

WOODMANCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held in the Playing Fields Pavilion, Blackstone on Tuesday 12th December 2017 at 7.30p.m.

(Members of the Public were invited to attend)

Mrs L Bannister – Clerk to the Council
48 Titmus Drive Tilgate Crawley West Sussex RH10 5ER
Tel: 07921 822869
Email: woodmancoteparishcouncil@gmail.com

Present: WPC Cllrs. Broucke (Chair), D. Austin, P. Williams, J. Pragnell and A. Underwood
L. Bannister (Clerk)

Others Present: 3 x members of the public
WSCC Cllr. Barling
HDC Cllr. Staines

2017-190. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Batchelor, Dixon, Grimes and Coldwell.

2017-191. Minutes of the last Meeting held on the 14th November 2017

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Broucke.

2017-192. Action updates from previous Minutes

None.

2017-193. Declarations of Interest from Members in respect of any items in the Agenda

None.

2017-194. Open Forum (Members agreed to adjourn the meeting for comments from members of the public)

The applicant and architect for application SDNP/17/03867 spoke about how the application has changed and were there to answer any questions.

R. Noel provided an update on Neighbourhood Watch – he is waiting for official confirmation that he can be a co-ordinator, and will meet with local members in January.

Regarding the Parish Hall, the Steering Committee have agreed to start an online newsletter which will also cover other issues.

Progress of the Parish Hall is dependent on the new lease. Once that is in place the plan is to put out a questionnaire to find out if there is support from the community. They are investigating funding opportunities.

2017-195. Reports from other Authorities:

195.1. Horsham District Council

Cllr. Staines updated that the bins will be moving to fortnightly collection soon, and also the trucks are being changed to rear loaders.

The medium financial strategy was approved.

Cllr. Staines does not have any news on the development in Blackstone.

195.2. West Sussex County Council

Cllr. Barling reported as follows:-

- The interim report on the budget is due soon.
- The new Highways contract is about to go out for final tender.
- The CLC still has some funding available to grant to local projects. They are trying to start a completely new way of giving grants that will include partnering applicants with other grant giving bodies.

2017-196. Planning

196.1. DC/17/2554 Bos Barn, Wheatsheaf Road

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Woodmancote Parish Council has no objection to this application as long as the conditions from the original application carry over.’

196.2. SDNP/17/03867 The Old Barn, Catsland Farm, Bramlands Lane

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:-

‘Woodmancote Parish Council does not object to this application as long as there is a condition that the building remains as ancillary accommodation to the main residence, and never becomes an independent unit.’

196.3. Any applications received since publication of the Agenda

None.

2017-197. Planning updates

None.

2017-198. Pear Tree Farm

An Enforcement notice is being prepared by Mid Sussex DC relating to caravans and mess at the site.

Mid Sussex DC has confirmed that land to the north is not being occupied.

The caravans on the site have been allowed by a caravan club. It was agreed to write to them and Mid Sussex DC to say that this site is not suitable for access reasons and the site is unsightly. This will be copied to Albourne PC.

2017-199. Blackstone Playing Field

New plans have been submitted to renovate the pavilion. The views of WPC have not changed. WPC still feels that the new layout would not provide a suitable room for the community to use.

Sussex Cricket has agreed in principal to paying legal fees (subject to the amount).

2017-200. Parish Hall

The Steering group has had another meeting and they are trying to get a lease. WPC considered the legal issues of getting involved in the renovation of the Parish Hall. It was agreed to ask a solicitor to provide legal advice on the original trust to find out how WPC would be able to get involved. The Clerk will get quotes before the next meeting.

Cllr. Staines left the meeting

2017-201. Hardstanding at bus stop on A281

This has stalled due to the current landowner imposing conditions on WSCC putting in the hard standing.

2017-202. Printing expenses for Members

New members will be included in this scheme next year.

2017-203. Finance/payment

203.1. Reconciled accounts & bank statement

These were agreed and signed by Cllr. Prangnell.

It was noted that there are some accrued reserves. The plan is to put these towards a community facility.

203.2. Budget for 2018-19

This will be reduced by £2,000 bringing the budget to £8,675. This would mean increasing the precept by around £500.

The precept will be agreed at the meeting in January.

203.3. Payments:-

- a. WSCC – Invoice for Clerk’s salary for November – £304.17
- b. Printing expenses for Members @ £15 each - £135
- c. WSCC – Invoice for payroll administration - £44.21

These were agreed and cheques were signed by Cllr. Williams and the Clerk.

2017-204. Correspondence/meetings

204.1. Health & Wellbeing survey

SSALC has been providing information on how they can help parish councils get involved in the health and wellbeing of their community. The survey was completed.

204.2. Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople draft site allocation consultation

It was agreed not to make a comment on this. There are no sites in Woodmancote.

204.3. Highways team liaison event

Cllr. Broucke attended this meeting and reported that it was interesting finding out about their processes. All reports to Highways needs to be through Love West Sussex.

204.4. Clerk’s forum

The Clerk attended a meeting with other clerks from the Horsham District. The main thing that came out of this is that the General Data Protection Regulations will mean changes for all parish councils. It is felt that smaller councils will not be able to manage this process themselves, and the clerk would not be able to be the data officer. SSALC are recommending that this is outsourced and have put forward a provisional cost of £150.

2017-205. Other business

Cllrs. Dixon and Austin are attending planning training at HDC on 19th December.

There was a road traffic accident just to the south of Firslands corner.

2017-206. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th January at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm