

WOODMANCOTE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 7.30p.m.
(Members of the Public were invited to attend)

Mrs L Bannister – Clerk to the Council
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Tel: 07921 822869
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Present: WPC Cllrs. C. Broucke (Chairman), M. Grimes, D. Austin, P. Williams, A. Underwood and J. Ochoa
L. Bannister (Clerk)

Others Present: HDC Cllr. D. Coldwell
WSCC Cllr. D. Barling

1. Apologies

HDC Cllr. J. Goddard

2. Minutes of the last Meeting held on the 9th December 2014

Minutes were agreed and duly signed subject to correcting the spelling of 'EdBurton' on page 4.

3. Action updates from previous Minutes

The asset of community value application for the garages at Blackstone Rise has been made, and a decision is due to be made on 12th February.

Cllr. Barling reporting that no planning application has been received for Firslands. This was expected by the end of December.

4. Declarations of interest from members in respect of any items in the Agenda

None relating to council matters, however it was noted that Cllr. Broucke declared an interest in the Steering Group meeting because he has put forward a site for development under the call for sites notice.

5. Open Forum (Council agree to adjourn proceedings for questions from the members of the public)

No members of the public were present, and so no issues were raised.

6. Reports from other authorities

6.1 Horsham District Council

Cllr. Coldwell reporting that:-

- The HDC framework - The inspector has submitted his initial report and has suggested that the housing numbers, calculated at 650 per annum, was too low. He has suspended the examination for

6 months to give the Council time to revise the numbers, which he thinks should be more like 750 per annum. Work is now underway to identify the additional sites, although Cllr. Coldwell thinks they may put more development on existing sites rather than develop new sites. In other respects the plan was quite well received.

- As members will know, policing is under the same financial pressures as the rest of local government. It is understood that there is a freeze on recruitment of PCSOs in Sussex to 2016 and in the meantime a whole-force review is underway.
- Horsham District Councils annual report 2013-2014 has been published and is available on the website. It makes interesting reading.
- Although not finalised, indications are that council taxes will not be adjusted in the coming year. In the early part of the next council year, it can be expected that HDC will move out of the existing offices into Park North, also known as County Hall North, where some of the meeting will be shared with WSCC which occupies the level above.
- The planning application for Swains was approved.
- There is a planning application for Dunkleys in Henfield.
- Cllr. Coldwell has not seen that a decision has been made about Blackstone Gate, however confirmed that the Blaxton Down appeal has been turned down. This is now up to the enforcement department to deal with.
- Next Wednesday (21st January), HDC are having an extra council meeting to discuss the proposed Gatwick expansion and whether HDC will support or oppose this.

6.2 West Sussex County Council

Cllr. Barling reporting that:-

- WSCC have a meeting about the proposed Gatwick expansion next Monday. Cllr. Barling can send us the link to the officers' report on this. Broadly speaking the report is fairly neutral and concludes that WSCC should 'sit on the fence'.
- The decision about Gatwick will be made in June.

7. Planning

7.1 DC/14/2681 – Firmland Park Estate – Erection of a small industrial unit

It was decided that the following comment will be made to HDC.

'The principal of this application is acceptable and it benefits the site, however we do feel the comments in the applicants' supporting document should be considered, and we don't believe this building will sit comfortably with a large recycling unit so the decision should be delayed until a verdict from the application mentioned in the design and access statement is decided.'

ACTION – Clerk to make this comment to HDC

Cllr. Barling will let us know if the above mentioned application is received.

8. Planning updates

8.1. Firlands Industrial Park

This was dealt with previously (see point 3 above).

8.2 Hascombe Farm

Henfield Parish Council attended a meeting at the farm and reported to Cllr. Broucke that it was well put together and put forward what they (Hascombe Farm) believed to be a superior development for the site. They propose to hold an open day for the public to show what they want to do there.

Cllr. Underwood noted that a driveway was going in at Paynesfield.

It was noted that some properties in Henfield (on the border of Woodmancote) appear to be occupied without permission. **ACTION** – Clerk to send the following note to Henfield Parish Council

‘It has been brought to our attention that Marthas Barn and Bo Peeps Barn appear to be inhabited without permission and the adjoining property Stable Cottage has very powerful floodlighting over a sand school which affects the highway and neighbouring properties. Please can they consider looking into it?’

9. Prairie Garden signs

There are no objections to the proposed brown signs.

Cllr. Coldwell leaving meeting

10. Neighbourhood Plan / AirS (Cllr. Austin)

A Steering Group meeting was held prior to the council meeting, which Cllr. Austin chaired. Faustina Bayo from AirS attended this meeting. Three focus groups were set up to deal with the responses received to the questionnaire.

Two sites have been put forward for development, with a third pending.

11. Open meeting on 20th January 2015 regarding Neighbourhood Plan

The meeting was incorrectly put on the Agenda as the 28th, it is in fact the 20th. This will be at 7pm in the Parish Hall and is fully open to the public. It is hoped that a presentation will be available for them. The Clerk will minute this meeting.

12. Applications regarding Operation Watershed

The Blackstone Lane application has been prepared. This was signed by Cllr. Barling. **ACTION** – Clerk to send Cllr. Barling a scanned copy of the document.

Subject to the landowner walking the lane with Cllr. Broucke and giving permission for the work to be carried out, the application will be sent.

Regarding the Furners Lane application, it was proposed by WSCC that an application be made for £1,000 to reshape the lane and take out dams. Sand bags at the property have been suggested. The applicants have not yet consented to this.

The work on the pavements have been authorised to start, and should start next week.

13. Finance / Payment

13.1. Trial balance & cashbook

We have received £27 in cash in place of the cheque from the Playing Field Association which bounced.

Regarding changing the address of the account to the Clerk, we need to write a letter to the local branch to be signed by two signatories. **ACTION** – Clerk to prepare letter

The accounts as at 31st December 2014 were agreed and accepted by the Council.

It was noted that if an SEA report is needed on any of the sites for development, this could cost around £2,000-£2,500.

13.2. Budget & Precept

Cllr. Barling noting that Steyning and Upper Beeding have agreed a nil increase to their precept.

It was proposed and agreed that the precept is set at £7,900 for the financial year 2015-16. This is a £300 increase. The potential SEA cost would need to come out of the reserve account.

ACTION – Clerk to request precept from HDC

13.3. WSCC Invoice for Clerk's salary inc. overtime for Neighbourhood Plan - £354.17

This was agreed and a cheque duly signed.

13.4. Grants

An email has been received from Peter Bates suggesting some charitable donations. This will be decided when the precept has been agreed.

14. Correspondence / meetings

14.1. Highways and Transport consultation

We have not received enough details to be able to comment on this. Cllr. Barling will look into this for us.

14.2. Henfield Neighbourhood Plan

It was noted that the document states that Henfield want to protect an open space on land east of Wantley Estate (our boundary). It was felt that this was a well put together and constructed plan which we favour.

ACTION – Clerk to send this comment to Henfield Parish Council

14.3. Twineham Neighbourhood Plan

It was felt that this was also a well put together and constructed plan which we favour. Woodmancote Parish Council hopes it is put forward for approval. **ACTION** – Clerk to send this comment to Twineham Parish Council

14.4. Blackstone Playing Field Committee

This was attended by Cllr. Broucke.

The drainage scheme has not been finished yet. The sand has not been laid and is still in the car park. They have guaranteed the sand won't be in the car park for the summer season, but they can't guarantee it will be on the field.

The Clerk has left on sabbatical, and someone from Henfield football club has been proposed for the role.

Generally all is running well.

A defibrillator is going on the roadside corner in the next 1-2 weeks. They will be holding a training day soon and will let us know when it will be. **ACTION** – Cllr. Grimes to put on the website that it is there

15. Other business

Cllr. Ochoa mentioning that due to personal reasons he can no longer play such a big role in the council, but can continue to support the Clerk with the finances. Woodmancote Parish Council would like to thank Cllr. Ochoa for everything he has done so far, and hope he can continue to still be a councillor.

Cllr. Williams updating regarding the styles/kissing gates. The landowner has looked at them and agreed to them being put in, but requesting that they are wooden. The next step is to get some volunteers together to put the styles in. There will be three kissing gates and one handrail down some steps.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th February at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Cllr. Williams is unable to attend this meeting. Cllr. Underwood may also be unable to attend.

The meeting closed at 9 pm