

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 19 May 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present:	David Cumberland (Chairman)	Peter Gibbons
	Jane Baker	Bill Hatton
	Leslie Campbell	Nick Owens
	Ian Credland	Darryl Sinclair
	Justine Fisher	Victoria Standfast
	Judith Foot	Ian Weir
	Frances Gaudencio	Carol Wise

Clerk: Linda Baker

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

15/19 Apologies for Absence. An apology for absence had been received from Sue Hatton. District Councillor Gordon Marples also apologised for absence as he was abroad.

15/20 Election of Chairman. David Cumberland was elected as Chairman for 2015/16.

15/21 Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

15/22 Councillors' Declarations of Acceptance of Office. All fifteen councillors had signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

15/23 Election of Vice-Chairman. Ian Weir was elected as Vice-Chairman. *Public Participation. There were no questions from the public.*

15/24 Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest in respect of any items on the agenda.

15/25 Election of Committees. It was RESOLVED that the following councillors were appointed to the council's committees:

- a) **Environment.** Leslie Campbell, Peter Gibbons, Nick Owens, Darryl Sinclair, Ian Weir, Carol Wise. Co-opted non-voting members Phil Mead, Hassocks Tree Group, Georgia Cheshire, HAA Green Group.
- b) **Grounds.** Jane Baker, David Cumberland, Justine Fisher, Peter Gibbons, Bill Hatton, Darryl Sinclair. Co-opted non-voting member, Chairman, Hassocks Allotments Holders Association.
- c) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.** Ian Credland, Justine Fisher, Judith Foot, Frances Gaudencio, Bill Hatton, Sue Hatton, Nick Owens, Victoria Standfast.
- d) **Parking Working Group.** Peter Gibbons, Ian Weir. Co-opted, district Councillor Gordon Marples, Margaret Ford, HAA.
- e) **Planning.** Jane Baker, Leslie Campbell, Judith Foot, Bill Hatton, Sue Hatton, Victoria Standfast, Carol Wise.

- f) **Policy, Resources and Communications.** Ian Credland, Justine Fisher, Judith Foot, Frances Gaudencio, Peter Gibbons, Sue Hatton, Ian Weir.
- g) RESOLVED that the Chairman would be an ex officio member of all council committees.

15/26 Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies. It was RESOLVED that the following councillors were appointed as representatives on outside bodies:

- a) **Adastra Hall Management Committee.** Sue Hatton.
- b) **Ditchling Local Area Transport Group.** Ian Weir.
- c) **Hassocks Amenity Association Rail Group.** Leslie Campbell, Peter Gibbons.
- d) **Hassocks Community Partnership.** Darryl Sinclair.
- e) **Hassocks Twinning Association.** Sue Hatton.
- f) **Police Neighbourhood Panel.** Jane Baker, Justine Fisher.
- g) **Mid Sussex Council for Voluntary Service.** Victoria Standfast.
- h) **Mid Sussex Association of Parish Councils.** Judith Foot, Ian Weir.
- i) **MSDC Green Crescent Steering Group.** Leslie Campbell.
- j) **Oldland Mill Trust.** David Cumberland.
- k) **WSCC South Mid Sussex County Local Committee.** Justine Fisher, Ian Weir.

15/27 Report on Meetings of Outside Bodies. RESOLVED that there would be a standing item on the agenda for councillors to report on attendance at meetings of outside bodies.

15/28 Appointment of Tree Warden. RESOLVED that David Brown is appointed Tree Warden for 2015/16. A letter would be sent thanking David Brown for his work as Tree Warden during 2014/15. The council had previously had two volunteer Tree Wardens to share the workload, and councillors were asked to contact the Clerk if they knew of anyone who might be interested in becoming a second warden.

15/29 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 April 2015. The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

15/30 Chairman's Remarks. There were no matters to raise.

15/31 Clerk's Report. There were no matters to raise.

15/32 Reports.

- a) **Police Report.** The crime statistics for Hassocks for April 2015 had been circulated. The Police Panel meeting would be held in the Parish Centre on 21 May 2015 at 7.00 pm.
- b) **District Councillor's Report.** The newly elected District Councillors for hassocks would be invited to attend and report to future meetings of the Parish Council.
- c) **County Councillor's Report.** Andy Petch reported:
 - A meeting would be held with WSCC representatives on 10 June 2015 at 10.30 am in the parish office to discuss the issue

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of speeding in Keymer, and a further meeting would take place at 12.00 noon to discuss the Hassocks Parking Plan.

- Andy Petch had made three applications for funding under the Operation Watershed scheme for projects in Hassocks, but had not yet heard the result. Jane Baker raised the question of flooding in Underhill Lane in Clayton, and it was suggested that she should attend the CLC meeting on 2 June 2015 to raise this with WSCC.
 - The CLC meeting on 2 June 2015 at 7.00 pm at Woodlands Mead School would include discussion of the provision of school places in Hassocks, and officers from WSCC would be in attendance.
 - A meeting of the boarders group would take place on 10 July 2015.
 - Andy Petch raised concerns about the availability of fire crews at weekends as a result of recent changes in coverage.
- d) **Grounds Committee Meeting 8 April 2015.** The minutes were noted.
- e) **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meetings 9 and 23 April 2015.** The minutes were noted. A further consultation event would take place on 10 and 11 July 2015, and leaflets would be delivered in Hassocks. Jane Baker was asked to undertake leaflet distribution in Clayton. A meeting had taken place on 20 April 2015 with representatives of WSCC to discuss education provision in Hassocks, and a representative of the South Downs National Park had attended the 23 April 2015 NPWG meeting to outline the SDNP's approach to development in the park.
- f) **Environment Committee Meeting 20 April 2015.** The minutes were noted. It was noted that the new bus shelter had now been installed by Spitalford Bridge, the new waste bins had been installed around the village, and hanging baskets on street lighting columns in Keymer Road would be put up shortly.
- g) **Planning Committee Meetings 13 April and 5 May 2015.** The minutes were noted.

15/33 Financial Report. The financial report and list of cheques presented were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

15/34 SALC New Councillor Training Sessions. RESOLVED that Frances Gaudencio and Justine Fisher would attend the SALC new councillor training on 6 July 2015, and that the council would meet the cost. Other training opportunities would be advertised during the year, but if any other councillors wished to attend the new councillor training they were asked to contact the Clerk.

SALC had given notice of an event at Boxgrove on 8 July 2015 for WSCC to introduce itself, its role and responsibilities to new councillors, and councillors were asked to let the Clerk know if they were interested in attending.

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15/35 Dance Studio at Downlands. An email dated 22 April 2015 from the Deputy Headteacher of Downlands regarding a grant application to Sport England for funding for a dance studio at the school was considered.

RESOLVED that the parish council would write a letter of support with regard to the application, and councillors were asked to contact the school if they had any other evidence in support of the application as detailed in the email.

15/36 Insurance. RESOLVED to approve the renewal of the council's insurance policy with Zurich at a cost of £4,742.47. It was noted that this was the final year of a five year contract and that therefore alternative quotations would be obtained before proposals for renewal in June 2016 were put to council.

15/37 2014/15 Parish Council Accounts.

- a) **2014/15 Accounts.** RESOLVED that the accounts were approved, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.
- b) **Annual Return.** RESOLVED that the Accounting Statements and Annual Governance Statement 2014/15 was approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign it.
- c) **Report of the Internal Auditor 2014/15.** The report was approved.
- d) **Statement of Internal Control 2014/15.** The report was approved.
- e) **Risk Assessment.** The Risk Assessment was noted.

15/38 Correspondence.

South Downs National Park, Appointment of Parish Members. SALC would be conducting elections for the appointment of two parish councillors from West Sussex to join the SDNP Authority. If any councillors were interested in standing for election, they were asked to contact the Clerk by 15 June 2015.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

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