

SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held at St John's Church Centre on 12th November 2013.

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, Mr R Rolfe, Dr P MacDougall.
County Cllr S James, District Cllr B Finch, District Cllr G Hicks.

Apologies: Mrs L Leader.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests by Members

773. None.

Minutes

774. It was resolved the minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2013 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

775. Min 750. Travellers. Dr MacDougall had attended the CDC meeting with Parishes on 17th October and had been able to raise the matter of traveller incursions in the District. It was understood a transit site was being investigated to be jointly funded by all Districts in the County and there was some potential progress being made.

776. Min 751. Operation Watershed. Mr Rolfe was looking at the specification for the work for clarification of the method of achieving the improvements to the drainage.

777. Min 752. Boundary change. The Chairman and Vice Chairman had met with representatives from Chidham & Hambrook Parish Council and there had been a useful exchange of views on matters concerning the change of the boundary between the two parishes.

778. Min 753. SIDS. Dr MacDougall agreed to arrange a meeting to draw up a strategy for the deployment of the SIDS and their future maintenance.

779. Min 757. 20's Plenty. A meeting with Officers from WSCC had been arranged for 26th November.

780. Min 760. Street light Lumley Mill. The Chairman had received a letter of thanks from Mrs Lafosse.

Open Forum

781. The meeting was temporarily closed for public comments. Upon re-opening the meeting the Council noted the frustration of a resident in trying to establish responsibility for maintaining the ditch next to footpath 212. It was understood seven different landowners were involved. County Cllr Sandra James agreed to take this up to ensure access to the footpath was not impeded and the footpath was kept open.

County Councillor Comments

782. Cllr Sandra James reported the Committees she served on at WSCC were a total of 9 (Newly appointed to Chichester In Partnership and Goodwood Aerodrome).

Operations at full County Meetings (Report from 18.10.13) – she had posed formal questions on Thornham Treatment Works and Broadband delivery in rural areas. All of these questions required considerable preparation in terms of factual knowledge – question posed to Cabinet member who must respond equally formally. All posted on the WSCC website for review by residents. Question to County Council Leader, Louise Goldsmith re. Gypsy and Travellers. It was important for WSCC to be involved regarding transit site operations since the legislation enforcing use of transit sites (Section 62 legal framework as distinct from section 61) applied when WSCC was a party. Section 62 had more power to react to illegal occupation of land. Concerned was expressed that the issue of transit sites had still to be really addressed, given that it might have the effect of increasing the number entering West Sussex. This had prompted discussion on why Gypsies and travellers were coming to West Sussex, for example employment opportunities. Did people know who they were employing? Footpath 212 and Highway drainage outside Boots Chemists in Main Road – Kathy Eels (WSCC Ranger) and Kevin Macknay (WSCC drainage) to be engaged to give professional input.

Operation Watershed at Lumley – progressing this and should know fairly soon the outcome of the application. As part of this application the retaining wall could be fixed. However there were bigger issues involving Slipper Pond. She was chasing for a meeting with all stakeholders affected as there was a much bigger problem regarding flooding.

Southbourne School parking – a meeting on site was being held on Tuesday 19/11/13 – TRO one way or other options would be considered.

Financial update on pressures at WSCC. £141 million reduction in finances over next 4 years. Pressures in providing services to the community. Where do you start? A lot of activity on appraising what the essentials were and seeing how efficiencies could be made.

Personal viewpoint on what areas could be affected. No news on what that meant, this was a Cabinet decision at WSCC, UKIP were the main opposition party and could make representations.

District Councillor Comments

783. Cllr Graham Hicks reported the Local Plan Pre-submission had been approved by the Council on 24th October. It was now subject to a final round of public comment from 8th November to 6th January.

A new officer structure had been approved and would be in place from 1st April 2014.

The new extension at East Pallant House would be rented out from the end of May 2014.

The car parks team had already moved out. Some individual officers would no longer have their own desks.

A domestic waste recycling survey was undertaken from July to September when the survey was sent to a random 5% of households. The response rate was excellent with 1100 returns. 90.9% of respondents said they received a regular and reliable service.

A new scrap metal dealers act in 2013 gave CDC as a principal regulator much greater powers in the matter of metal recycling and vehicle dismantling.

A new mobile homes act in 2013 gave a better deal to owners.

CDC had participated in a vehicle tax operation at Gatwick on 24th October. Spot checks on vehicles were carried out and some instant suspension notes were served for poor maintenance.

The CDC website had over 2500 pages with 8500 links to a wide range of interactive services including payments, planning, parking, housing, leisure and more.

The Novium had hosted the Sussex Museums Group on 14th October. A lecture series on ancient roman art had attracted 30 visitors to each of three lectures. 90 year 7&8 students

from Chichester Free School visited on 18th October learning about Roman Chichester. Hotel and B&B providers had been welcomed to the Novium on 7th October. Cathy Hales was the Acting Museum Manager and would be happy to attend a future Parish Council meeting. The SE Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust report had highlighted the poor ambulance response time for cardiac arrest patients in Chichester District. The Health & Adult Social Care Committee was investigating to establish how these response times could be improved.

Dr MacDougall commented the admission charges for the Novium were too expensive and discouraged visitors. He drew to attention the District Council had not met its targets for recycling waste and was one of the worst performing councils in this respect.

Correspondence

784. A list of correspondence received had been circulated with the agenda, copy appended to the official minutes.

Additional Correspondence

785. AON UK Ltd. Advice to policyholders regarding snow clearance, salting and gritting.

786. Chichester DC. Publication of the Local Plan Key Policies Pre-submission 2014-2019 to view and comment on from 8th November to 6th January 2014.

787. Chichester DC. Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations in the Districts. Any comments required by 20th December.

788. SSE Lighting Services. Replacement of WSCC street lights in the next few months. A suitable site for an exhibition vehicle for a one day display was being sought. The Chairman offered use of the Southbourne Farm Shop carpark.

Neighbourhood Plan

789. Mr Hayes reported the Developer Presentations meeting at the Bourne Leisure Centre on 15th October had been very well attended. This had been followed by the Neighbourhood Plan Exhibition at the Village Hall on 9th November, which again was very well supported. A second Developer Presentation meeting would be held on 23rd November for those who did not give a presentation on 15th October.

At the last Steering Group meeting it had been suggested the website cost should be taken out of the NP budget. The Clerk explained the criteria for the 'Locality' grant application had included expenditure on websites. Therefore in order to maximise the grant that could be obtained, the website cost had been included in the application so that the maximum grant could be achieved. To remove the website cost could adversely affect the grant.

Letter from Mark Everson

790. A letter written by Mark Everson had been circulated to all members at the September Parish Council meeting. The letter was a vision for the future of Southbourne, to have a multi purpose community centre, to include a parish office, meeting rooms, Library and Age Concern. The site could include parking for commuters close to the Railway Station. Mr Hayes confirmed these suggestions would be taken on board by the Steering Group in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan. New house building could provide a source for funding.

Business Association for Southbourne

791. It had been noted Emsworth had a business association but Southbourne did not have an equivalent organisation. A working group comprising Mr Hayes, Mr Everson and Dr MacDougall was formed to investigate forming a business association in Southbourne

Recreation Ground

792. The Chairman had obtained an estimate from Lloyds Tree Surgery for cutting the hedge at the recreation ground along the boundary with Bourne View Close, in the sum of £550 plus VAT.

The Council resolved to ask Mr Staker to cut the hedge at an estimated cost of £340 - £400.

793. A quotation had been obtained from Knight Fencing Ltd for replacing the chain link fencing along the boundary with Park Road, using the existing concrete posts, in the sum of £1990.17 plus VAT.

The Council resolved to accept the quotation.

Christmas Bazaar

794. Only one booking form had been received for the Christmas Bazaar planned for 30th November. Unfortunately the date had clashed with the Bazaar being held by the Sea Scouts at Prinsted Scout Hut on the same day. In conjunction with the Events Committee, the Chairman had taken the decision to cancel the Bazaar.

It was agreed the Council would support but not organise a Bazaar in the future.

A meeting of the Events Committee would be held in January to plan early for a Fete in the summer.

Relocation of Parish Office

795. It had been hoped the Bourne College would allow time for the Parish Council to vacate the room at the College but half of the room had been taken over by school staff straight way.

Arrangements had been made to move to the Village Hall to the room occupied by the Childrens Centre. The Childrens Centre expected to move to the Bourne Community College by the end of November.

A letter had been received from the Village Hall Committee offering use of the room at the Village Hall for office space and the facilities within the kitchen and bathroom areas. The cost would be £2000 annually, to be paid on a six monthly basis. The facilities would be available from the first week of December but would be open from the third week in November for moving furniture and equipment.

The Council resolved to accept the offer from the Village Hall Committee and relocate the parish office to the Village Hall.

Planning Refresher Training for Parish Councils

796. The Clerk had attended the Planning Refresher Training on 1st November. The session had explained changes made to the District Council's planning regime, moving to a single planning committee, liaison with planning officers, delegation to officers etc and the forthcoming introduction of paperless planning consultation.

Course papers were being made available to parishes.

Training on paperless consultation would be offered in February/March 2014 in advance of paper plans for parishes being discontinued in April.

Christmas Tree St John's Church

797. Mrs Bulbeck had asked for an agenda item to consider providing a Christmas tree for St John's Church to be displayed with lights at the front of the Church, near to the war memorial. The Southbourne Farm Shop kindly offered to donate a tree. It was agreed the Council would purchase lights for a tree. Arrangements would be made with the Church for a 'lighting ceremony' which might include carol singing and seasonal refreshments.

Finance Payments for Approval

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

Matters Raised

799. Dr MacDougall had attended the AIRS and SALC AGMs at Brighton on 7th November. He had not found attendance very rewarding.

800. Mrs Grant distributed samples of 'Drop In' leaflets she had prepared.

801. Mr Everson, Chairman of the Planning Committee, asked members turning up for the Council meeting to keep the noise down while the Planning Committee was still in progress.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....