



West Grinstead Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Dial Post Village Hall
Wednesday 17th November 2010
at 7.30 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: - Councillors: Mr. D. Green (Chairman), Mr. A. Childs (Vice Chairman), Mrs G. Nash, Mr. R. Hill, Mr. G. Taylor, Mrs C. Watts, Mr. N. Berry.
County Councillor: Mr. L. Barnard
District Councillor: Mr J. Chowen.
Mr R. English: Chairman of the Transport Working Group.
Mrs O. Izzard: Member of the KGV Working Group.
Three members of the public.
Clerk: Mrs H. Dayneswood

P_0107/10 Apologies:

Cllrs: Mr. C. Neal, Mr. P. Kanabus, Mrs H. Bullingham, Mr. A. Russ, Mr. M. Staples, and reasons noted.
PCSO Tom Guiney and PC Nikki DeNero.

P_0108/10 Declarations of Interest: None.

P_0109/10 Chairman's Announcements: None

P_0110/10 Minutes of the last meeting:

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr. Nash, seconded Cllr. Childs) that the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th October 2010 be approved as a true record.

P_0111/10 Matters Arising: None

P_0112/10 Police Report:

PCSO Tom Guiney had submitted a written report – circulated to members. Anti-social behaviour seems to have decreased with the exception of on incident on 31st October. Speed checks have been taking place, with several people having been stopped and given advice plus one person issued with a fixed penalty notice and 3 points. Three local youths have been issued with Section 59 warnings for driving offences.

P_0113/10 District Council Report:

Cllr Chowen reported that the focus for HDC at present is the budget and associated issues. HDC has recently published its District Plan and Budget Proposals. These are available on the HDC web site. Comments can be submitted online until 6th December 2010.

The issue of Discretionary Rate Relief (DRR) was mentioned. If DRR was dropped, this would have an impact on the rates for the KGV playing fields pavilion. *The Clerk to provide details for Cllr Chowen.*

The Clerk raised the ongoing issue of noise from fork lift trucks at the Seawhite site on Star Road Trading Estate. *Cllr Chowen to investigate.*

P_0114/10 West Sussex County Council Report:

Cllr Barnard reported on the following items:

- a) WSCC continues to look at ways in which it can save money.
- b) All supported bus services are being reviewed. It has been suggested that maybe it is too costly to continue to offer the "3-in-1" card for young people completely free to the user.
- c) It looks likely that the responsibility for concessionary fares will be transferred from District to County.
- d) There is no clear direction for the proposed A24 improvements, except for it now having been added to a central government list.
- e) There is a proposal to install an average speed camera on the A24 at Southwater.

- f) CUSID (Chanctonbury Unmanned Speed Indicator Device) is not going forward, due to too few parishes opting to share the costs.
- g) Youth Centres are being reviewed. The Club at Partridge Green Village Hall should be safe but there may be a need for more volunteers to help run the sessions.

P_0115/10 Correspondence:

- a) HDC: Email from Tony Higgins re: parish precepts and tax freezes. *Noted.*
- b) WSCC: Faster Broadband in West Sussex. *Noted.*
- c) Change of company name: EDF Energy Networks now called UK Power Networks. *Noted.*
- d) WSCC: Horsham Connexions Centre – new drop in centre for young people aged 13 – 25 *Noted.*
- e) WSCC: Comprehensive Spending Review - Update. Contact details supplied if people have specific concerns they wish to raise *Noted.* **Local residents are encouraged to complete the imminent census forms to ensure that WSCC receive all the funding they are entitled to from central government.**
- f) HDC: Email from Cllr Nye about the public spending cuts and planning of future HDC services. **Members are encouraged to go through the budget proposals and submit their comments to the Clerk, for collation and submission to HDC by the deadline of 6th December 2010.**
- g) HDCP: Special Conference “Responding to Change in the Country”. Thurs 2nd Dec, 5pm – 8pm WSCC County Hall North, Horsham. **The Clerk to book two places** (Cllr Green & the Clerk.)
- h) WSCC: Letter from Frank Wilkinson (Chanctonbury Local Committee) about CUSID (Chanctonbury Unmanned Speeding Indicator Device) being scrapped. *Noted*
- i) Environment Agency: Changes to Flood Warning Codes. *Noted*
- j) WSCC: West Sussex Local Flooding and Drainage Asset Survey. Deadline for return of surveys and maps 28th February 2011. Items were discussed. **The Clerk to complete the survey and submit.**

P_0116/10 Committee Reports:

PLANNING: Cllr Taylor reported on the last meeting. (For the full report, please refer to the minutes of the Planning Committee.)

OPEN SPACES: No meeting took place, as there was not a quorum.

FINANCE: Cllr Berry reported on the last meeting. (For the full report, please refer to the minutes of the Finance Committee.)

P_0117/10 Working/Advisory Group Reports: Transport Working Group (TWG)

Mr Richard English reported on the following items:

- a) The TWG is trying to get a later evening bus from Horsham to Partridge Green scheduled. It was suggested it would be worth contacting the Henfield Community Bus about this, as an alternative option.
- b) PC Denero and PCSO Guiney have been very helpful to the group. They are currently trying to arrange for a speed gun to be scheduled for use in the parish.
- c) Wheelie bin speed limit stickers continue to be popular.
- d) Aggressive cycling on the Downs Link seems to have moderated since a sign was put up asking cyclists to take more care.
- e) Pavement parking is under investigation.
- f) Although CUSID has been scrapped (see item h in Correspondence list), the TWG are looking at other options, e.g., buying a different kind of device for use in the parish.

P_0118/10 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies:

Sports & Social Club (SSC): No report.

County Local Committee (CLC): No report.

Partridge Green Village Hall (PGVH): The heating problems have been resolved. The parquet flooring in the main hall had been starting to lift and had to be repaired. This is a problem that is very likely to recur. There was no clear consensus whether it would be a good idea to retain the two glass recycling bins in the PGVH car park, for use after events in the hall.

HALC: Cllr Green gave a summary of the recent annual meeting of HALC and HDC. Topics covered included: The Local Development Framework in the light of the scrapping of SEERA’s regional targets, budgets and ‘The Big Society’.

P_0119/10 Any Parish Council issues linked to the KGV Playing Fields Trust:

Mrs Izzard reported that the KGV Working Group only now had four members and they were experiencing disagreements on some issues. They were not really a working body any more. She asked whether the parish Council still needed a KGV Working Group as well as the proposed “Friends of KGV” group. There was discussion about how to advance the “Friends of KGV” group. **The Clerk to put this on the agenda for the next KGV meeting.**

A member of the public commented that the work on the KGV pond was excellent. However, he was concerned about the possibility of a local resident's output from a biodigester being discharged into the KGV pond. ***The Parish Council to investigate the issue further.***

P_0120/10 The Charity Status of Jolesfield Common

It had been confirmed that Jolesfield Common was registered with Fields in Trust (FIT) as a dedicated field. The Clerk had asked FIT what this meant in practice. The response from Mr Sharrock at FIT had been that it meant if the Parish Council wanted to use the land for a non-recreational activity, then permission was needed from FIT.

In the light of this, the ***Clerk was asked to clarify with Mr Sharrock if this meant that Jolesfield Common was in fact not a charity.***

P_0121/10 Update on the West Grinstead Emergency Plan (inc feedback from Winter Maintenance Conference)

Cllrs Nash, Watts, Hill and the Clerk gave a brief summary of the progress to date. The Clerk will shortly submit to HDC a map showing the preferred locations for hippo bags of salt to be dropped by WSCC, in the event of forecasted significant icy/snowy weather.

More work needs to be done on the Emergency Planning document, although there are several parts of the HDC template that are not relevant to the West Grinstead parish and therefore don't need to be completed.

P_0122/10 Decision re: Membership of SALC 2011/2012 (Sussex & Surrey Association of Local Councils)

The SALC subscription for WGPC is forecasted to increase significantly for 2011/2012.

For 2010/2011, the fee was £716.11 ex- VAT. The forecast for 2011/2012 is £779.68 ex-VAT.

The £63.57 extra represents an increase of 8.8%. Members felt that this is unreasonable, especially in the current economic climate.

Cllr Chowen had commented earlier in the meeting, that membership of the local group HALC (Horsham Association of Local Councils) may prove to be more important than in the past. ***The Clerk to find out if WGPC can remain a member of HALC, if they withdraw from SALC.***

P_0123/10 Public Open Forum: No items

P_0124/10 WGPC Accounts for November 2010:

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr. Watts, seconded Cllr. Nash) to approve all the listed bills for payment.

P_0125/10 Approval of Quotations (urgent): none

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed as a true copy.....Date.....

Chairman West Grinstead Parish Council