

WOODMANCOTE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 11th November 2014 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. C. Broucke (Chairman), M. Grimes, D. Austin, P. Williams, A. Underwood and J. Ochoa
L. Bannister (Clerk)

Others Present: HDC Cllr. J. Goddard
Mr Paul Wilkins (member of the public)

1. Apologies

HDC Cllr. D. Coldwell
WSCC Cllr. D. Barling

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 14th October 2014

Minutes were agreed, and duly signed, subject to the following amendment:

Page 3, paragraph 1 should read '250 yards'.

3. Action updates from previous Minutes

None.

4. Declarations of Interest from members

None.

5. Open Forum

Mr Wilkins is concerned about the planning applications at Hascombe Farm, and is particularly concerned about the size of the development. Mr Wilkins objects to the application to remove two of the restrictions (DC/14/2129). Mr Wilkins saying that the new stables have already been erected, even though the planning application is not retrospective. Mr Wilkins passed around pictures of the site, which were taken before the change of ownership, to show the amount of lorries on the site (before the proposed expansion).

Mr Wilkins leaving meeting.

6. Reports from other authorities

1. Horsham District Council

Cllr. Goddard reporting that:-

Horsham District Planning Framework

The Government Inspectors examination of the Horsham District Planning Framework is taking place at the moment and commenced on the 4th November, and will continue for a period of three weeks closing on the 19th November. If the plan is accepted it is likely to become formally adopted next April. It is unknown whether or not it will be accepted.

Improvements to Horsham's, Council controlled, car parks

Horsham District Council is improving the multi-storey car parks in the town centre to make parking easier and more convenient for visitors.

A new ticketless system called Horsham SmartPark has now been launched in Swan Walk and The Forum. This will extend to other car parks later on. Car parks operating the ticketless system will display the distinctive bright green SmartPark logo. There will be no change to the rates.

Rather than using a ticket to monitor length of stay, Horsham SmartPark works by recording the number plate of a car as it enters the car park. The driver simply parks and goes off on foot without needing to purchase or collect a ticket.

Before collecting their car they enter their vehicle's registration number at one of the pay stations and the appropriate fee will be displayed. This can be paid with cash or cards (and in future by phone). Once paid, the barrier will automatically lift as the driver approaches the car park exit. There were some initial teething problems but now there are more machines and they have been spread around. Parking is free after 8pm. Cllr. Underwood asking what would happen if the barriers failed to lift and it's outside of office hours. Cllr. Goddard will look into this.

Broadbridge Heath Quadrant Development

Horsham District Council members gave approval for the Broadbridge Heath Quadrant Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) at the HDC meeting on the 22nd October. The SPD provides a framework for the comprehensive mixed use development of the site. This is a broad form to allow them to get on with planning.

Blackstone Rise garages

Horsham District Council are getting in prices for the site and possible interest. However, no decision has been made yet. Horsham District Council have said that they are waiting for Woodmancote Parish Council's asset of community value application. Cllr. Broucke explaining that it seems that the application is unlikely to be accepted. Cllr. Goddard suggesting that we make the application anyway.

Questions for Cllr. Goddard:

Q – Is there any feedback on the Horsham Plan?

A - Comments that Cllr. Goddard has heard are that a lot of time is being spent with developers.

Q - When is the Community Infrastructure Levy going to come about?

A - This will not be until the Plan is approved. It is understood that this will only be on multiple developments and not single developments.

Other

Cllr. Goddard will keep an eye out for any planning applications made on Firslands Industrial Park.

Mayfields developers have set aside a day with the Planning Inspector on the 18th November at Park North, Horsham.

Cllr. Goddard will keep an eye on the planning situation at Hascombe Farm.

Cllr. Coldwell sent his apologies, but emailed his update as follows:-

There is not a great deal to report that directly affects this parish.

The main items of the two Council meetings in October concerned respectively the proposed move of the council from Park North to a single floor at Parkside where space is to be leased long term from West Sussex County Council and the Broadbridge Heath Supplementary Planning Document. In the case of the office move, it has been agreed that this should happen and it can be expected that this will be accomplished in June 2015. The BBH document, which sets out the broad outline of this mixed development of residential, retail and recreational elements, was also approved.

Not affecting too many people, but a note to owners of remote mail boxes, say at the entrance to the property but away from the main house. It was reported that scammers made a credit card application in the name of the householder and then watched the mail box until the card, and then later the envelope with the PIN arrived. They were caught only when trying to pick up the second envelope and were spotted. The mail box, apparently like many of this type was not secure.

2. West Sussex County Council

Cllr. Barling sent his apologies, but is contactable should we need him to do anything.

7. Planning

1. DC/14/2295 – Glenholm Brighton Road – High Speed Broadband Cabinet

It was agreed that Woodmancote Parish Council do not object to this application, but do not want the cabinet to affect the bus shelter, obstruct the pavement or the footpath facilities. **ACTION** – Clerk to report this to Horsham District Council.

2. Hascombe Farm:

Two members of the public have raised concerns about these applications.

a. DC/14/2129 – Removal of conditions 2 & 4 from application DC/14/0847

It was decided that Woodmancote Parish Council will comment as follows:

‘We strongly object to this application and feel the original restrictions were relevant to the application and this remains so’

ACTION – Clerk to report this to Horsham District Council

b. DC/14/2324 – Construction of stable block of 9 boxes

It was decided that although Woodmancote Parish Council has no objections to this application, Councillors would like to think that these replace the poorer stables shown in the application. **ACTION** – Clerk to report this to Horsham District Council

c. SDNP/14/03740/FUL – Change of grass arena to an all weather outdoor arena

It was decided that Woodmancote Parish Council will comment as follows:

‘We strongly object to this application due to the visual effect from the South Downs and the likelihood of additional noise, light and traffic movements, and objections raised by our parishioners’

ACTION – Clerk to report this to South Downs National Park

d. SDNP/14/04396/FUL – Extension of existing outdoor arena and viewing grass bank

It was decided that Woodmancote Parish Council will comment on this application the same as for application number SDNP/14/03740 above. **ACTION** – Clerk to report this to South Downs National Park

8. Planning updates

1. Firslands Industrial Park

This site has been monitored over the last few days. It is understood that the site falls foul of planning restrictions and it has been suggested that a new planning application is put in to regularise this.

Cllr. Underwood reporting that a floodlight has been erected.

9. Neighbourhood Plan / AirS (Cllr. Austin)

There was a Steering Group meeting held before the Council meeting started. A questionnaire to send to residents was proposed and agreed. This will be sent to residents with a Christmas card.

The call for sites was addressed and a notice will shortly be put on the website and notice board.

There was a visioning workshop on 3rd November at the Cricket Pavilion with rCOH (a planning consultancy contracted by AirS). This was very constructive. rCOH will prepare a plan for how to move forward.

Various maps will need to be prepared for the Neighbourhood Plan. There is a Parish Online workshop coming up that the Clerk and Cllr. Austin will attend to see if this will allow them to help with the mapping. AirS can help with producing the maps, and we will be advised on the cost of this. However, it is hoped that Woodmancote Parish Council will be able to produce them in house. **ACTION** – Clerk to book places on the Parish Online workshop

10. Footpaths / kissing gates (Cllr. Williams)

Cllr. Williams has been looking into funding to get kissing gates at the entrances to the footpaths (initially at Blackstone Lane). Cllr. Williams believes she has located the landowner for all of these, and also believes that funding will be available. However this will be a long process – it could take a couple of months.

Cllr. Williams has been in touch with Jo Williams at West Sussex County Council because the local footpaths are due to be walked around. There are volunteers who do this, and Jo is unable to tell Cllr. Williams when this will happen.

Regarding the pavements along the A281, Cllr. Ochoa has been approached by a member of the public to complain about their state, particularly by the bus stop. This is dealt with at point 11 below. The member of public also asked that the road sweepers get closer to the kerb at the corner down Blackstone Lane.

11. Environmental Cleansing Grant / Operation Watershed

Cllr. Broucke has met with two contractors to quote to clear the footpaths along the A281, and is meeting a third contractor tomorrow (12th November). It is intended that the Environmental Cleansing Grant will be used to pay for this.

Three contractors will also be quoting for the work proposed at Blackstone Lane and Furners Lane. This is relating to the Operation Watershed applications. One of the contractors is unsure that the works at Furners Lane will be possible due to the services in the area.

12. Finance / Payment

1. Trial balance & cashbook

This was agreed. Cllr. Ochoa explained that new headings will be added to explain future Neighbourhood Plan payments more fully.

2. WSCC Invoice for Clerk's salary - £304.17

This was agreed and a cheque duly signed.

3. Clerk's expenses - £22.45

This was agreed and a cheque duly signed.

4. Clerk's overtime for Neighbourhood Plan - £50

This was agreed. Cllr. Broucke signed the overtime form to be sent to West Sussex County Council.

Cllr. Grimes will put on the website the external auditor's report under a new heading called 'accounts'.

Cllr. Broucke asking Cllr. Ochoa and the Clerk to start preparing a budget for the next financial year.

It was noted that VAT needs to be reclaimed (this will probably be done at the tax year end).

13. Correspondence / meetings

An email has been received from a parishioner with objections to the planning applications at Hascombe Farm (see above).

14. Other business

Cllr. Underwood noting that the numbers of Councillors is quite low. The spaces are currently advertised on the noticeboards and website.

15. Date of next meeting

9th December at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm