



West Grinstead Parish Council

OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING

Partridge Green Village Hall
Wednesday 11th January 2012
at 7.30 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: - Councillors: Mrs C. Watts (Vice-Chairman), Mr. D. Green, Mrs O. Izzard, Mr. A. Russ, Mr D. Pearless, Mr N. Berry, Mr G. Taylor and Mrs G. Nash.
Visitor: Mrs K. Russ (PG Tennis Club)
Clerk: Mrs. H. Dayneswood.

General Items

OS_1/2012 Apologies: Cllrs: Mr R. Hill (Chairman), Mrs H. Bullingham.

OS_2/2012 Chairman's Announcements: none

OS_3/2012 Minutes:

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr. Nash, seconded Cllr. Green) that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2011 be approved as a true record.

Parish Council Business

OS_4/2012 Declarations of Interest – WGPC Business:

Cllr Berry declared an interest in relation to the item on 'Better Tomorrows'.

OS_5/2012 Matters Arising:

The Clerk mentioned that it might be a good idea to have a brief meeting with Carla Irving (WSCC Youth Club Leader) and her helpers to check that everything is running smoothly. *The Clerk to ask Carla Irving whether this would be helpful.*

OS_6/2012 Correspondence;

- a) Local resident would like to organise a street party in Mill Lane on the w/e of the Queen's Jubilee. [Since the meeting, it has been discovered that an application needs to be made to HDC for closure of a road. Information has been circulated.]
- b) WSCC: Bus User Survey closes on 17th January 2012. *Noted.*
- c) Mr Anthony Fletcher (Horsham resident) seeking support for his reduction of speed limits campaign "20's Plenty" for some roads. Letter & brochure supplied. *Pass to the Transport Working Group.*
- d) WSCC does not want to have a dog bin installed on the Downs Link near the car park at the old West Grinstead Station.
- e) ROSPA reminder to book annual playground inspections. Members were happy for ROSPA to carry out the annual inspection in 2012. *The Clerk to book.*

OS_7/2012 Better Tomorrows' Food Waste Digester Event

Cllr Berry explained the reasons behind the Food Waster Digester initiative. Better Tomorrows are seeking a few parish councils to take part in the pilot. Members were happy for WGPC to take part and it was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be a good opportunity for hosting an event. As there are different factors involved in Dial Post, e.g., different type of soil, it would probably be a good idea to have a separate event in Dial Post. *Cllr Berry to pursue the project.*

OS_8/2012 Plans for the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) – 28th March

With the Food Waste Digester event and the various reports from councillors and local groups, it was felt that there was plenty of content for the APM.

OS_9/2012 Dial Post Items:

Members briefly discussed the item re: Southern Water building a replacement sewage treatment plant in Bentons Lane and the impact of lorries on the road surface. *To be discussed further at the January PC meeting.*

OS_10/2012 Other Items to Report (information only):

- a) Cllr Nash reported that her husband Michael Nash would be happy to take on the role of the volunteer tree warden for the parish.
- b) Cllr Green reported on the meeting held with Cllr Russ and Mrs K. Taylor about finalising the allotments sub-lease between the Parish Council and the Jolesfield Allotments Association (JAA). [Cllrs Russ & Taylor declared interests in this item.] The only outstanding issue was about responsibility for repair and maintenance of the boundaries of the allotments area. The eastern boundary presented an extra issue because it abutted a public footpath. It was suggested that the *JAA checked their insurance cover* in relation to fencing. *The Clerk was asked to check* whether the PC insurance would cover any accidents/issues arising from members of the public (on the public footpath) coming into contact with the eastern fence of the allotments area. There was further discussion about how the responsibility for any repairs needed now and future maintenance should be shared between the JAA and the PC.

Meeting Of King George V Playing Field Trustees

OS_11/2012 Declarations of Interest- KGV Business

Cllrs Hill and Russ each declared a personal interest in relation to membership of the Sports & Social Club. Cllr Russ also declared an interest in relation to the PG Tennis Club.

OS_12/2012 Matters Arising:

Mrs K. Russ attended the meeting to update the Committee on PG Tennis Club plans.

Two of the tennis courts are 50 years old and the third one is 30 years old. The last time they were re-surfaces was 12 years ago – 12 years is about the average 'lifetime' for a tennis court surface. An LTA advisor has checked the courts and advised they will probably last another 2 to 3 years. However, the third court (one nearest the skate-ramp) is suffering from subsidence, the substructure is inappropriate and contains contaminated hard core.

In the next 2 or 3 years, therefore, a lot of work will need to be done on the courts. The Tennis Club will be trying to get funding to help with the costs.

Other ideas that were discussed included:

- a) Lighting the court furthest away from the main gates.
- b) Installing a hitting wall (could this be multi-purpose for use by footballers as well?)
- c) Moving the third court up to the other end (away from the unsuitable ground).
- d) Submitting a detailed article to the 13-8 magazine to promote the PG Tennis Club (and other sports clubs).

Members thanked Mrs Russ for attending the meeting to update the Parish Council.

OS_13/2012 Correspondence: none

OS_14/2012 Plans for the KGV Consultation Day

It was proposed that this takes place on Saturday 11th Feb, 2 – 4pm, at Partridge Green Village Hall. *Cllrs Izzard, Bullingham and the Clerk to liaise about arrangements.*

OS_15/2012 Potential KGV Projects & Outside Funding

Members discussed potential KGV projects that would be appropriate for outside funders who wish to help the community, e.g., Dark Star Brewery. Suggestions were: a) sponsoring the maintenance costs of the KGV gang mower b) assisting with the costs of tennis courts re-surfacing c) donation to a KGV Development Fund account.

OS_16/2012 Progressing the 'Friends of KGV' Group:

Cllr Izzard reported that the 'Friends' group would be joining in with the PG Youth Club Jumble Sale on 3rd March.

OS_17/2012 KGV Maintenance

- a) Top soil for levelling ground near the skate-ramp. *Cllr Watts offered to pursue this.*
- b) Update on HDC providing information on experts to undertake power-washing the KGV playground safety surfaces. *No response yet.*
- c) Update on drainage issues in area of the KGV pond. No WSCC action yet. *The Clerk to escalate the issue.*

OS_18/2012 Other KGV Business: none

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Next Open Spaces meeting: **Wed 8th February 2012, 7.30 p.m., Partridge Green Village Hall.**

Signed as a true record.....Date.....