

WOODMANCOTE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 12th November 2013 at 7.30p.m.
(Members of the Public were invited to attend)

Mrs D Langston – Locum Clerk to the Council
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Present: WPC Cllrs. C. Broucke (Chairman), M. Grimes, P. Williams, A. Underwood D. Austin
M. Parnell and J. Forsyth.
D. Langston (Locum Clerk)

Others Present: WSCC Cllr. D Barling. HDC Cllr. D. Coldwell. Mr J Pilby (Secretary Sussex Cricket),
and Mr C Blazeby.

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from HDC Cllr J. Goddard and WPC Cllr. J. Ochoa.
2. Minutes of the last Meeting:

The Minutes of the 8th October 2013 Meeting were approved with the following corrections noted:-

Page 3, Section 11. Amend 'The Chairman noted' to read 'M Tuckwell advised' amend 'Cllr Goddard confirmed' to read 'Cllr Goddard believed'

Subject to the above corrections the Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Declarations of Interest from members in respect of any items in the agenda: Cllr Barling confirmed interest in planning application DC/13/1789 as knew applicant, no other interests declared.
4. Open Forum. Mr. Pilby of Sussex Cricket stated that he was attending the meeting in order to provide the Council with some more detail of planning application DC/13/2057 and to provide reassurance to the Council in the light of WPC's comments against the lack of prior Consultation between Tenant and Landlord. He advised that the planning application was very small in relation to previous applications however there had been an error in the size of the requested storeroom and also the placement of the previously requested scoreboard which now in place is not visible to players sitting within the Pavilion. Apologies were also passed on regarding the mess caused by the previous Contractors who due to the inclement weather had been hampered with the clearing of the site whilst work was in progress.

Council expressed surprise over errors in previous planning applications and felt that as a Tenant the planning application should have been discussed with the landlords prior to submission. Mr Pilby apologised for the oversight and was hopeful that lines of communication would be more open in the future, with a recent grant from Sport England he hoped that the local community would benefit from any improvements made to the facilities.

5. Action Updates from Previous Minutes:

Chairman advised there were no actions outstanding according to Mr M Tuckwell.

6. Reports From Other Authorities:
Horsham District Council;

Work on the budget for next year is getting underway with the usual debates about where savings can be made. At the present it looks as if there will be a gap of about £400,000 to be bridged but we are far from making a decision as to how this is to be achieved. There have been no increases in HDC taxation for three years, by not increasing council taxes the Government grant has been increased by the equivalent of 2%; however there is no indication so far of what the grant might be for 2014/2015.

Horsham's West Street is having a significant facelift and the unveiling of the enhancements made to the town's major shopping street will be on Saturday 16th November 2013.

There is a planned restructure of some HDC departments to include Planning & Development primarily due to cost cutting the changes will be advised to all Councils once completed.

The annual HALC/HDC meeting will be on Thursday 14th November 2013 in Horsham at 1900. The agenda has been circulated to all Councils.

West Sussex County Council;

WSCC Cllr. Barling advised that Government are to end Revenue Support Grant by 2018 at which time local Government will be expected to stand alone and be supported through the monies raised by both council tax and business rates the required savings are £60 million over the next two years and then a further £80 million giving a total of £140 million by 2018. WSCC have already successfully cut £80 million from their budget which in terms of the Woodmancote Parish should have very little impact on the Community. WSCC are looking at outside suppliers to provide services in order to save monies and have confirmed that no borrowing will take place to fulfil any budget shortfalls and there are currently no proposed council tax rises.

Cllr Barling updated council on the prospect of Prop Co. an area being looked into by M Brown, Cabinet Member for Finance as WSCC own various land parcels throughout the county they are looking at ways of raising funds by building up to 500 houses however this is an ongoing item with no immediate sites planned.

Council discussed possible S106 monies with Cllr Barling which could be used towards the updating of both the Church Hall and local footpaths. CLC has grants available for this purpose of up to £10,000 and the Community Infra Structure grant is also still available however applications need to be in as soon as possible. Action Cllr M Parnell to contact Church Wardens or Peter Bates.

7. Planning.

7.1 New Applications/Information

DC/13/1789 ('Fairyland', Brighton Road – Extension to property) - as most Council members had been to view the site discussion took place regarding the application when it was resolved that Council have no objections to this proposal.

DC/13/2057 ('Sports Club Pavilion', Blackstone Lane – Extension to Store and Erection of Scoreboard) – Concerns were raised by Council that as the amenities at the site improve there will be less time available for the local community activities however Cllr Broucke confirmed that he believed there to be a covenant in place to ensure that these rights are protected. After much discussion Council resolved to carry forwards some concerns to next meeting under Item 15 on the Agenda and there were no objections to the current proposals.

7.2 Decisions made

DC/13/1554 (Annie's Baskets', Henfield Road – Agricultural Workers Dwelling.) Permitted

7.3 Enforcements
None

7.4 Other Planning Matters

General discussion took place regarding both Blaxton Down and Prairielands. Action Cllr C. Broucke to contact Cllr D Coldwell with a view to clarifying what HDC have on planning records.

8. Neighbourhood Plan – Confirmation received by Chairman that the proposed area of designation for a Neighbourhood Plan has been received by HDC and this will be reflected by a newspaper advertisement confirming the details and advising of a six week consultation period.

On Thursday 21st November 2013 a meeting will be held between Cllr Austin and Cllr Ochoa WPC and Cllr Brown and Cllr Whitton from Shermanbury Parish Council when both parties will meet Dale Mayhew with a view to working with him on the NBP processes. Council felt that a meeting prior to this between Cllr Austin and Cllr Ochoa would also be beneficial; this should then be followed by a general meeting regarding NBP at 1900 on Tuesday 26TH November 2013. Action All Councillors.

Council have decided that 3 initial NBP questions will be sent out to parishioners with a corresponding Christmas Card after general discussion it was agreed that these would be as follows;

- a) I like living in Woodmancote because.....
 - b) The changes I would like to see in Woodmancote are
 - c) I would like to be more involved
- My contact details are

Action – Cllr Broucke to arrange printing of Christmas Cards, D Langston to request new copy of electoral roll from HDC.

9. Logo/Parish Council Website Report – New logo was proposed by Cllr Broucke based on a tree theme with a man as the trunk holding oak leaves all council members agreed that this should be used with the wording Woodmancote Parish Council underneath.

Cllr Grimes was asked to check the information regarding the September 2013 minutes shown on the website as it was believed that these were reflected as September 2012. It was also mentioned that the website is currently blocked by any Educational sites, Council were unsure as to why however have requested Cllr Grimes to look into this matter. Action Cllr Grimes to check and make any amendments .

All completed Councillors register of interest declarations must be shown on the website with a link to the HDC website. Action Cllr Broucke to discuss with HDC.

10. Mayfield – A meeting was held today, 12th November 2013 in order that a decision could be made by the inspectorate as to whether MSDC had adhered to procedural requirements for consultation. Inspectorate is to be passed any documentation as this item had an impact on the Mayfield proposals there was a resolution passed not to discuss as a Council matter prior to any formal application being received and that Council will make no official representation at this time. At this point in the Agenda Cllr Broucke advised that he has been approached as a private land owner by Mayfield with a view to facilitate a meeting in the future.

11. Finance.

11.1 List of Accounts for Payment (10th October 2013 – 12th November 2013)

The following invoices were approved for payment and cheques duly countersigned:-

SSALC Councillor Training Cllr Williams £105.00
WSSC Payroll Administration £42.12
Sweepstech engineering Maintenance £68.40
Land Registration Fee (Playing Field) £100
Locum Clerk £35.00
Total Payments in Period 10th October 2013 – 12th November 2013 £350.52

12. Precept Budget – All Councillors were asked to give this item consideration ready for next Council Meeting as Precept needed to set by mid January. Action – All councillors
13. Footpath improvements – it was felt that any funds received from the S106 grant should be used on several areas around the Parish examples given were Blackstone Down steps and handrail replacements and numerous styles to be replaced with new. Action Cllr Williams and Cllr Parnell to raise areas of concern ready for discussion at next meeting.
14. Firslands – Concerns were raised over waste being spread on fields and the impact on local wildlife however Cllr Broucke confirmed that these issues must be raised by the individual concerned directly with the Environmental Agency. Action on this item remains ongoing and will be discussed once licensing confirmation is received from Cllr Barling.
15. Playing field, Blackstone - item was dealt with under planning, however several issues were raised by councillors for discussion at next meeting regarding updated lease/rental/traffic issues and any future plans. Action – ongoing
16. Chairman's Report – Confirmation from Chairman that two salt bags have been delivered and that these will shortly be followed by the delivery of 3 new grit bins as part of the proposed Winter Maintenance.
17. Correspondence – Confirmation letter received regarding Cllr Williams training day. Agenda and details received regarding proposed HALC meeting to be held on Thursday 14th November 2013. Poster showing details of HDC Carol Service on 10th December was received for inclusion on notice boards. General correspondence was also received from Sweepstech Action Group along with letter confirming resignation with one months notice from Clerk M. Tuckwell. Insurance Company has written to Council to advise that clearance of snow must not be carried out by Parish Council on any previously gritted Council roads. Letter received from Victim Support requesting a £20.00 grant towards running costs. Action – ongoing
18. Crime – reports of light blue van driving by swarthy 25 year old male behaving suspiciously in the area.
19. Items members wish to raise for future discussion. – Playing fields, Rampion test pits, Precept
20. To confirm the next Parish Council Meeting/s – Tuesday 10th December 2013

The meeting closed at approximately 9.55 pm.

Signed _____

Date _____