

Upper Beeding Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 7:30pm in the Beeding and Bramber Village Hall.

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

Also present: Clerk - Celia Price, Neighbourhood Warden - Paul Conroy, District Councillor – David Coldwell, County Councillor – David Barling, Neighbourhood Plan Chairman – Sean Teatum.

2 members of the public

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

C:0119:01 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Chilver and Cllr Kardos.

C:0119:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest

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

C:0119:03 Public Adjournment.

There were no matters raised.

C:0119:04 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting dated 4th December were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

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

C:0119:05 Matters arising from the minutes.

Cllr Harber reported that he and the Clerk have undertaken a site review at Truleigh Hill following Mr Paulo's presentation. The area is large and diverse, it was suggested that all councillors visit. All agreed this was a good idea.

C:0119:06 Neighbourhood Wardens (Appendix 1)

The Neighbourhood Warden report was circulated prior to the meeting and Paul Conroy gave a verbal review. Questions were invited from councillors and the following was raised;

- Cllr Shaw asked how often the skate park was visited. Paul Conroy advised at least three times a week. It was noted that this area does not experience any issues but will continue to be monitored.
- Cllr Ivatt asked how often the wardens visit Small Dole and how the time is split between the villages. Paul Conroy responded that the wardens try and spend an equal amount of time in all the villages.
- Cllr Kentell noted that the warden's report advised there had been no cold caller issues, however she and some of her neighbours had experienced an aggressive cold caller. Unfortunately, this had not been reported as it was difficult to get through to 101. Paul Conroy advised that they could not report on what they had not been told

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about and encouraged councillors and residents to report instances direct to the wardens and/or 101 and the website is very easy to use.

- The Clerk asked if the wardens continued to monitor the MUGA. Paul Conroy confirmed that they did and there have been no issues.

Councillors discussed how often they would like attendance from a warden at Parish Council meetings. All agreed quarterly.

The Chairman thanked Paul for everything the wardens do and for attending the meeting.

C:0119:07 Report from County Councillor

West Sussex County Councillor, David Barling reported that the WSCC budget meeting would be taking place tomorrow (Wednesday 9th January). He also advised that the highways consultation to reduce the speed limit from 40 to 30 miles an hour along the Henfield Road is imminent. Concerns have been raised about speeding along the Edburton Road and this will be investigated.

Questions were invited from councillors and the following were raised;

- Cllr Kentell advised that the footpath sign was still missing. It was agreed that there was no action required from Cllr Barling as this was in hand with the PROW officer who has agreed to replace this during January. The meeting was advised that Cllr Harber and the Clerk are meeting with the PROW officer later this month.
- Cllr Harber asked if any preparations are being made following Brexit. Cllr Barling reported that the latest advice is that no action is needed.
- The Chairman asked if there has been any further update regarding proposed footpath improvements and speeding restrictions on the High Trees Road (from the roundabout towards the Rising Sun). Cllr Barling advised there was nothing new to report. The Clerk will contact the Safer Routes to Schools Officer to see if they can help.

C:0119:08 Report from District Councillor

Horsham District Councillor, David Coldwell reported that the District Council have had their budget meeting and he is pleased to report that HDC have a balanced budget with a likely council tax increase of 2.2%. He also asked that the Parish Council assist in making local cycling clubs aware of the dangerous corner along Edburton Road and to advise caution. Councillors were advised that planning application SDNP/18/01189 for new visitor accommodation at Truleigh Hill has been refused on landscaping grounds.

Finally, the number of Neighbourhood Wardens in the district is increasing and a new supervisor is being recruited (with no cost to the Parishes).

Questions were invited from councillors and the following was raised;

- Cllr Kentell asked if the yellow lines in Hyde Lane could be re-painted and was advised that this is a County not District matter.
- Cllr Ivatt asked about the enforcement process for the land opposite Tottington Drive where all the hardcore rubbish is being dumped on a regular basis. Cllr Coldwell advised that the enforcement team at HDC have involved the Environment Agency and although this is a long, slow process, progress is being made.
- The Chairman asked if Cllr Coldwell was aware of any issues reading waste disposal collections. He advised that he was not aware of any but there are concerns that DEFRA want to make changes with regards to green waste collection.

C:0119:09 Action List

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The updated action list was distributed prior to the meeting and the Clerk gave a verbal update reporting that new councillor email addresses should be set up in time for the meeting on 5th February when Stuart Tofts from Startech will be available for a closed session prior to the meeting.

In addition, it was reported that Cllr Harber has circulated a project plan idea to all councillors ready for submission to SDNP.

Cllr Harber proposed that footpaths be added to the action list, this was agreed by all.

C:0119:10 Review of working practices

All agreed to carry this item over to a future meeting.

C:0119:11 Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman advised that the Neighbourhood Plan team have circulated the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan to councillors with processes being explained. The recommendation from the steering group is to move forward to Regulation 15.

The plan was discussed at length with all agreeing to the importance of a robust and sustainable plan. Without an approved Neighbourhood Plan, developers can apply to build on any or all sites that are considered suitable thus opening the parish up to greater expansion. The requirement for social and affordable housing is key and is supported throughout the Neighbourhood Plan. All agreed that communication regarding the Neighbourhood Plan is paramount and this will be discussed further.

It was resolved to adopt the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan and submit it for regulation 15.

Proposed by Cllr Harber, seconded by Cllr Warren and agreed by all, with the exception of Cllr Kentell who abstained.

It was resolved to give delegated authority to the Clerk to submit the plan.

Proposed Cllr Shaw, seconded Cllr Warren and agreed by all, with the exception of Cllr Kentell who abstained.

Cllr Warren tabled a vote of thanks and congratulations to Sean Teatum and the whole Neighbourhood Plan team for their continued ongoing time and dedication.

C:0119:12 Schedule of payments

It was resolved that the schedule of invoices for payment totalling £7531.17 be approved. Proposed by Cllr Kentell, seconded by Cllr Rowland.

C:0119:13 Salary and associated payments

The schedule of salary and associated payments for 2017-18 as at 31st December 2018 was reported and noted.

C:0119:14 Precept 2019/2020

The Clerk reported that to meet the budget as agreed at the December meeting the precept request for 2019/20 should be £174,075.

It was resolved that the precept of 2019/20 be set at £174,075.

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

Correspondence

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It was resolved to note the correspondence as circulated.

The correspondence from Beeding and Bramber Village Hall committee as circulated, concerning the showcase on 7th April was discussed, all agreed the Parish Council will be present and a donation for a table of £25 was agreed.

Proposed Cllr Harber, seconded Cllr Ivatt and agreed by all.

C:0119:16 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported receipt of a certificate for attendance at the Tree Survey and Inspection Course (November 2018).

C:0119:17 Matters raised by Councillors

Cllr Kentell highlighted ongoing issues with Hyde Lane. Widening of the road needs to be considered, a traffic survey should be undertaken and we need to find out what is under the bank. All agreed to add this to a future agenda for discussion.

Cllr Ivatt reported that plans for Small Dole in Bloom are progressing nicely with the recruitment of more volunteers and the acquisition of hanging baskets and liners. It is hoped that the first floral displays will be in place by Easter.

Cllr Harber volunteered to discuss the lack of footpath on Manor Road with the PROW officer later this month.

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 8:53 pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 5th February 2019 at 7:30pm in Beeding and Bramber Village Hall.

Minutes signed by:

Date: