

**HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL****Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 June 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.**

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

Clerk: Linda Baker

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

**15/39 Apologies for Absence.** Apologies for absence were received from Ian Credland and Judith Foot.

**15/40 Declarations of Interest.** None.

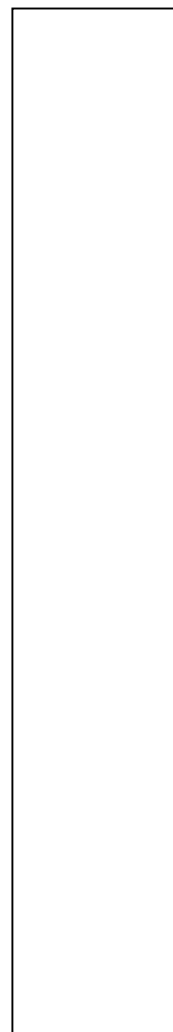
**15/41 Presentation by Phil Mead of the Hassocks Tree Group.** Phil Mead outlined the work of the Hassocks Tree Group, which had arisen out of work on the Village Design Statement. Since 2008, 270 street trees had been planted, of suitable species, including 10 oak trees in Ockley Lane. The scheme had proved very popular with residents. The Tree Group did most of the administration, WSCC organised the planting and the scheme was funded primarily by the parish council, with some grant funding and contributions from the public. He thanked the parish council for its commitment in funding the planting, and the group were very grateful to WSCC for their assistance in sourcing and planting the trees, which represented a long term investment in the environment of the village. Gordon Marples expressed his support for the scheme which had made a considerable contribution to the village landscape.

*Public Participation. There were no questions from the public.*

**15/42 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 May 2015.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**15/43 Reports.**

- a) **Police Report.** There was no report. Jane Baker reported on the Police Neighbourhood Panel meeting on 21 May 2015. A new Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator had been appointed for Clayton Mills, and Justine Fisher reported that she had become the street co-ordinator for Ockley Way.



**b) District Councillors' Report.** Kevin Burke introduced himself as one of the three newly elected District Councillors for Hassocks. Gordon Marples:

- Paid tribute to Sue Hatton, who had stood down as a district councillor, for her work on behalf of the village
- Reported that MSDC was now a completely Conservative council, which would present its own challenges, and would increase the need for robust scrutiny committees
- Reported that a Burgess Hill Development Board had been established, including the leaders and chief executives of WSCC and MSDC to oversee plans for the development of Burgess Hill, including 5,000 new dwellings. There would be liaison with neighbouring parishes, including Hassocks, who would be impacted by the development.
- The Community Service Awards would be made again in September 2015, and details would be circulated shortly.
- He queried the statement in the HPC Newsletter that MSDC would like the village to plan for 600 new dwellings over the next 20 years. This might be an unconstrained figure included in the MSDC HEDNA document dated February 2015, but would not be deliverable, and a more realistic target would be 250-400 dwellings. The position needed to be clarified before the next NPWG consultation event on 10/11 July 2015.

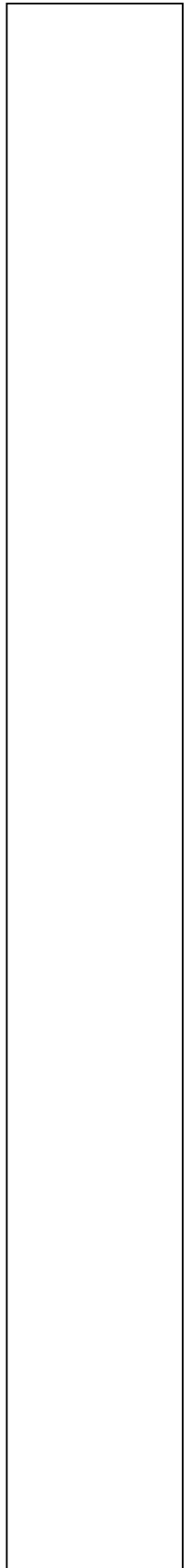
**c) County Councillor's Report.** Andy Petch reported;

- The three Operation Watershed funding applications for Hassocks had been successful
- The CLC had made grants to Age Concern and the Girl Guides in Hassocks
- The Borders Committee were looking at the number of councillors for WSCC and there might be a suggestion that Clayton should be included with Hurstpierpoint in future, but no decisions had yet been taken.
- A meeting regarding the parking and infrastructure priorities for Hassocks would take place on 10 June 2015 with representatives of HPC and WSCC

**d) Planning Committee Meeting 26 May 2015.** The minutes were noted.

**e) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting 28 May 2015.** The minutes were noted.

**f) Co-option to the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.** It was RESOLVED that Adrian Batchelor, Georgia Cheshire, Geoff Copley, Virginia Pullen, and David Withycombe would be co-opted as members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, and would be required to sign a confidentiality agreement to cover their work.



- g) Rail Matters.** Southern and Thameslink would combine in July 2015 under the new franchise, and a meeting of the Rail Group would be arranged once the new rail management team were in place.
- h) Report from Councillors on Meetings of Outside Bodies.**  
**CLC.** Ian Weir and Sue Hatton had attended the CLC meeting, when a presentation had been made on the Spitalford Bridge project, and the West Sussex Schools Team had done a presentation and reported on the current problems with the availability of school places. Parish councillors pointed to the need for WSCC to look at the wider strategic issues involved in providing adequate school places, but it was acknowledged that this was a national problem, not just an issue for parents in Hassocks.

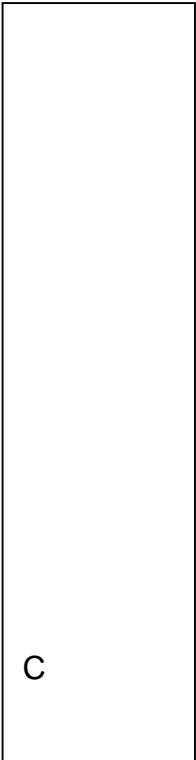
**15/44 Chairman’s Remarks.** None.

**15/45 Clerk’s Report.** None.

**15/46 Financial Report.** The financial report and list of cheques presented for May 2015 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

**15/47 Parish Office Lighting.** RESOLVED that three quotations for LED lighting for the parish office would be obtained, and advice would be sought on whether all the lighting should be changed to LED.

**15/48 Correspondence.** None.



There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

Chairman.....

Date.....