defence projects, but this would be a long term scheme.
- There was a possibility of a TRO in Dale Avenue to assist with the school traffic.
- Constituency boundaries were being looked at and population figures for the various wards should be available in May 2015 to enable a review to be carried out. Councillors expressed concern about Hassocks including part of Burgess Hill, and hoped that parishes would be consulted on any changes.
- Work had started on repairs to Spitalford Bridge.

- Land at London Road, APP14/0059. MSDC District Planning Committee would be considering the appeal on 22 March 2015, and Andy Petch had asked for permission to speak at the meeting.
 - CLC. the next meeting would be on 24 February 2015. Councillors were encouraged to attend if they had any highway or other issues they wished to raise
 - WSCC would be meeting on 19 January 2015 to discuss the second runway at Gatwick.
- d) Planning Committee Meetings 8 and 29 December 2014.** The minutes were noted.
- e) Grounds Committee Meeting 29 December 2014.** The minutes were noted.
- (i) Adastra Community Pavilion.** The Grounds Committee had recommended replacing the bi-fold doors following damage to one of the panels and problems with the lock on the main entrance. Following the meeting, further damage had been done to three of the bi-fold doors, which had been forced off the runners. The council therefore discussed a number of options, including installing brickwork to replace part of the glass doors. It was agreed that it was important to retain the glass doors which were part of the design of the building. It was **RESOLVED** that:
- Alternative quotations would be obtained for replacing the glass bi-fold doors
 - Advice would be sought on security for the building and whether shutters and/or CCTV cameras would increase security
 - The council's insurers would be advised of the present position and asked whether the broken bi-fold panels should be replaced under the parish council's insurance policy in advance of the council arranging for the total replacement.
- (ii) Adastra Park Memorial Garden.** The Grounds Committee had recommended that a quotation from Standens should be accepted for the refurbishment of the Memorial Garden after Rooted Garden services had advised that they were not able to carry out the work. It was **RESOLVED** that the quotation, in the sum of £7,804 should be accepted, to include repairs to the pergola and stone seating, and the felling of the large conifer next to the pergola.
- f) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting 17 December 2014.** The minutes were noted. The council considered a recommendation that the project plan from Dowsett Mayhew should be accepted, to increase the involvement of consultants, with the aim of delivering a plan to independent examination stage by the end of November 2015. The Chairman referred to some comments in the village that the parish

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council was behind other councils in the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. Latest government figures showed that of the more than 12,500 towns and parishes in England, only 1,258 had registered to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan, and only 37 Plans had so far been completed, so Hassocks was well advanced compared with the majority of parishes. It was RESOLVED that the Dowsett Mayhew Project Plan would be accepted, at a cost of £24,300, plus expenses to progress the Hassocks Neighbourhood Plan to examination stage by November 2015. It was RESOLVED that an additional £5,500 from reserves should be added to the Neighbourhood Plan budget to cover the additional costs.

- g) **Rail Matters.** Leslie Campbell and Peter Gibbons reported on the Rail group meeting held on 9 January 2015, which had focussed on the timetable changes from December 2015. A request had been made for the coastway west service to stop at Hassocks. The service from Hassocks for the current year had been reduced, with only two trains per hour from Brighton in the evening, but it was hoped that the service from 2016 would be improved. Downlands Community School had made representations regarding the withdrawal of an afternoon service, and the council supported their request, but it was understood that the train operating companies were unable to make alterations to the timetable for the current year.
- h) **Meetings of Outside Bodies.** None.

15/5 Chairman's Remarks.

Neighbourhood Plan. The Chairman expressed thanks, on behalf of the council, to the non- councillor members on the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group for the work they were doing in organising the next public consultation, which was proving very useful in support of the work of the Group as a whole.

15/6 Clerk's Report. There were no items to raise.

15/7 Financial Report. The financial report and list of cheques presented was approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

15/8 Photocopier Contract. RESOLVED that the photocopier in the parish council office, under contract from Ricoh, should be replaced with a new machine at a similar specification at a cost of £138.06 per quarter, plus a one off installation and training charge of £295.

15/9 Gatwick Airport. The letter dated 12 December 2014 from Gatwick Airport was considered and it was agreed that the parish council would like to be involved, and that the airport would be advised accordingly.

15/10 Correspondence. None.

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

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

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