

## HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Parish Council** held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Attendees: Parish Councillors Ian Weir (Chair), Peter Gibbons, Jane Baker, Bill Hatton, Leslie Campbell, Emma Wood, Sue Hatton, Georgia Cheshire, Mark Higgins, Frances Gaudencio, Victoria Standfast, Kate Bailey and Nick Owens.

Parish Clerk: Ian Cumberworth

Visiting Member: Michelle Binks (District Councillor)

### MINUTES

**PC18/91 APOLOGIES**

Cllr Judith Foot  
Kirsty Lord (County Councillor)

**PC18/92 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Disclosure by Councillors of personal interests in matters on the agenda, and whether the Councillor regards their interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.

None

**PC18/93 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and the extraordinary meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**PC18/94 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was 1 member of the public present who observed proceedings but did not wish to speak.

**PC18/95 MINUTES**

To accept the following Minutes.

To accept the Planning Committee minutes for the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and to note minutes for the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

To note the minutes of the Policy Resources & Communications Committee for the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

To note the minutes of the Grounds & Environment Committee for the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

## **PC18/96 FINANCE**

Members considered the finance reports and the supporting bank statements and reviewed the payment list .The Finance report and payments totalling **£14,070.65** for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 were considered and approved.

## **PC18/97 Reports**

97.1 **District Councillors reports:** - Cllr Sue Hatton (SH) and Cllr Michelle Binks (MB) confirmed that they had recently attended further meetings on anti-social behaviour.

Both recently attended a meeting with MSDC officers and Barratts to discuss the ongoing issues concerns being raised by residents at Ham Field regarding the levels on the site. MSDC are to undertake their own assessment and propose to publish the outcome of these on their website once completed. The focus of this piece of work will be in relation to Condition 4 of the planning application which specifically deals with the site levels. MB indicated she believed a further meeting was being held today between MSDC officers and the neighbouring property residents to discuss the matter.

Cllr Nick Owens (NO) stated that based on his calculations ground levels appear to have increased significantly possibly up to as much as 10ft. (NO) indicated that the Parish Council should continue to monitor this and seek assurances that the levels are compliant with the Planning application and that MSDC data is accurate.

Cllr Ian Weir (IW) suggested that where we have credible data which brings the levels assumptions into doubt this information should be shared with MSDC. (NO) undertook to do this

Cllr Binks (MB) updated Members that MSDC had made some representations against the current Traffic Regulation Order being sponsored by the Parish Council. Cllr (IW) confirmed that he had attended a meeting with the Clerk and MSDC officers on the 29<sup>th</sup> January to discuss this. The main focus of concern was the resource implications for the enforcement aspects of the proposal. WSCC are responsible for funding on-street enforcement therefore if County wish to support the initiative further funding may need to be sought for MSDC to resource the enforcement aspects.

MB confirmed that she attended a meeting with Cllr Marples, Cllr S Hatton, Cllr Kirsty Lord (WSCC), WSCC and MSDC officers to discuss the outline planning application for the strategic site .Discussions were held regarding the reduction of this stretch of Ockley lane from National speed limit to 40mph and then to 30mph at the proposed access to the site. (IW) expressed that the Parish's view was that any sums relating to highways works should be paid over directly to county to undertake the highways improvements rather than rely on the developer.

MB confirmed that the focus of the meeting was around the units, accessibility and parameters. Concerns were raised in particular to the access to the site via Ockley Lane.

Members reaffirmed that Hassocks Parish Council continued to have concerns regarding the current access proposals and considered that the Parish Council should make further representations to WSCC expressing its concerns and requested the Clerk to write to County accordingly. Members discussed the content of any representation to WSCC and RESOLVED to write to WSCC stating the following. *'Hassocks Parish Council consider the decision regarding the speed limits of Ockley Lane should be an integral part of access to the 500 site. All speed limits should be included as part of agreed access arrangements'*

A recent meeting had been held with Cllr MB, Cllr SH, the Clerk, MSDC planning officer, Clayton Mills Resident group representative and representatives from Gleeson's. The meeting discussed potential options to improve the current space between Clayton Mills and the new development. Although it is acknowledged that there is no requirement from Gleeson's to do so as part of the new development but they have undertaken to look at this.

MB indicated that Adastra Hall may be able to access some S106 funding from Stafford House to support some of the proposed access improvements to the hall

**97.2 County Councillor report** – Kirsty Lord (KL) was unable to be present at the meeting but had submitted a report to the Clerk which was read out

Cycling: KL attended a meeting at WSCC to look at proposals for a Sayers Common to Downlands cycle route along the B2116. It is anticipated that a detailed proposal will be available around Easter. KL also asked that the proposal to improve the north-south pedestrian options at Stonepound traffic lights - discussed at the last Parish Council meeting - be incorporated into the proposals for an improved cycle crossing at Stonepound.

KL also attended a subsequent meeting with MSDC, WSCC, Mid Sussex Cycling Forum, Hurstpierpoint PC, Cllr Binks, Cllr Weir and Cllr Gaudencio. It was agreed that the work by this group on a Hurstpierpoint to Ditchling cycle route be brought together with the WSCC work to ensure no duplication of effort. The Sustrans study for this has been shared with the WSCC engineers.

Buses: KL indicated that WSCC have agreed cuts of £300,000 to bus subsidies. There is no impact on Hassocks services. The 36A/C in Burgess Hill will be withdrawn but the 100 will be re-routed during off peak times to mitigate some of the impacts of this.

Clayton: After lobbying, the New Road/Lodge Lane junction is now on the WSCC list for a safety study. Timings are not yet available for this.

The recent crash on New Road is being investigated by the police and WSCC Highways. No updates at this time.

Ockley Lane: KL has held discussions with WSCC Education on the possible new school on the site at Ockley Lane and will be pursuing conversations with interested parties, including the Parish Council, over the coming weeks and months.

KL attended a meeting with MSDC Planning, WSCC Highways and Cllrs Binks and Marples to discuss Highways issues regarding the 500 homes. It focused on concerns about speed and road capacity along Ockley Lane and KL has since spoken with WSCC Highways and will be making a further submission on concerns around the modelling of school traffic

Anti- Social behaviour: KL has met with Inspector Dommett for an update on the situation in Hassocks and has spoken with WSCC representatives. KL has written to Katy Bourne, PCC, and Chief Constable Giles York requesting improved policing in Hassocks including PCSO support longer term.

Planning: I sit on the WSCC Planning Committee. Although I wasn't able to vote on the Downlands School amphitheatre, I was able to speak as a local member and spoke in support of the application. The application was approved unanimously and enthusiastically by councillors.

Woodsland Road: WSCC propose to resurface this road in this financial year with a tentative date set of 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> March

- 97.3 Rail matters – Cllr Campbell (LC) reminded members that with effect from this Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 trains will not run and a replacement bus service will be in operation. It is understood the buses will operate from 4am to 2am (22hrs per day)

Cllr Gibbons (PG) confirmed that Hassocks is now receiving a full Monday – Friday service to Cambridge and Bedford.

- 97.4 Youth Initiatives- nothing to report.

- 97.5 Police matters – nothing more to report other than the Clerk has written to Katy Bourne regarding the level of policing within Hassocks and is awaiting a response.

- 97.6 Report from Councillors on meetings of outside bodies where the Council is represented – Cllr Cheshire informed members that she recently attended the Green Circle group who had appeared to have been very successful in securing facilities including green/open spaces /cycle ways etc. as part of the Northern arc proposals being developed by Homes England.

Cllr Weir attended a meeting at MSDC with the Clerk to discuss the current TRO which has been out for consultation and also the Burgess Hill

Strategic Planning Group (with Cllr BH) where progress on the Northern Arc and Infrastructure improvements to Burgess Hill were outlined.

**PC18/98 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – nothing to report.

**PC18/99 CLERK'S REPORT**

99.1 **EARMARKED RESERVES**

The Clerk introduced a report setting out proposals made by Policy Resources & Communications Committee and Grounds & Environment Committee to allocate additional funds from General Reserves to Earmarked Reserves to support the Councils ongoing and emerging priorities. Members were requested to consider each proposal and indicate whether they approved the proposed allocations. The Clerk informed Members that based on the current projected budget outturn the full allocation of £45,000 could be met from General Reserves to Earmarked Reserves. Members considered the individual proposals and **RESOLVED** to approve the proposed allocation of General Reserves to Earmarked Reserves in accordance with the detailed schedule set out within the agenda.

**PC18/100 URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN** for noting and/or inclusion on a future agenda.

There were none.

**PC18/101 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To note that the date of the next Council meeting is **Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 7.30pm.**