



# West Grinstead Parish Council

## OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING

Partridge Green Village Hall

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010

at 7.30 p.m.

### MINUTES

**Present:** - Councillors: Mr. A. Childs (Chairman), Mr. R. Hill (Vice Chairman), Mr. D. Green, Mrs. C. Watts, Mrs G. Nash, Mr. A. Russ, Mrs H. Bullingham, Mr. C. Neal.

One member of the public.

Clerk: Mrs. H. Dayneswood.

**OS\_074/10 Apologies:** Cllrs: Mr. G. Taylor, Mr. N. Berry.

**OS\_075/10 Declarations of Interest:** none

**OS\_076/10 Chairman's Announcements:** none

**OS\_077/10 Minutes:**

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr. Nash, seconded Cllr. Green) that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010 be approved as a true record.

**OS\_078/10 Matters Arising:**

- a) The resident at St. Michael's Lodge to be asked again to cut back his hedge that has encroached into Church Lane. *The Clerk to action.*
- b) The owner of the hedge that has encroached into Village Hall Lane to be asked to cut it back. *The Clerk to action.*
- c) There had been a request from Mr Chenery on behalf of the residents in The Rosary for a salt/grit bin to be sited in their road. WSCC has stated that the County Council's policy is not to provide salt bins (they prefer to use hippo bags as and where needed). If parish councils, community groups or local residents are prepared to purchase one, and manage its use and contents, the County Council will fill it free of charge provided salt stocks are available. *The Clerk to suggest to Mr Chenery that the residents might like to go ahead and purchase their own bin.*
- d) Cllr Norman Berry has attended training workshops under the WSCC initiative "Better Tomorrows" and has gleaned much information about the Acorn B scheme and other waste and recycling matters. If anyone has any queries about these topics, please contact Mr Berry on 01403 710465.

**OS\_079/10 Correspondence:**

- a) Letter from WSCC to a resident in Park Lane, confirming that it is the responsibility of the property owner to cut the hedge, even though there is no verge and it is a bus route.
- b) Emails re: recycling facilities in the PGVH car park. It was agreed that there was no longer any need for the paper bank. *The Clerk to ask HDC to request its removal by Aylesford Newsprint.*  
It was also agreed that two of the smaller glass banks (with rounded tops) should be sufficient now for the amount of glass being brought to the car park. *Cllr Watts to check with the PGVH Committee that this would be acceptable to them.* If so, the Clerk to ask HDC to swap the two large glass banks for two of the smaller type.

**OS\_080/10 Update on the Emergency Plan for the Parish:**

The Clerk had circulated a draft of the Emergency Plan, which is partially completed. Ideas were discussed about who might be suitable to act as the Emergency Co-ordinator in the event of an emergency. *Cllr Nash to sound some people out. Cllrs Nash, Watts and Hill plus the Clerk to attend the forthcoming "Winter Maintenance" conference on 10<sup>th</sup> November and report back after that meeting.*

**OS\_081/10 Grass cutting 2011:**

Neat and Stripy had found that the work in the extensive graves area of St. George's Church grounds had taken far longer to complete than expected. If they were to continue with grass cutting at St. George's and complete the tasks

each time, it would mean doubling the cost (this year the quotation had been for £1200). *The Clerk to write to Father William to see if the church could help with costs.*

**OS\_082/10 Update on siting a new Dog Bin at the corner of Oakwood and Littleworth Lane:**

The two nearest residents had been consulted about the location of a new dog bin on the small area of grass at the corner of Oakwood and Littleworth Lane. As their preferences were for different locations to the north and south, members agreed on a compromise – to site it in-between the two locations suggested. *The Clerk to contact HDC to arrange for installation.*

**OS\_083/10 Dial Post Issues:**

The extension on the Dial Post Village Hall is progressing well.

**OS\_084/10 Allotments Update**

Cllr Russ updated members on the progress of preparation of the allotments:

- a) The stock fence has been put in.
- b) All the water piping on the allotments side of the road has been laid.
- c) The gate to the access road has been set back 4 metres, allowing more cars to queue off the B2135.
- d) The Allotments Association has submitted an application to HDC for Section 106 funding, to help with funding the water connection work by Southern Water.
- e) All 35 allotment plots have been allocated, tenancy agreements signed and keys issued.
- f) The annual rent for a plot this year is £30. Next year it will increase to £35.
- g) Plot holders will be able to start work on ground preparation from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010.
- h) In November, the double hedging will be planted.
- i) Cllr Russ thanked Mrs Karen Taylor for all her hard work in helping to get the allotments up and running. *The Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Mrs Taylor.*

**OS\_085/10 Christmas Lights 2010**

- a) Mr Derek Saunders has found a cost-effective solution for a new set of lights for Wilton Close shops.
- b) Mr Saunders is carrying out repairs to the animating motifs.
- c) *The Clerk to contact Jolesfield School, to ask if one of the children would like to switch-on the lights this year.*
- d) Cllr Childs suggested that it might give people a better view of the lights, if everyone congregated on the fire station side of the High Street for the official switch-on.
- e) Cllr Watts and Cllr Nash to arrange the food for the evening. Cllr Berry to organise the mulled wine. The Clerk to show Cllr Russ how the lights opposite the Partridge pub operate. Cllr Childs to supply walkie-talkies for synchronising the switch-on. Other members to help with preparing the hall, collecting the glasses from the Parish Office, serving drinks and clearing up afterwards.
- f) A trial run of the switch-on to take place on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm. *Mr Derek Saunders to coordinate.*

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Next Open Spaces meeting: **Wed 10<sup>th</sup> November** 2010, 7.30 p.m., Partridge Green Village Hall.

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