



## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY, 2006 AT 7.30 PM, IN THE COMMITTEE  
ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, PLUMPTON GREEN

**PRESENT:** Mr R Taylor – Chairman  
Mr K Speirs – Vice-Chairman  
Mrs B Watson  
Mr T Hawthorne  
Mrs. S. Angel  
Mrs C Thompson  
Mr. K. Beard  
3 Members of the Public

**1. APOLOGIES:**

Mrs. S. Akers, Mr. P. Ramsay

**2. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2006 were signed as a true record.  
The Minutes of a planning meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2006 were signed as a true record.

Bootfairs at the Racecourse - A member of the public attended the meeting to make representation about the problems of the Bootfairs on Sundays at the racecourse. It was thought they disturb the peace on a Sunday and there has been a large increase in traffic. He asked if a speed limit could be put on the whole village to slow cars down, or ask Highways about traffic calming measures. There is also a problem of increased litter as a result of the fairs. It appears that the Brighton Fair has closed, so that is why, it is thought, the fairs are so popular.

Clerk to contact Planning Department LDC to ask the current information on the appeal. The fairs have been running since September and it is thought only one has been missed. Clerk to write to the owners of the Racecourse about the increase in traffic and the rubbish, and to clarify the number of fairs that have taken place.

**3. MATTERS ARISING:**

Transport to Surgeries: - Clerk had contacted Bluebird Community Partnership. They run a dial a ride service from Monday to Friday 9-5 mostly for disabled and elderly people; there is a registration fee of £3 single and £5 double. They run a service to Tesco's Burgess Hill on Monday. The partnership would want funding of £500 towards this service. Mr. Hawthorne did not think that this would be necessary and asked if Clerk could put their number in the Parish Magazine for people to call to use the service.

Bevern Stream Initiative - Mr. Hawthorne said he had attended a meeting and traffic issues had been discussed. The PC had been asked to come up with one top priority on traffic to put forward to ESCC Highways. It was thought that the speeding issue and the speed limit being extended could be PC's top priority.

Highways - Clerk read out letter from Highways saying that the speed sign on the B2116 would be replaced. The problem with the footway at Westgate to the school was thought to be acceptable to ESCC. Clerk to say that it is not acceptable to a disabled person and under the Disabilities Discrimination Act they should be able to travel safely along this area. Water at Bevernside – There was not thought to be a problem there. Clerk to ask them to look again as the EA had advised this area should be dredged but would not agree to do it.

Water freezing outside Little Dwelling – it was not thought there was a problem here. Clerk to ask Mr. Ramsay to take a photograph to send to Highways. Clerk to ask Mr. Brooke, ESCC Highways for a walk round of the village in March to highlight highway problems.

Bootfairs - Clerk had received a letter from a member of the public about the rubbish and traffic problems at Bootfairs at the racecourse. Clerk to acknowledge letter to say when information is received a letter will be sent.

Verges - Clerk had received a phone call from a member of the public about the state of the verges at Wells Close. They are badly churned up by wedding and funeral cars at the church and also lorries turning. Clerk to mention this in Parish Magazine article, and also Mr. Speirs will discuss this on walkround of the village.

Garages at the Riddens - Clerk had spoken to Mr. Boots Planning who has visited the garages and the Beetle Garage. He said that an application for change of use was being processed. Cars on the highway had been reported to Mr. Stratton LDC; if they were employees cars, this was permissible, but not if they were cars for sale. They will be asked to move them if they are the former. Clerk to ask Mr. Boots if he can check if these garages were originally for the use of those living in Riddens Lane or Riddens Close.

Clerk read out condolence letter that had been sent to Mrs. Heather Pearce's family.

Village Action Plan - Mrs. Stroude had acknowledged Clerk's letter and said she would help, and to ask Hamsey their advice as they had produced a good plan. Mr. Keith Moorhouse felt he was unable to help. Chief Inspector Gough had replied saying that Action in Rural Sussex were a good authority to contact re Action Plans. A resident of the village had volunteered to help with the plan.

Village Maintenance Teams - Clerk had received form for this. The ditch alongside the allotments needs clearing and the footway from the Half Moon to Wales Farm is overgrown and needs attention. Councillors were asked to contact Clerk with any other area that they felt needed attention.

National Park - Clerk read out letter saying that there has been a delay in the timetable for reaching a decision. This is because there are uncertainties over the interpretation of the relevant legislation.

Illegal and Dangerous Use of Public Bridleways - Letter from EC PC reporting the regular use of the old roman track way from EC Church to Streat Place by someone with a white Reality delivery van driving very fast and causing a nuisance to walkers etc.. Clerk to ask EC PC ask complainant to find out the telephone number on the side of the van and the times it has been seen.

#### **4. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:**

The hedge at the Well House, Station Road has still not been cut back. Clerk to contact Highways.

The hedge at 1 Greencross Cottages has not been cut sufficiently. Clerk to contact Highways.

The bin at the T junction at the Half Moon is full and has not been emptied recently. Clerk to report this to LDC.

It was reported that there is an increase in litter in the village. Clerk to report this in Parish Magazine article.

Mr. Hawthorne and Mr. Speirs had attended the RVRC meeting. It is hoped that ESCC will purchase a SID and loan it out free of charge to Parishes. Mr. Hawthorne said there had been an interesting talk on affordable housing by an LDC representative. They are hoping to identify sites and gain funding.

Mr. Speirs said it was rather a grey area as to whether PC's can vote at RVRC meetings on behalf of their Councils, and was there a mandate to do this. Clerk to ask Mr. Leggo about this.

Mr. Hawthorne had received a letter regarding the tennis club. They are concerned about the dip in the track leading to the tennis club. They were also concerned about the speed restrictions along the lane were not being adhered to. It was thought extra notices could be put up here.

Clerk to contact Highways to see if they can fill in dip in road. If they are unable to do this

she should get a quote from contractors.

**5. VILLAGE HALL:**

Storage area above the stage – loading calculations being prepared; it is thought it would cost approximately £2500. The Pantomime Society may contribute.

Noticeboards – Clerk to look in KCC catalogue.

Mrs. Ridley had no success in getting anyone to repaint the British Legion Plaque. Mrs. Akers said she would try to find someone.

The tile fascia on the side of the hall has been damaged. Mr. M. Beard had obtained a quote for £2765 inclusive of VAT to take tiles off and cover with brown plastic weatherboard. This will be discussed further at a village hall meeting.

There is to be a new door entry system. There are to be new lighting bars on the stage. Village Fair – Mrs. Allen would be contacted to see if she wanted to run the fair.

Mr. Greening is retiring from the book stalls; the books may be kept and sold at future events.

Mrs. Christine Thompson was thanked for doing the village hall minutes.

Mrs. Carole Burgon has been appointed village hall manager/secretary.

**6. FINANCE:**

The balances at the end of January were: Admin £3562.30, Village Hall £12,347.15, Playing Field, £9,337.95. Council agreed to send a £50 donation in memory of Mrs. Heather Pearce to the League of Friends of Princess Royal Hospital.

**7. PLAYING FIELD:**

Mr. Speirs asked Clerk to apply for a playground inspection.

Mr. Speirs reported that the Archery and Football Club were to construct wooden storage sheds for the far side of the playing field.

Mr. Speirs reported that there had been an untaxed car in the car park for six weeks; he had contacted LDC and there had been no action, and he had also told the PCSO.

The parking problem concerning commuters using the playing field car park seems to have reduced; Mr. Speirs had put polite notices on cars.

**8. PLANNING:**

The following permissions have been granted:

LW/05/2392 Chestnut House, Station Road. Erection of a single storey garden room (existing conservatory to be demolished) for Mr. and Mrs. Turner.

LW/05/2236 Plumpton College. Two storey and first floor extension to dining room to create library, classrooms and access to existing first floor area, with installation of lift.

First floor extension to create additional classrooms for Plumpton College.

4 the Paddocks, Plumpton Green. TPO (No 2) 1992 Prune back secondary branches overhanging patio garden by 1-1.5m only on Field Maple tree – permission granted.

Appeal: Rose Cottage, Station Road, Plumpton Green. Change of use from granny annexe to rental accommodation for Mr. R. Harland.

Letter from Planning asking which name (Westcroft Paddocks/Meadows/Chase) would be the choice of the PC. PC asked if it could just be called Westcroft.

LW/06/0128 Land adjacent to Beetle Garage, Station Road. Formation of hardstanding to allow parking for car sales, service customers, cars and staff cars and vans for the Beetle Garage.

A member of the public made representation on this application. The application is for 32 cars and most of the movements of cars will be done on low loaders; buyers of cars will stop on the road and block drives, and security lighting will be used which would be invasive to residents. This is more suited to urban areas and would be of no benefit to the village.

Councillors voted and all Council present agreed to object to this application quoting reasons for refusal of a similar application in 1993. There are increased movements on the road since 1993 and this would increase traffic further. There have been 11 letters of objections from surrounding houses. Copies of these were sent to LDC Planning.

**9. VILLAGE CARE:**

Mr. Beard said that Mrs. Akers had asked him to go with her to mark out new allotments.

This will be done in the near future. Mr. Blencowe has two allotments and it was thought he should pay double rent for these. Clerk to check with LDC the standard size of allotments. Mr. Beard reported that the trees by the bridge at Old School Cottages were growing across the pavement, and this was dangerous. Clerk to contact Highways

**10. FOOTPATHS:**

Clerk to write to Rights of Way Officer to report the dangerous state of the stile on

Footpath 17 Plumpton Place north.

- 11. PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** Mr. Hawthorne reported that he had been overcharged on a journey by rail to London, £60 instead of £30; another family had also been charged excess. Clerk to contact South Central about this.  
Clerk to ask Mr. Green if he could put up a notice at the station with the fares for the most frequently used stations.  
Mr. Hawthorne reported that the village rider bus had not run on 15<sup>th</sup> February until 3 pm; ESCC did not have a replacement bus. Clerk to contact Mr. Nick Smith Passenger Transport County Hall to ask for answers to this.
- 12. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:** Mrs. Angel reported that there have been no police bulletins since November. She had contacted the police who said that the policewomen who did these had been away.
- 13. TREE WARDEN:** Nothing to report.
- 14 VILLAGE ACTION PLAN** Mr. Hawthorne reported that the application form had almost been completed. Clerk to ask Mr. Satchell for a quote for printing around £2000 including VAT for a front cover, 6-8 pages black and white inside, 1000 copies. Clerk to put Action Plan on agenda for APM.
- 15. REPORT OF CLERK:** Clerk mentioned letter from East Sussex Association for the Blind asking for support. Clerk presented to the Council: Action in Rural Sussex village hall mailing, ESCC Age Well Project, Glasdon leaflet, LDC Draft Sustainable Waste Mangement Strategy 2005-2010, LDC Minutes of Committees Autumn Cycle 2005, Action in Rural Sussex Portraits – Side by Side, South Downs View Jan/Feb issue, Quit Smoking leaflets, ESCC How can I have a say in local politics.

**CHAIRMAN**