



FITTLEWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Draft MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18th JANUARY 2010 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion Building.

Present: Dr A Poole (Chairman), Mr M Allin, Mr J Barstow, Mr A Butcher, Mrs S Dipper, Miss Julie Hawkins, Mr J Mills and Mr P Stanforth.

In Attendance: MR J Butler, Cllr. J Duncton (CDC), Cllr. C Duncton (WSCC), Mr M Elliott and Mr P Henderson (Clerk).

01/10. To Receive and Approve Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs H Barkworth.

02/10. Declaration of Personal or Prejudicial Interest: There were none.

03/10. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st December 2009, and previously circulated, were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

04/10. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Re 162/9 – The number of hits on the website as of 13th January were 1192.

Re 164/9 – CDC had been informed that the precept for 2010/2011 would be £16000.

Re 162/9 – MA reported that the overhanging branch in Hesworth car park was to be looked at on 23rd January.

Re 162/9 – Mr Elliott reported that the disturbance following a party in the village hall had resulted from advertising the event on the internet, consequently attracting many uninvited guests.

05/10. Health and Safety:

- JM reported that the dome in the playground would be fitted as soon as the weather improved.
- MA reported that the condition of the trees in Hesworth car park would be assessed on 25th January.
- JM reported that a tree had fallen from the bank above the rifle club and was resting on the roof of the club. The Clerk had reported the incident to Mr S Ide of the Club.
- JM and AB also reported that branches had fallen from a tree in Church Lane. A further branch had broken and was being supported by branches underneath. **It was agreed** that a tree surgeon should be contacted immediately to have the branch removed and the tree made safe. **Clerk to Action.**

06/10. Planning:

AB updated the meeting on the progress of applications currently being considered.

a) Ongoing Applications

1. Catercross Cottage, Bedham Lane – Erect new garage extension and demolish existing garage. PC had No Objections. **PERMIT.**

2. Knoll Bungalow, Sandy Lane – Two storey extension to side. PC Objected. Application withdrawn.

3. 7 Egdean Cottages, Egdean – Erection of fence along existing boundary, removal of part of wall to widen access. PC has No Objections. **Permit**

4. Church End, Upper Street – Notification of intention to fell 1 no. Beech tree. PC had No Objections. **No TPO to be prepared.**

5. Orchard Barn Annexe, School Lane, - Separate dwelling house. **PC unable to object to application.**

6. Ambersham House, Lower Street.

Notification of intention to lateral prune long limb (over drive) to shape, prune 1 no. low limb and 1 no. limb (into Birch), crown thin by 10% and crown clean 1 no. Weeping Willow (T1). Lateral prune 1 no. limb over house by 1.5m, crown clean and uplift over Medlar and other fruit trees 1 no. Scots Pine (T2).

Fell 1 no. Conifer tree (T3) and 4 no. Cypress trees within Group (G3). Lateral prune by 1.5m over shed and off fence 1 no. Apple tree (T4). Lateral prune back to fence (over greenhouse). 1 no. Goat Willow (T5) and 1 no. Leyland Cypress (T6). Lateral prune back to fence line 1 no. Leyland Cypress (T7). Lateral prune away from phone cable and crown clean 3 no. Birch trees within Group (G1). Reduce by 50% 3 no. Leyland Cypress trees and 1 no. Elder tree within Group (G2). **PC had no objections to the application.**

b) New Applications

1. Gingerbread Cottage, The Fleet – Retention of existing satellite antenna dish. **PC had No Objections.**
2. River Lodge, Hesworth Common Lane – Removal of slate roof. Removal of decayed roof structure and replacement of this with new/aged oak truss, plates, props and rafters of similar design to that removed. Replace double doors, new single door with over light. Provide new floor finish over breathable slab. New window in place of two decayed existing.
3. River Lodge, Hesworth Common Lane – Change of use of outbuilding (listed) to habitable room, extension to provide lean to loggia connection, extension of kitchen to link with loggia. **The PC had No Objections.**

07/10. Finance:

a) It was resolved to pay the following invoice. (proposed by PS and seconded by JH)

1. P Henderson – Clerk's wages and expenses for January - £345.98

b) Income Received since the last meeting

There was none

c) Income v Expenditure

An updated sheet was distributed to members at the meeting.

08/10. Correspondence:

a) By Email

1. From SALC – South Downs National Park – Notice of Poll (28/12/09)
2. From WSCC – Fingerpost Restoration Project – (28/12/09)
3. From WSCC – Local Transport Plan 3 – Consultation – (02/01/10)

b) Other Correspondence

1. From Burton & Coates PCC – A thank you for the donation of £100.00
2. From Petworth Cottage Nursing Home – A thank you for the donation of £50.00
3. From Fittleworth PCC – Confirmation and thanks that £285.00 donation had been received.
4. From W. Sussex Mobile Youth Trust – A thank you for the donation of £50.00.
5. From CDC – Core Strategy – Focus on Strategic Growth Options. Taken by AP.

09/10. Reports:

a) Hesworth Common /Birchwalks Wood

- MA reported that 12 trees had been planted recently along with other shrubs. Several trees had fallen due to the snow.
- The next working day was planned for 28th February.
- The next Management meeting was planned for 12th February.

b) Sports Clubs Association

- There was nothing to report.

c) Maintenance

- JM had received a price of £3355.00 incl. VAT for replacing windows and 2 doors on the North side of the Pavilion.
- A price of £870.00 incl. VAT had been obtained to replace windows at the back and shower rooms.
- **It was agreed** (proposed by AB and seconded by JB) that the quote for £870 be accepted and work should start as soon as possible.
- **It was agreed** (proposed by PS and seconded by AB) that the quote for £3355 be held over until after the end of March.

d) Village Hall & Outside Bodies

- At the next meeting of the Village Hall Committee on 21st January the question of hiring out the facility for parties will be discussed.

- Draft plans indicating the suggested boundary between the Village Hall and the Pavilion had been passed to AB and JM. The measurements will be checked and the findings brought to the next meeting of the Parish Council in February.
- CDC Annual Parishes Meeting was scheduled for 19th January. AP & PS to attend.
- The North East Parishes Forum was scheduled for 3rd March.
- The County Local Committee Meeting was planned for 30th March.

e) Communications Working Party

- PS reported that no meeting had been held of late.
- AP reported that at the last meeting of the Village Magazine Committee it had been agreed that Midhurst Rother Valley College would produce the next few editions of the Magazine.
- Articles for future editions were requested.

f) Community Involvement and Youth

- JH reported that pantomime preparations were progressing well.
- A meeting regarding the fete was planned for the near future.
- No further progress had been made with the welcome pack.
- SD provided members with the minutes of the Youth Forum Meeting that had taken place on 17th November. A further meeting was scheduled for the first half of the Spring Term.

g) Traffic Working Party

- AP provided the meeting with the minutes of the Traffic Working Party Meeting of 11th January.
- The meeting was attended by representatives of the Police who explained the workings of the Community Speed Watch Scheme
- A public presentation on Traffic developments had been planned for a Saturday or Sunday in June. This will take place in the Village Hall to show what had been achieved, what had not, together with a presentation of present thoughts on traffic in the village.
- AP reported that he had met with Steve Johnson of WSCC on 12th January and walked part of the village. Amongst other things, the result of blocked gullies was discussed. SJ reported that finances in the future would be extremely strained.
- JH reported that on the night of the Christmas Plays at the school, the parking had created problems in School Lane and Greatpin Croft. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the school to urge parents and visitors to be more considerate in future. **Clerk to Action.**

h) Planning Working Party

- i) PS reported that the group was still investigating possible infill development in consultation with local landowners and CDC.

j) Crime Prevention

- JB reported that he had carried out some research into fly tipping. His results are to be published in the Village Magazine.
- JM informed the meeting that fly tipping had taken place on the North side of the Fleet opposite School Lane. **JB to Action.**
- Residents need to be advised on steps to take to prevent burglaries.

10/10. The Tidiness of the Village:

- AP referred briefly to a paper that had been circulated to members earlier.
- It was agreed that all were in favour of the opening statement referring to the tidiness of the village.
- AP recommended that a working party be formed to take ideas further. The meeting was in agreement that this should take place. AP and JB plus any interested parishioners are expected to constitute the working group.

11/10. Proposed Sand Quarrying at Horncroft:

- AP circulated a paper indicating that WSCC had recently updated the Minerals and Waste Framework. It showed that in 2005 Horncroft was not an acceptable development site, whereas by 2009 it had been accepted in principle. Mineral development should not be permitted in National Parks or AONB's. The location of mineral development in relation to Public Rights of Way was to be a key consideration. Mineral sites were to be close to the Advisory Lorry Routes (A29 is acceptable).

- AP stated that no application to develop the site would be made until about March.

12/10. The Sports Association Lease:

PS had met with Mark Rapson of the Sports Association to discuss aspects of the new proposed lease. Several points had been agreed. A meeting with the solicitor had been arranged for 19th January to discuss the formulation of a new draft lease and advise on any other relevant points. AB advised that if the lease was not renewed by 14th March when the existing lease expires, the solicitor should advise on a possible 'hold over' lease.

13/10. Drainage from School Lane & the Recreation Ground:

- Following flooding in some gardens of Greatpin Croft, WSCC had unblocked drains between the car park and the playground. It was claimed that tree roots had caused the pipes to break and create a blockage.
- A plan showing the line of the drainage, supplied by WSCC, had subsequently proved to be wrong.
- JM claimed that the responsibility for the broken pipes should be WSCC and not the Parish Council.
- The Clerk was requested to write to WSCC and question the ownership of the pipe. **Clerk to Action.**

14/10. Parish Website:

- JB proposed that, in order to economise, the website should be closed down.
- It was decided that would not be acceptable as it provided an important line of communication.
- It was suggested that the presence of the website should be advertised in the Village Magazine.

15/10. Grit Boxes around the Village:

- AP informed the meeting that grit boxes could be purchased at a cost of £170.00 each. WSCC would keep the boxes full of grit.
- Following discussion it was agreed that no boxes should be purchased.

16/10. Items for Inclusion on the Next Agenda:

1. Sports Association Lease
2. Village Hall/Pavilion Boundary
3. Snow Clearance Fund

17/10. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place on 15th February 2010 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion Building.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

P Henderson
19-01-10