

The Parish of Upper Beeding



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 24th April 2019
at 7:30pm in the Beeding & Bramber Village Hall.**

Present:

Parish Councillors: S. Birnstingl (Chairman), A. Chilver, V. Cook, R. Harber, I. Ivatt, J Shaw, C. Verney, C. Warren

Parish Clerk: Celia Price (minutes)

Residents and members of the public: approximately 25

UB Neighbourhood Plan Chairman: Sean Teatum

West Sussex County Councillor: David Barling (for part of the meeting)

Neighbourhood Wardens: Paul Conroy and Mike Pearce

Sussex Police (Community Speedwatch): Steve O'Connell (for part of the meeting)

South Downs National Park: Phil Paulo

Plastic Free Campaign: David Littlejohns.

2019:01 Welcome by the Chairman of the Parish Council

Simon Birnstingl, Chairman of the Parish Council welcomed all present and thanked everyone for attending especially to those presenting. He advised that questions could be asked at the end of each session and there will be an open forum at the end of the meeting.

Celia Price, Clerk to the Parish Council since October 2018 was also introduced and welcomed.

2019:02 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from the following: District Councillor - David Coldwell, Parish Councillors - Pauline Kentell, Tom Kardos, John Rowland and Valerie Cook. Village Hall Committee – Sue Plassing

2019:03 Community Speedwatch

Steve O'Connell from Sussex Police was welcomed and gave a presentation regarding Community Speedwatch. He gave an overview of the scheme including how it works, the number of volunteers required and the time expected (a couple of hours per week is ideal). The benefits were also highlighted along with the pledge of free loan equipment for 6 months and training.

It was stressed that the aim is to educate drivers. Support is also provided from the camera van team and Sussex police who use the data provided by the scheme to target 'hotspot areas'. There are over 500 community speedwatch schemes and 80 parish councils are in

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support of the scheme, these are all very successful and result in an average of 8% reduction in the number of people speeding.

Questions were invited. In conclusion, those present were asked for a show of hands to indicate who would be interested.

2019:04 Truleigh Hill

Phil Paulo, Community landscape Projects Officer (South Downs National Park) was welcomed to the meeting and gave a very informative presentation regarding Truleigh Hill which covers an area of approximately 2-3 square kilometres. The site is of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and it is hoped that the heritage of the area will continue to be celebrated and enhanced. Phil is leading a two-year project which is currently approaching the end of the last quarter of the first year. The project is currently in the consultation phase and it is hoped that all users will express their views.

The project is aiming to make the site more accessible and educational with greater use of the YHA buildings and facilities as well as promoting conservational grazing.

In conclusion questions were invited and all encouraged to express their views as part of the consultation, on-line if possible.

2019:05 Plastic Free Campaign

David Littlejohns from Steyning, Bramber and Beeding Plastic Free Campaign Group was welcomed to the meeting and gave a presentation. He explained that the group had evolved from the Surfers Against Sewage group who realised that the greatest threat to sea-life is plastic with 8 million pieces of plastic reaching the oceans each day. He stressed the campaign is not about removing plastic completely but aims to reduce single use plastics.

The official launch of the group was on 6th April at the farmers Market in Steyning and with the help and support of local government, businesses, churches and schools hopes to arrange community events and work towards an award.

Everyone should be encouraged to look at alternatives for single use plastics and if each person eliminated 1 piece of plastic it would make a massive difference. Things to consider include using bees wax paper instead of cling film, looking for alternatives to plastic washing up sponges and taking reusable carrier bags to the shops.

Questions were invited and in conclusion two schemes were highlighted, Upper Beeding Primary School and The Hub are collecting crisp packets and the Hub are also collecting bread wrappers for recycling.

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2019:06 Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plan Chairman, Sean Teatum updated all present regarding the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. He advised that the consultation is now complete and an independent examiner is being appointed to facilitate moving onto the next stage. He also reported that Rydon Homes have pulled out of the Pound Lane Development and clarification, in writing needs to be sought from the landowners.

A vote of thanks was given to Sean and the whole Neighbourhood Plan Team for their hard work and dedication.

2019:07 Open Forum

The floor was opened to residents for questions and comments.

Residents asked when the road sweepers would be in the village. It was suggested that in the past they have come too early in the day when there are a lot of cars parked on the side of the road so they cannot do the job properly.

The clerk will contact Horsham District Council with the feedback.

With no other questions, the Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 9pm.