

# NUTHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at  
**St Andrews CofE School, Nuthurst**  
commencing at 8.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mrs V Court (Chairman) Mr O Hydes (OBE)  
Mrs F Boulter Mr J Mercer  
Mrs J Chaytor  
Mrs G Dixon (Vice Chairman)  
Mrs L Duggleby  
Mrs A Gaffney

Also in attendance were County Councillor B.R.A.D Watson, District Councillor T Bradnum and seven members of the public.

**0101/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillor D England, Councillor J McClean and Councillor T Nelson.

**0201/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** none.

**0301/16 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS** the Chairman made no announcements and no one present intended to record the meeting.

## **0401/16 PUBLIC FORUM**

The new owner of number 1 Harriot's Close advised that the inconsiderate parking of parents was becoming a real issue, cars were being parked across his driveway and he was unable to gain access to his property at the beginning and end of the school day. Parents were also parking on the grass verge at the entrance to Harriot's Close and the resident asked if bollards could be erected to prevent this practice.

The Chairman advised that the matter was in-hand. The application for a TRO was submitted to the CLC's in December 2015 and WSCC have previously advised that they will not erect bollards outside the school.

Mr R Webber commented that Mr T Leggo (SSALC) has circulated a letter from WSCC providing the details of Broadband grants for local businesses. The time span to reply was very limited, the letter from WSCC was dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and the applications needed to be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016. Mr R Webber asked if the Parish Council were looking at setting up a work force to contact local businesses.

The applicant for DC/15/2719 advised that he was in attendance to answer any questions concerning the planning application.

## **0501/16 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The Clerk was asked to change the date of the SHELAA to 2015. The minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 were approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman at the close of the meeting.

**0601/16 TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS FROM THE SUB-COMMITTEES** none.

## **0701/16 TO ADOPT COMMITTEE AGREED REPORTS (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED)**

The Clerk was asked to change the date of the SHELAA to 2015 and correct the spelling of maladministration. The report from the Planning Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015 was adopted by the Parish Council Members.

**0801/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**  
**FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2015**  
**1212/15 Planning Matters (DC/14/2755)**

Whilst attending a meeting at HDC on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 the Chairman and Councillor O Hydes chased up HDC's Legal department for a reply to the 21 page letter written by Alexandra Waite. A reply was received later in the day and this was forwarded to Alexandra Waite.

**1812/15 Mobility Scooters on Cycle Paths**

The Chairman was unable to attend the Cycling Forum and will address the above issue at the next forum.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2015**  
**2712/15 Planning Updates (2015 SHELAA)**

District Councillor T Bradnum has arranged a meeting with Dr C Lyons, Director of Planning, on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to discuss the 2015 SHELAA, the meeting will also be attended by the Chairman, Councillor O Hydes and Mr Boulter (Chairman of MHAG).

**0901/16 CORRESPONDENCE**

- i. **Horsham District Council**
  - a) Email dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015, from Elizabeth DePauley, providing a copy of the Development Control North Committee agenda for 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016, DC/15/1981 Gaveston Hall included.
- ii. **West Sussex County Council**

(All correspondence included on agenda appendix a and b).
- iii. **General Correspondence**
  - a) Email dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015, from Bursar, St Andrews School, advising that a security light will be installed by the gate to illuminate the keypad.
  - b) Email dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015, from Mr C Beer, Heartbeat, advising that the grant has been used to purchase a new battery for the Mannings Heath Defib.
  - c) Email dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015, from Trevor Leggo, SSALC providing details of the Three Southern Counties Devolution Bid.
- iv. **Sussex Police**
  - a) Email dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015, from Jacqui Simes, SSALC, providing details of the future roles of PCSOs.

**The above correspondence was noted.**

**1001/16 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

County Councillor B.R.A.D Watson spoke about the Three Southern Counties (3SC) Devolution bid, the County Councillor explained that there will be benefits for large scale issues and possible additional funding. Meetings with Ministers will be taking place during January.

WSSC are working on their budget, a saving of £153 million needs to be made over the next 4 years, £10 million more than originally suggested, this is due to Government being of the opinion that some counties have the ability to raise funds, i.e., through increasing Council Tax, and West Sussex is one of these counties.

The County Councillor also spoke about Broadband in the Parish; at the last West Sussex Council meeting the issue of Broadband in the Parish of Nuthurst was discussed. The 95% coverage of Fibre Optic Broadband will be achieved during the next couple of years, but there is no timescale for the 5% not receiving the improved Broadband service. The problem with these areas is the return on the investment.

The Chairman asked for the County Councillor's support with the ongoing issue of potholes in the Parish, Nuthurst Road has still not been repaired and Sedgwick Lane is so bad it is no longer 'fit for purpose'. The County Councillor advised that WSSC were presently re-negotiating the highways contract and the excessive rain had not helped the condition of the roads.

District Councillor T Bradnum commented that she had reported the condition of Nuthurst Road to WSCC at the same time a request was made to lower a kerb in Lower Beeding; the kerb had been dealt with so hopefully the issues with Nuthurst Road would also be addressed shortly.

The planning application for Gaveston Hall (DC/15/1981) was approved at Committee; there were a number of conditions, one being that all events must finish at 11.00pm. The District Councillor asked for any issues with noise to be reported to HDC, there had been no previous complaints concerning noise from the site.

The grants for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan will discontinue in March 2016, if a Neighbourhood Plan has not already been started the grant will not be available.

The planning application for 51 units at The Cisswood House Hotel (DC/15/0589) has gone to appeal, no date has been set. The District Councillor will also be attending the appeal hearing for DC/14/2658 and DC/15/1740 on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

## **1101/16 PLANNING MATTERS**

### **i. NEW APPLICATIONS**

Standing Order were suspended between 8.45 & 8.57pm.

The Parish Council voted on application DC/15/2719, 4 Councillors opposed the application and 4 Councillors supported the application, the Chairman had the casting vote.

<b>DC/15/2719</b> 14/12/2015  <b>RESOLVED</b>	<b>Demolition of existing garage and erection of a single storey side extension.</b> 7 Ryecroft Meadow, Mannings Heath, Horsham <b>To raise no objection in principal to an extension on this site, however, the Parish Council are of the opinion that this proposal is overdevelopment of the site.</b>
<b>DC/15/2808</b> 14/12/2015  <b>RESOLVED</b>	<b>Prior notification for proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwelling house (no comment).</b> Jackdaw's Field Nursery, Park Lane, Maplehurst <b>Prior notification, Parish Council unable to comment.</b>

### **ii. DECISIONS OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (NORTH)**

**PERMITTED** - DC/15/2263 & DC/15/2532.

**WITHDRAWN** - DC/15/2131.

#### **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL NORTH COMMITTEE 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016**

**DC/15/1981** – Approved with conditions.

#### **NOTICE OF PLANNING APPEAL 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016**

**DC/14/2658 & DC/15/1740** – The Chairman, Councillor O Hydes and Councillor J Mercer will be attending the appeal. Councillor J Mercer commented that an acoustic report for DC/15/1740 had appeared on HDC's website 2 days the appeal hearing. The document was similar to the acoustic report for DC/14/2658 and he was not sure how long HDC had been in receipt of the report.

### **iii. PLANNING UPDATES**

**DC/14/2755** – A reply was sent to Alexandra Waite on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015.

**HDC 2015 SHELAA AND SWALLOWFIELD PADDOCK** – A meeting has been arranged with Dr C Lyons, Director of Planning, on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The Chairman thanked District Councillor T Bradnum for arranging the meeting.

#### **MANNINGS HEATH BUAB AND INCONSISTENCY WITH NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN**

During the meeting with Rosemary Foreman, on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 it became apparent that, without consultation, the BUAB in Mannings Heath had been changed. The Parish Council needed to submit a letter quickly to HDC, this was because of the implications the changes had on the appeal hearing on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

The Chairman was unable to access her emails for a few days and thanked Councillor J Mercer for explaining the necessity of the urgent letter to the Council Members.

#### **STRATEGY FOR PROTECTING THE ROADS IN THE PARISH**

The Clerk was asked to include on February's agenda.

## ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

The Dun Horse is now on the open market; HDC did not receive any proposals for the purchase the pub from members of the community.

## PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

The caravan on land at Lower Pond Farm, Nuthurst Road, is being used for storage and HDC's Enforcement Team has confirmed that the caravan can remain on the site.

## 1201/16 LOCAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER BODIES REPORTS none.

## 1301/16 FINANCE

- i. To approve the following items of expenditure: -

	Net £	VAT £	Totals £
<b><u>Accounts paid by Direct Debit</u></b>			
EDF Energy Street Lighting Energy	151.58	7.58	159.16
<b><u>Accounts paid at this meeting</u></b>			
Mrs S Hall Expenses			
Internet Access	17.99		17.99
Travel	27.00		27.00
Postage	9.15		9.15
Mrs V Court (Expenses December 2015)			
Internet/Stationary	10.00		10.00
WSCC (Sarah Hall Salary November 2015)	738.13		738.13
Clerks Office Allowance (December 2015)	87.50		87.50
HDC (Charge for uncontested Election)	98.00		98.00
SLCC Membership (Clerks Annual Subscription)	235.00		235.00
<b><u>Paid Between Meetings</u></b>			
The White Horse Inn (Councillors Xmas Get Together)	39.45		39.45
<b><u>Neighbourhood Plan</u></b>			
Mrs F Boulter (printing)	5.00		5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,418.80</b>	<b>£ 7.58</b>	<b>£1,426.38</b>

- i. Approve and sign the bank reconciliations for November 2015 – **approved**.
- ii. To discuss the future of Audit Procurement and the Sector Led Body  
**RESOLVED** to join the Sector Led Audit Body.
- iii. To approve Muddy Boots Garden Services cleaning the bus shelters in the Parish for £120.00 per annum – **approved**.

## 1401/16 MANNINGS HEATH VILLAGE GREEN

- i. To discuss the quotation from Bartlett Tree Experts for surgery to the trees.  
**The Clerk was asked to obtain two more quotations for the surgery to the trees.**
- ii. To discuss the quotations for replacing the wet pour under the rocker.  
**The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting of the Mannings Heath Village Green Committee and the Finance Committee to discuss the quotations further.**
- iii. To discuss the possibility of a local company sponsoring the Village Green.  
**The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting of the Mannings Heath Village Green Committee to discuss the proposal further.**

## 1501/16 HIGHWAY MATTERS

The Clerk was asked to write to the owner of Lower Pond Farm, Nuthurst Road and request for the hedges to be cut back and to prepare a list of highway issues in the Parish for the Chairman to address at the HALC meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Councillor J Chaytor commented on the parking outside St Andrews School, the rain and dark are contributing to making the situation 'horrendous'. The residents are becoming increasingly frustrated with the length of time it is taking WSCC to take action and have suggested a meeting with all concerned.

It is suggested for the following to be invited to attend the meeting: School Governors, Head Master, parents, residents, HDC, WSCC, Parish Council and a representative from the Church.

The Chairman advised that the TRO Consultation was published in December 2015 and that the Parish Council would support a meeting. If the Governors arranged the meeting it could be held at the school. The Head Master is only responsible for issues inside the school gates.

#### **1601/16 PARISH COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE**

There has become a need to action correspondence between meetings. With the Neighbourhood Plan and continuous planning issues correspondence can no longer always wait 4 weeks.

Since the last meeting, on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015, the Chairman has attended to the following matters:

- Requested the Clerk to write to HDC re Mannings Heath BUAB.
- Requested the Clerk to reply to Alexandra Waite's letter.
- Continued to correspond with Santander.

Councillor J Mercer stated that the Chairman` is the information point between the Clerk and Members and should be supported for making decisions between meetings.'

Councillor J Mercer proposed that the members continue to communicate between meetings and the Chairman takes action where necessary, the motion was seconded by Councillor J Chaytor.

**RESOLVED** for the motion to be carried.

#### **1701/16 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF WEST SUSSEX: DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Electoral Review consultation ends on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016, the draft recommendations propose that the Parish will be served by two County Councillors. The recommendations do not affect the District Council.

Councillor J Mercer volunteered to look at the consultation documentation.

#### **1801/16 DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY GRANT**

The limited time span will have meant that few businesses were able to apply for the Digital Connectivity Grant by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The Neighbourhood Plan Consultation identified a need to improve the broadband speed in some areas of the Parish and 65 businesses replied to the consultation questionnaire.

Mr R Webber volunteered to circulate details of potential grant funding to the local businesses; the Chairman suggested that the Parish Council wait for further information.

#### **1901/16 COUNCILLOR TRAINING/SEMINARS**

Details of the 2016 training events have been circulated to the Councillors.

#### **2001/16 FINGERPOSTS**

The fingerpost in Broadwater Lane, opposite Polecat Lane has been knocked down, fortunately, Mr T Ralph noticed the damaged post and arranged for it to be collected and stored. Heritage Finger Posts quoted £365.00 for the repair and re-installation of the post, however, Marcus has not seen the damage and the quotation did not include the repair of the rotten base.

Mr T Ralph specialises in ironwork and has quoted £500.00 for the repair of the post, including the rotten base, and the re-installation.

**RESOLVED** to accept Mr T Ralph's quotation.

Heritage Finger Posts have continued with the renovation of the finger posts over the last month and now the only two posts which need completing are in Nuthurst Street, opposite Park Lane and the damaged post in Broadwater Lane, opposite Polecat Lane.

**2101/16 MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA**  
none.

**The meeting closed at 9.35pm**