

Bramber Parish Council

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 23 March 2016
at Bramber & Beeding Village Hall

PRESENT:

Councillors R. Potter (Chair), N. Mills, M. Tilley, M. Croker, J. Goddard, Mrs D. Goodall, Mrs M. Goddard and the clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors David Coldwell and Ben Staines.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor N. Mills and the Neighbourhood Wardens.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 February 2016 were proposed by Councillor Croker and seconded by Councillor Tilley and agreed and signed.

Update on Action Points:

2.c Dog Bin The Chairman had received permission from the landowner for a dog bin to be installed near the start of the Walks for All route. The cost will be approximately £374 for the bin and installation and the weekly cleaning cost will be £2.70.

Action: Chair

6. Silos Planning Application. Bramber parish Council decided after a long discussion at the planning meeting that the recommendation should be no objections providing certain conditions were imposed (see Planning update).

8. Neighbourhood Wardens Contract. Following the Chairman's discussions with HDC about the responsibility for pensions the contract had been amended accordingly. The present situation is that Bramber and Upper Beeding have now signed the contract but Steyning is still querying other costs.

9a. Councillor Croker had completed the WSCC Cycling Strategy on behalf of the council.

9b. There had been no reply from WSCC about the maintenance survey. If it is confirmed that Bramber and pay for WSCC to continue the work then WSCC will be contacted about the arrangement for the cleaning of road signage.

Action: Clerk

3. OPEN FORUM

Councillor Tilley said that a parishioner had complained to him about the state of the pavement in The Street between St Mary's and the bridge. Councillors agreed it was in a bad condition. The Chairman will contact Councillor Barling in the first instance.

Action: Chair

4. REPORTS

District Council

Councillor Coldwell said that at the last meeting he was asked about the application DC/15/2370 – the carport/log store. This had already been constructed over the objections of the Parish Council. It is regrettable that this application went through, without the close attention that the PC objection should have merited. In future the

clerk will send a copy of any planning objection to Councillor Coldwell.

Action: Clerk

In a recent discussion about design he made the point to the planners that, by and large, the design of larger developments was good because developers are aware of the need to build a marketable estate, but that the real potential for design blunders lay in the smaller developments and in the extensions/additions to existing buildings.

He reminded the council that if there are enough letters contra officers recommendations (5) the application will go to committee but, and perhaps more relevant, any application can be called in by one of your district councillors and would suggest that in future any strong objections such as this could be brought to our attention.

Councillor Coldwell also reported that there was now a new protocol on enforcement and that there is a consultation as to how many councillors there should be on the District council.

Neighbourhood Wardens

Michael Pearce sent in the following report:

Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime

February has been relatively quiet as regards to Anti-Social behaviour.

We continue to patrol and monitor the castle car park due to recent reports of vehicles involved with drug taking. There have also been reports of drug related activity in Maudlyn Lane and Sopers lane. The Police are aware of this and we will continue to gather Intel and work with the Police to help tackle this issue and deter the behaviour. We have passed information of suspicious behaviour to the Police and would like to encourage any residents who may have witnessed, or do witness anything suspicious to report this to ourselves and the Police on 101.

We have liaised with the Horsham District Council Anti-Social Behaviour team regarding a small group of youths whom have been acting anti-socially in Bramber & Upper Beeding. Three individuals have been identified and are soon to be in receipt of formal warning letters. These letters state that if the behaviour continues further action will be taken through enforcement.

SAYS

Councillor Marilyn Goddard gave the following report of the management meeting held on 16 March.

The report from the youth worker was discussed and this has been distributed to councillors and put on the website. Preparations are being made for the new club to be held at The Hub, Upper Beeding.

There is a desperate need for more adult volunteers and it need only be for 2-3 hours per week. Help is also needed to run the mobile skatepark. Horsham Matters are still looking for a suitable vehicle to purchase which will tow the equipment.

The Purple Bus will be in Upper Beeding on Wednesday evenings throughout the summer term. This provides a fully equipped youth club and will be run by a WSCC youth worker as well as the local leaders. Councillor Coldwell gave assurance that there would be a trustee present at each meeting. The contract with Horsham Matters will finish at the end of March and next year the payments to HM will be made by SAYS and not the parish councils.

5. FINANCE

a) The financial statement showing a final balance of £21,319.28(including the reserve of £10,000) was presented and proposed for acceptance by Councillor Potter, seconded by Councillor Tilley and agreed. An invoice is still outstanding for the cost of the Neighbourhood Wardens which will be in the region of £6,000.

b) Paper concerning the renewal of the council's insurance had been distributed prior to the meeting. The clerk confirmed that this was the last year of the 3 year agreement with the premium maintained at £321.61. Councillor Mills proposed that this be continued and was seconded by Councillor J. Goddard and unanimously agreed.

6. PLANNING

New Applications

DC/16/0440 Downside, Maudlyn Close

Demolition of existing attached front garage and erection of two storey front and rear extensions, a single side extension and erection of a new detached garage

This application had been considered at a planning meeting prior to the start of the council meeting and council had agreed to object to the proposals on several grounds (see minutes of planning meeting).

DC/16/0550

Bramber Brook, The Street

Erection of a single dwelling house (re-submission)

Withdrawn Application

DC/16/0300 The Lodge, Little Drove

Erection of rear conservatory

Decisions

DC/15/2747

The Old Stable, Little Drove

Fell 1 x Maple Tree

Permitted

SDNP/13/00643/FUL

Land opposite Annington House

Siting and Fixing of 5 livestock feed silos **Permitted**

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Mills reported that much work had been done since the very well attended drop-in sessions. Details of all this will be in the newsletter currently being produced and which will be distributed to all households. All involved are now working towards the completion of the pre-submission document which is hoped will be ready by the end of April and this will be followed by a six week consultation period.

8. ENVIRONMENT

Councillor Potter said there was some concern as to who would be responsible for the maintenance of St Mary's ditch once the Environment Agency was disbanded. He had been asked by the EA to speak to Horsham to try and find who the landowners are.

Once this has been ascertained the owners will be contacted.

Action: Chair

9. HIGHWAYS

Councillor Goodall enquired if there had been any further agreement with Upper Beeding about the speed signs. The Chairman said that he understood that Upper Beeding had agreed funding and suggested the local highways steward be contacted as well as the Upper Beeding clerk to discuss appropriate sites for the sign. The clerk will forward details of the local Highways contact.

Action: D.G. and Clerk

10. PARISH PLAN

The Chairman reported that as the trustees have agreed to run down the reserves Bramber's initial payment to SAYS for the youth worker will be £1,647 but this may need to be adjusted towards the end of the year. Bramber will still need to pay its share of the running costs.

The Chairman had attended a presentation by Howard Hodges, Acting Superintendent, West Sussex Police. A new policing model is being developed over the next four years with significant areas already in place. There are 30 PCSOs assigned to the Horsham, Worthing and Adur districts and the role is being enhanced to enable them to investigate cases further. Officers and PCSOs will be focused on those areas most vulnerable to crime.

11. PARISHIONERS MEETING

The meeting to be held on 4th May will be advertised shortly. The Chairman is to confirm that Maggie Smith from the planning department at HDC will be able to attend.

Action: Chair

Invitations will be sent to other local parishes and tea and coffee will be served.

Action: Clerk

12. CORRESPONDENCE

a) A letter raising awareness of the Western Sussex NHS Foundation Trust had been received.

b) Martin Leigh-Pollitt had written to ask for confirmation of additional \$106 funding to provide information boards etc for the Walks for All route. Questions were asked about size and siting. It is confirmed that the boards which are sloping and laminated with permanent information will be put at either end of the walk and in the middle. The council agreed with 2 abstentions that it would support the project up to a maximum of £800. However, confirmation of the council's agreement to fund the project is in the minutes of September 2014 and the SDNP figure of £2930 remains dedicated to this project.

c) Early warning has been given for the closure of the Bostal Road for 3 days from 9 May. Once this is confirmed it will be put on the website.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This will be the **Parishioners Meeting** on **Wednesday, 4th May at 7.00pm** in Beeding & Bramber Village Hall. The **AGM** is on **Wed 18th May**.