

SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting held at St John's Church Centre on 13th May 2014.

Present: Mr J Brown, Mr C Bulbeck, Mrs M Bulbeck, Mrs S Cecil, Mr M Everson, Mr A Feltham, Mrs J Grant, Mr R Hayes, Mr P Hicks, Mr J Jennings, Mrs L Leader, Dr P MacDougall, Mr R Rolfe.

County Cllr S James, District Cllr B Finch, District Cllr G Hicks.

Apologies: PCSO J Lemm.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests by Members

922. None.

Election of Chairman

923. Mr Bulbeck was proposed by Mr Hicks and seconded by Mrs Cecil. There being no other nominations, Mr Bulbeck was duly elected Chairman.

Election of Vice Chairman

924. Mr Everson was proposed by Mr Hayes and seconded by Mr Feltham. There being no other nominations, Mr Everson was duly elected Vice Chairman.

Committees & Representatives on Other Bodies

925. The Committees and representatives on other bodies were appointed, list attached to the official minutes. No change from previous year.

It was decided to consider appointing a Footpaths Co-ordinator at the next meeting.

Membership of Other Bodies

926. It was agreed to continue membership of CPRE and SALC.

Minutes

927. Min 889. Line 23. Delete 'commented' and substitute 'proposed and the Council agreed'. Subject to this amendment it was resolved the minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

928. Min 884. Footpath Marina Farm. WSCC had decided not to invite a representative from the Parish Council to attend this site meeting.

929. Min 887. New building rear 144 Stein Road. The District Council had confirmed the building complied with planning permission.

930. Min 889. District Council recycling targets. District Cllr B Finch had referred Dr MacDougall's complaints to the Cabinet Member and would respond to Dr MacDougall direct. It was decided to invite the Cabinet Member to attend the September Parish Council meeting.

931. Min 897. S106 Community Facilities. A list of items had been sent to the District Council. A reply had been received from District to say not all suggested projects were suitable for community facilities contributions. Community facilities contributions were mainly for village halls and only the following were included: Increase the size of the village hall to accommodate the Library facility and extra meeting rooms and use the existing Library ground for parking. Improve and upgrade provision of facilities at Age Concern. The contribution from the three planning applications in question was just under £500,000.

932. Min 908. Street light o/s 32 First Avenue. The occupier of 30 First Avenue did not object to moving the street light but had asked if the Parish Council would contribute to the cost of black-out blinds. The Council decided not to contribute to the cost of black-out blinds.

933. Min 916. Chichester Art Trail. Mrs Grant suggested next year the Parish Council could encourage local artists to use the facilities.

Open Forum

934. The meeting was temporarily closed for public comments. Upon re-opening the meeting it was noted a new street light installed under the WSCC street light replacement scheme had been put on the north side of the Main Road, reducing the light coverage for a dwelling on the south side, where the previous street light had been. County Cllr S James would take this up with WSCC Lighting Services. The Council was informed maps of public rights of way which had earlier been available at Southbourne Library were no longer held there.

County Councillor Comments

935. Cllr Sandra James updated the meeting on the Operation Watershed project. Four meetings had been held to date involving the Environment Agency, WSCC, Havant Borough, Slipper Pond, residents and Drainage Consultants Opus.

The Thorney Road PROW site meeting with Louise Goldsmith had been held on 8th May, which regrettably the Parish Council had not been invited to attend. Another meeting had been arranged for 11th July at County Hall to which the Parish Council would be invited. A resident had made contact regarding space for cycling and the gaps without cycle lanes along the A259 and complete lack of cycle lanes elsewhere in Southbourne and Westbourne. Improvements would only be possible if WSCC had additional funding available which could perhaps come from Community Infrastructure Levy from increased house building.

A resident in Thorney Road had complained about the condition of the road, fly-tipping and speeding. The PCSO had been asked to arrange a SID event for the stretch of the road and advise on the results.

An enquiry had been made by a resident concerning parking controls in Stein Road, south of the railway crossing. Advice had been given how to obtain and implement a Traffic regulation Order which would need evidence of local community support.

A resident had complained about the increased parking in the Lumley Road area caused by parking controls in Emsworth resulting in people parking in Lumley Road and adjoining roads where there were no restrictions. The resident also complained about the lack of a pedestrian crossing at Lumley Road / A259 Main Road.

Information was given on changes to Fire Service operations at WSCC.

Community Incentive Fund and Big Society Grants were available again this year and applications were encouraged. The WSCC Well-being Grants would be reviewed at the next South Community Local Committee on the 17th June.

The next formal County Council meeting would take place on 6th June.

Mr Everson and Mr Hayes agreed to attend the next PROW Thorney Road meeting at County Hall at 1.00pm on Friday 11th July to represent the Parish Council.

District Councillor Comments

936. The Local Plan had been approved by the full Council for submission to the Secretary of State who would appoint a planning inspector to conduct the examination and report back whether the plan was sound, not sound, or sound subject to modifications.

The Plan proposed a housing target of 410 dwellings per annum. This was some 50 a year below the bottom end of the range of the assessed need for housing and therefore at risk the Inspector would find the Plan not sound unless the number was increased. The Council believed it had evidence to show that to increase the figure would contravene significant environmental constraints but all should be aware many Local Plans had been rejected at examination.

The Council would be told which Inspector had been appointed to conduct the examination. As it passed the various stages it would gain weight in its application in the decision making process. Once it had been submitted for examination it had significant weight and increasing reference to it would be made by the Planning Committee.

The Council would be appointing a programme officer to assist the running of the examination and although appointed and paid for by the Council, the officer was independent of the Council and acted as a means of contact with the Inspector. All administrative arrangements and correspondence with the Inspector went through the programme officer.

Some objectors had already indicated they wished to appear at the examination. Anyone who wished to speak could do so at the discretion of the Inspector. Anyone could attend the hearings as they were held in public. The actual programme for the examination would be determined once the Inspector had been appointed. It was expected the examination would commence at the beginning of September and last about 3 or 4 weeks. The Inspector's report was anticipated in November to hope to be able to adopt the Plan in December. This would only be achievable if there were no significant issues raised during the course of the examination.

Dr MacDougall questioned the proposal to reduce the number of District Councillors and what effect this would have on Southbourne. Mr Hicks explained a Working Party had been set up to review this and details were not known yet.

Dr MacDougall commented on the suitability of a Research Officer appointed by the District Council. Mr Hayes would discuss this directly with Dr MacDougall.

Mr Hayes reminded the meeting the District Council had arranged a Drainage Meeting to be hosted by Bosham Parish Council on 4th June to which parishes were invited to send representatives.

Correspondence

937. A list of correspondence was circulated with the agenda, copy appended to the formal minutes.

938. List item 1. CDC: departure of Tom Bell, Neighbourhood Planning Officer. A subsequent communication had been received to say Sarah West had been allocated to Southbourne to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan.

939. List item 2. CDC New Homes Bonus Parish Allocations 2014. Referred to Project Group Mr Brown, Mr Bulbeck, Mr Everson, Mr Hayes. The deadline for applications was 25th July 2014.

940. List item 6. Walsh & Co. Potential development site. The Council resolved not to meet with developers promoting sites during the consultation stage of the Neighbourhood Plan, following publication of the Pre-Submission Plan, but developers were invited to make comments on the Pre-Submission Plan.

Neighbourhood Plan

941. Following Tom Bell leaving the District Council, Mike Allgrove had attended the last Steering Group meeting at short notice. He explained the situation regarding premature planning applications made during the period before Neighbourhood Plans came into force and in particular drew attention to a recent case where the Secretary of State had over-ruled a decision by the Planning Inspector and refused planning permission for an application which did not comply with an emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

The latest timetable from Neil Homer had been reviewed and it was necessary to have a second SG meeting in June to be held on the 16th. The target date for the referendum was 15th January 2015.

At the public meeting held on 26th April there had been reasonable attendances for the three presentations. The next public meeting would be on Thursday 15th May at the Village Hall, which would be a repeat of the 26th April meeting.

Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS)

942. One of the lamp posts previously used had been removed as part of the WSCC street lighting replacement scheme. New positions were being found for the SIDS which would require approval from WSCC. Mr Hayes agreed to identify new sites and arrange obtaining approval for them with the Officer from WSCC.

Finance – Payments for Approval

943. A list of payments for approval was presented to the meeting, copy appended to the official minutes. It was resolved the payments be approved.

Accounts for Year Ended 31st March 2014

944. The accounts for the financial year 2013/14 were received and approved.

Audit Commission – Annual Return for the Year Ended 31st March 2014

945. Section 1 of the Annual Return, Statement of Accounts, was approved for signing by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

946. Section 2 of the Annual Return, Annual Governance Statement, was approved for signing by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

Internal Audit

947. The Internal Audit for the year ended 31st March 2014 had been arranged for 15th May.

Matters Arising

948. Mr Everson asked the Council to consider holding Planning Committee meetings on a different evening from Council meetings to enable more time to be available. It was decided to have an agenda item for the next Council meeting to consider a different evening or change of starting time for Planning Committee meetings.

949. Mr Brown reported at the last 'Drop In' session residents had questioned whether work done to a bungalow in Gordon Road was in accordance with planning permission. Mr Hayes asked to be given details so that he could take the matter up with CDC Planning Enforcement.

950. Mr Hayes reported an overgrown hedge in Breach Avenue.

951. Dr MacDougall had attended the CDC All Parishes meeting. Training was being offered to parishes in preparation for paperless consultation on planning applications. The transit site for travellers at Westhampnett had been approved. A presentation had been given on Emergency Planning and the need for parishes to be involved. An agenda item was requested for the next Council meeting.

952. It was agreed to have a meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee on Friday 30th May, time and venue to be decided.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....