

SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held at St John's Church Centre, Southbourne on 13 October 2015.

Present: Mr J Brown, Mr C Bulbeck (Chairman), Mr M Everson, Mr W Ferguson, Mr Finch, Mr Hayes*, Mr G Hicks*, Mr P Hicks, Mr M Lane and Mrs A Russell.

*Also District Councillors for Southbourne

Three members of the public.

Apologies for Absence

138. Mrs M Bulbeck.

Declarations of Interest

139. None

Open Forum

140. Following a suggestion from a member of the public, the Chairman agreed that the Parish Council consider who should be responsible for its Facebook page at the next meeting.

County Councillor Report

141. County Councillor Ms James reported on a meeting regarding the Chichester –Emsworth cycle route (Chem Route) and asked the Council to lend its support to the proposals to improve cycling along the route.

142. It was noted that Lumley Road residents group had been put forward for a community award due to their efforts to obtain Operation Watershed funding and alleviate flooding in Lumley Road.

143. Despite previous enforcement by the County Council to open up Footpath 212, it was now blocked again. The Parish Council agreed there was little more that could be done.

District Councillors Report

144. Mr Hayes reported on the All Parishes meeting for the District when the Area Chief Inspector spoke about the budget reductions to the Sussex Police and the consequent restructuring of the service. He was pleased to note that the current arrangements with PCSOs would remain although their role might change slightly.

145. The examiner's report on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was expected in late October. In future S106 money would only be collected for affordable housing. CIL would not normally be reclaimed but it could be if it was not spent. The money arising from the CIL for Southbourne could be quite substantial. Parishes could combine their CIL to provide joint projects where it was beneficial to do so.

146. Mr Hayes was pleased to report on the success of the new transit camp at Westhampnett for gypsies and travellers. The camp had been a joint project with the County Council and District Council and the Police.

147. The District Council was identifying possible sites where refugees could be placed if the need arose.

Police Report

148. The report by PCSO Lemm was received and noted.

Finance

149. Payments - The Council approved the following payments for October 2015:

Burleys	Grounds Maintenance	£	436.20
Covers	Materials	£	16.40
JDS	SIDs Maintenance	£	239.88
SSE	Pavilion	£	36.25
W/bourne & S/bourne JBC	Quarterly precept	£	5,316.00
Border Digital	Printing	£	51.60
Arun DC	Printing	£	336.73
SSE Power Distribution	Ground works for new street light column	£	456.25
Bourne View Management Ltd	Access drive repairs	£	152.26
SSE Southern Electric	Electricity supply	£	1,354.68
SSE Southern Electric	Electricity supply	£	67.92
JDS	SIDS Maintenance (july)	£	144.00
Admin Assistant	September pay	£	162.06
Litter Picker	September pay	£	144.66
Caretaker	September pay	£	209.54
Clerk	October salary	£	983.36
Total		£	10,107.79

150. Bank Reconciliation - The bank reconciliation for September was received and noted.

151. Quotes – Resolved that the quotes from SSE Enterprise Lighting for (1) the replacement of a concrete street light column in Manor Way in the sum of £596.62 with a 5m galvanised column (lantern to be retained) and (2) engineering/service works in the sum of £380.21 +VAT (payable in advance) be approved.

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service Consultation

152. The Council commented on the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) consultation that had been made available on line. It was noted that the HFRS was not formally consulting parishes from outside Hampshire. It was also noted that West Sussex County Council had not allowed a link to be made from its website to the HFRS consultation page.

153. Resolved – (i) that the Chairman write to the HFRS expressing the Parish Council's concerns of the reductions from a fully crewed fire engine attending an incident to a 2 person-crewed first response vehicle and (ii) that the Chairman write to the Leader of West Sussex County Council expressing the Council's disappointment that the HFRS consultation was not more widely publicised to West Sussex residents who may be affected by the proposals through a link to the HFRS website.

Green Ring

154. Mr Ferguson reported he had had a meeting with COMA to discuss the first draft of the legal framework and which he expected to be able to bring to the next meeting. At the moment which option would be considered most suitable to manage the Green Ring was not entirely clear as there were several possibilities such as a charitable incorporated organisation or a community interest company that could be set up to do so. A presentation on the options would be needed at the next meeting. He requested that the possibility of the Green Ring Partnership holding a fund raising event on the recreation ground be considered by the Recreation Committee.

155. The Council had been awarded a grant of up to £8,480 by Chichester District Council for the Green Ring Partnership. An agreement had been drawn up with a number of standard conditions and specifically:

- £1700 be used for consultancy support
- the money be spent within three years

- any unused monies (including recoverable VAT) be returned to the District Council.

Resolved– that the Clerk be authorised to sign the agreement on behalf of the Council.

Neighbourhood Plan

156. The Council noted the progress with the distribution of leaflets informing residents about the referendum. Mr Hayes proposed that whatever the outcome of the referendum there ought to be an event to thank the members of the Steering Group for their work.

Chem Route

157. Mr Brown reported on the meeting to promote the Chichester –Emsworth cycle route (Chem Route). Mr Finch commented that he had spoken to the Chief Executive and the Cabinet about the need to put money into develop the infrastructure in partnership with the County Council. He would discuss this further with County Councillor Ms James.

New Steering Groups

158. Mr Brown proposed that there should be two new steering groups following the Neighbourhood Plan referendum, namely a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Strategy Group to take over from the current NP Steering Group and also a Natural Environment Projects Group. Mr Brown outlined the draft terms of reference of each group and would forward them to the Clerk. Membership of each group would need to be determined but he thought it likely there would be about 6 people including councillors on each group. The work of the two groups would not automatically be linked but it was acknowledged that there may be some overlap which would need to be managed.

159. Resolved - that the draft terms of reference be agreed subject to confirmation by the Clerk that they comply with legislation and the Council's Standing Orders.

Council Policies

160. The Council considered the proposed complaints policy and procedure and health and safety policy (copies appended to the signed minutes)

161. Resolved – that (i) the complaints policy and procedure and (ii) the health and safety policy be approved.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

162. Resolved – that the press and public be excluded from the meeting while consideration be given to a staffing matter.

Administrative Assistant

163. It was noted that an Administrative Assistant had been appointed and the Council agreed her remuneration.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.