

UPPER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting Parish Council held on Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 7:30pm in the Beeding and Bramber Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: S. Birnstingl (Chairman), V. Cook, R Harber, I Ivatt, T. Kardos, P. Kentell, J. Rowland, J. Shaw, C Warren

Also present: Clerk - Celia Price, District Councillor – David Coldwell, SDNP Invited guest – Phillip Paulo (Community Landscape Project Officer, Truleigh Hill)

The Chairman reminded members of the public the requirement that they limit their participation to the Public Adjournment section of the meeting.

C:1218:01 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Chilver, Cllr Shaw, Cllr Verney and County Councillor David Barling

C:1218:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest

The Chairman reminded councillors that previous declarations still stand (as defined under the Localism Act 2011).

C:1218:03 Public Adjournment

None present

C:1218:04 Invited guest

The Chairman welcomed Phillip Paulo (Community Landscape Project Officer, Truleigh Hill) who gave a presentation regarding planned improvements at Truleigh Hill.

In summary, this is a community led project, initially funded for two years. The vision is to make Truleigh Hill more accessible to all with improvements to footpaths, visitor facilities and car parking which will all be done in a sympathetic way. There will be no additional vehicular access but improvements will be made to the existing route. The landscape character will be safeguarded, biodiversity enhanced and improvements made to wildlife and educational facilities.

Councillors expressed a desire to improve footpaths and accessibility for the whole community and were keen to be involved in the project. Mr Paulo was invited to attend the annual meeting in March to present to a wider audience.

C:1218:05 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting dated 6th November were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by Cllr Warren, seconded by Cllr Kentell and agreed by all.

C:1218:06 Matters arising from the minutes

None

C:1218:07 Neighbourhood Wardens

The Neighbourhood Warden report had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was resolved to note the contents.

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Minutes from the steering group and extraordinary meeting had also been circulated and were noted.

The Chairman asked for councillor's views regarding more detailed reporting. After discussion, it was resolved that the council would rather the wardens were 'out and about' rather than filling in paperwork; however, it as requested that a warden be in attendance at two parish council meetings a year. The clerk will advise HDC accordingly.

C:1218:08 Report from County Councillor

Not present

C:1218:09 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Coldwell presented a Year of Culture update and advised that the budget was 'on track', several members of the public have written to HDC to say 'well done'. The next financial year will see an increase of approximately 3%.

Cllr Coldwell reported that the SHELAA consultation ends on 4th January. He also advised that the warden scheme is expanding throughout the district with Storrington and Southwater potentially joining.

There are two planning applications on Truleigh Hill which are due to be determined by committee this month.

The Chairman expressed frustration with the limited input available to the Parish Council with regard to the SHELAA particularly with reference to Highways; Cllr Coldwell shares the frustrations but the policies are based on national not local legislation.

C:1218:10 Cemetery clerk laptop

It was resolved to accept the quote for a new laptop for the cemetery clerk (as circulated prior to the meeting). Proposed Cllr Warren, seconded Cllr Ivatt and agreed by all.

C:1218:11 Speeding

Further reports have been received from members of the public with regard to speeding issues throughout the village. It is hoped that the community policing safety officer will be able to carry out risk assessments over the coming weeks.

C:1218:12 Youth provision

It was resolved to accept the proposals for the youth provision as circulated. Proposed Cllr Warren, seconded Cllr Kardos and agreed by all.

C:1218:13 Junior Neighbourhood Warden Scheme

Cllr Kentell circulated a report prior to the meeting, the contents of which were noted. Having attended a presentation with the Chairman, Cllr Kentell proposed continued support for the Junior Neighbourhood Warden scheme in the future, if requested.

C:1218:14 Tree Surgery

Quotes for surgery to the two poplar trees on the recreation field were discussed. It was resolved to appoint South Coast Tree Care. Proposed Cllr Warren, seconded Cllr Kardos and agreed by all.

C:1218:15 Small Dole in Bloom

Cllr Ivatt presented a proposal for Small Dole in Bloom. A group of volunteers have investigated logistics and cost. The initial expenses will be in the region of £1000 - £1500. On this basis the principle was agreed by all.

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C:1218:16 Defibrillator

Cllr Ivatt has investigated funding for a defibrillator at the disused telephone box in Small Dole. Permission needs to be obtained to use the phone box for this purpose before proceeding further. The Clerk will investigate.

C:1218:17 Dog Waste Bins

The Clerk has obtained costings from HDC and has a meeting on Friday to assess site suitability. Each bin will cost £440 fully installed and emptying will be £2.49 per week. It was resolved to proceed with this project based on the costs provided. Proposed Cllr Warren, seconded Cllr Harber and agreed by all.

C:1218:18 Office Refurbishment

Quotes had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was resolved to accept these quotes, proposed by Cllr Kentell, seconded Cllr Kardos and agreed by all.

C:1218:19 Interpretation Boards

A written report was circulated prior to the meeting, the contents of which were noted. A vote of thanks was recorded for Cllr Chilver.

C:1218:20 Action List

The Clerk reported on the action list as circulated, adding that the accounting software has now been successfully moved from receipts and payments to income and expenditure as requested by the external audit and good progress is being made with regard to GDPR implementation

C:1218:21 Neighbourhood Plan

It was resolved to note the contents of the report as tabled. Councillors expressed concerns regarding the financial stability and reputation of Rydon Homes and asked the Clerk to bring this to the attention of HDC.

C:1218:22 Schedule of payments

It was resolved that the schedule of invoices for payment totalling £1884.49 be approved. Proposed by Cllr Warren, seconded by Cllr Rowland.

C:1218:23 Salary and associated payments

The reports were presented and noted.

C:1218:24 Annual Budget 2019/2020

Councillors reviewed the budget for 2019/20 as prepared and circulated by the Clerk and resolved to adopt the budget. Proposed Cllr Ivatt, seconded Cllr Cook and agreed by all. The precept will be set at the January meeting.

C:1218:25 Correspondence

It was resolved to note the correspondence as circulated.

C:1218:26 Chairman's Announcements

The chairman attended a very useful tree course and is now qualified to undertake inspections. Work is starting on a tree policy and research will take place to ensure it is compatible with any policy held by HDC and WSCC.

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C:1218:27 Matters raised by Councillors

Cllr Harber suggested adding a review of working practices to a future agenda item. All agreed and a full review of all policies will be undertaken in due course.

Cllr Harber reported his attendance at a very interesting SDNP meeting.

Cllr Kardos gave his apologies for the January Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Warren suggested a plaque and tree guard around the new plane tree in Small Dole. It was resolved that the Clerk should arrange this.

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 9:45pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 7:30pm in Beeding and Bramber Village Hall.

Minutes signed by:

Date: