



## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2008 AT 7.30 PM, IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
VILLAGE HALL, PLUMPTON GREEN

### PRESENT:

Mr K Speirs Vice Chairman  
Mrs B Watson  
Mrs K Wride  
Mrs. C Eastwood  
Mrs S Angel  
Mrs C Nicholson  
Mr T Thompsett  
Mrs S Akers  
4 Members of the public

### APOLOGIES:

Mr R Taylor  
Mr Taylor had been in hospital but was now at home. The Council had sent him best wishes and a card; Mr Taylor had sent a card in acknowledgement.  
All the Councillors wished Mr Taylor a speedy recovery.

### MINUTES:

Mr Speirs, Vice Chairman chaired the meeting in the absence of Mr Taylor  
The Minutes of the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2008 were signed as a true record.

Councillors Profiles were approved and these would be printed in colour and laminated by Mrs Wride for noticeboards etc.

Several residents attended the meeting regarding application LW/08/0165 erection of barn to store hay, agricultural machinery and livestock at land adjacent to and north of The Old Brickworks Industrial Estate, Plumpton Green.  
The crux of this problem was lack of consultation with the PC or nearby residents. Research had been done by Councillors using the Town and Country Planning Act and substantial facts had been ascertained that there had been an error in not following normal guidelines for consultation. LDC had not admitted this.  
PC had sent two letters asking for an explanation and residents had also written in. A discussion took place with residents commented on the two accesses, the potential sewerage problem into the stream, smells that may be experienced by those who use the Plough Inn, light pollution from a barn, and the formation of the access without permission from Highways from Station Road.  
ACTION Clerk to request meeting with Mr Frost LDC within the next 14 days to put forward dissatisfaction of answers given in reply to letters. Mr Speirs, Mrs Watson and Clerk would attend this meeting.

### MATTERS ARISING:

**Plumpton Green Garage site-** Suggested: Hills Side/Close/Drive for the houses and flats Wyvern House 1 and 2 – there had been a dragon on the roof (wyvern) of the old East View House.

ACTION Clerk to suggest these to Mr Bristow

**Tree Inspection -** Clerk visited Mrs Hyde, she was adamant tree was on her boundary and Clerk had difficulty defining boundary.  
ACTION – Clerk to ask Mr Wynn to write to Mrs Hyde about felling of tree under the Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976 (Dangerous Trees) saying that the Council understand it is on her land, but do not expect her to pay to have it felled. If she was to object the Council would take no responsibility if an accident should occur of it falling onto PC land.

**Best Village Competition** - Plumpton had come third in this competition in the under 5000 population category.

Mrs Akers congratulated Mrs Nicholson on the huge achievement in putting forward Plumpton for this award. Mrs Nicholson reported that there had been more entries than ever before. The plusses for Plumpton were: the Action Plan, Youth provision. Downside was more provision for the elderly and Quality Council Status. No application forms or information had been received by the PC in previous years for this competition.

**Speeding Signs** – Mrs Wride had met Kelly Burr ESCC and walked through the village to see where signs should be put. She had heard nothing further from Kelly.  
ACTION Clerk to chase this up.

**Rights of Way** - Mrs Nicholson had obtained permission from ESCC ROW to be present of the rights of way survey in Plumpton. Staff will be in place at the beginning of September and the survey will start in the west of the County so it is expected Plumpton will be surveyed fairly early. Mrs Akers hoped to accompany Mrs Nicholson.

**Website Flyers** - Mr Green had received no response to these so far.

**Bus Services** – Countryliner service started to Brighton 2<sup>nd</sup> July. No 134 calls at Plumpton with return fares to Brighton £5.20, children half fare and concessions free. Changes: Service 166: Weekdays: 0709 from PG to H Heath - withdrawn  
0729 from H Heath to Lewes will start from PRH at 0728 and run 5 minutes earlier than present.  
1750 from Lewes to P Green will run 35 minutes later.  
Saturdays: 0752 P Green to Lewes replaced by journey starting at P Lane (The Plough) At 0825.  
0902 Wivelsfield to Plumpton Lane is withdrawn  
1445 and 1631 from H Heath to Lewes are both withdrawn.  
1540 from Lewes to H Heath withdrawn  
1720 from Lewes to P Green to run 10 minutes earlier  
Apart from 0825 P Green on Saturdays all journeys will be provided by low floor easy access buses.

**Proposed Pharmacy at South Chailey surgery** - Acknowledgement received from NHS Litigation Authority.

**Station** - Network Rail and Southern had both acknowledged letters of thanks for refurbishment. Southern do not intend to do anything about the brightness of the lighting at the station as they have to remain on top of the vandalism problem.

**Allotments** – A survey had been done for water supply and an estimate was awaited.

**Road Closures:** PC had not been informed about these, though there were several boards up in the village. Councillors noticed signs up for road closures Plumpton Lane between 28/7 and 15/8 and 18/8 and 29/8. Lack of communication had occurred and signs were misleading.

ACTION Clerk to ask what hours are being worked, what does access mean, what work will take place regarding kerbing Highways asked to inform Plumpton College and Race Course, and place notices at Station, Plough junction and Offham corner.  
Contact Mr Stone to put road closures in magazine and press.

**Dog bin** – The bin had been resited.

**Hedges** - The hedge at Brookdale had been cut. Hedge at 22 Southdowns needs trimming back.

ACTION Clerk to write to owner to cut hedge quoting criteria for overhanging hedges.

**Trees at the Tennis Club** – Mrs Allan had confirmed all the trees are in good condition.

**Highways** - Mr St John reported overgrown layby by Half Moon. Also reported tree branch that had fallen down near his property.

Letters had been removed from Plough Bus Shelter noticeboard.

**ACTION** Clerk to report trees and overgrown layby to Highways. Noticeboard to Mr M Beard.

Highways reported: Verges are cut 5 times a year in the village and outside a one metre swathe is cut along road edges twice a year, road junctions are cut depending on the weather, amount of growth and usage.

Crossing Point – there was confusion about this. PC decided not to pursue it

**ACTION** Clerk to chase up VMT for setts etc.

Ask VMT to clear overgrown vegetation at Plough Bus Shelter and Half Moon layby.

**Recycling** - Request from LDC for toilet facilities in village for recycling team. Clerk replied no public toilets, V Hall not suitable, Mr Speirs responded if someone was around at Pavilion they could be used there.

**Car repairing on highway** - PCSO Buggins had attended to investigate this problem as LDC Planning Enforcement was unable to help. Trading Standards were approached and were not able to help as only get involved in the selling of unsafe cars and misdescribing vehicles. The PCSO had contacted the Green and Clean Team LDC who may be able to help. Photographs had been produced.

**ACTION** PCSO Buggins would put Clerk in contact with the Clean and Green Team.

**Lumberpits Lane** – PC had requested building control reports from LDC Planning for The Firs where it was thought the excess water was coming from.

Telephone call from LDC to say that these were not allowed to be released as they were confidential, but they would look into the matter. A final inspection had not taken place at the Firs after the development had been completed.

Mrs Nicholson had responded to the Strategic Review of the East Sussex Youth Development Scheme and this had been sent off.

Sgt Macdonald e mail showing excellent example of what a youth club (Chailey) can achieve, and the funding that it opens up, encouraging other areas to follow.

E mail from Jane Major South Downs Society Fund – Mrs Nicholson and Mr Hawthorne (Action Plan) had discussed this and did not think it was suitable at the present time, but would review in the future.

Invitation to Bluebird Community Partnership Day at the Racecourse on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2008.

E mail from SALC – Nominations requested for members to represent on local Standards Committee. This would be put forward at meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2008.

## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

Clare Shepherd is to take over the running of the Racecourse during the next two weeks.

**ACTION** Mr Speirs said he would visit and introduce himself on behalf of the PC. He would mention issues including trimming of the leylandii trees and the possible provision of a dog bin.

Mrs Wride asked if Mr Speirs could ask of Racecourse could put up a sign at the Half Moon directing traffic to the racecourse on race days.

Mrs Watson had installed hanging baskets at the station and Southern had supplied a watering system.

Action Plan – Two more events had taken place, 31/5 and Village Fair, thanks for the support of many volunteers. A new steering committee would be formed on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Councillors had site of Steering Plan Committee Constitution, and this was approved by all councillors.

Questions: How will the plan be funded? Village people, research for grants and lots of fundraising.

If it goes bust would want to make sure the PC was not ring fenced and involved in any money owing. This would not happen.

Who can affect actions? Steering Group and PC only.

**SANDPIT** - Next Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 7.30 committee room Village Hall.

Fewer observations of lorry movements south to north. Mr Nicholson had a meeting with Mr Dudman and Mrs Stroude. Residents taking photos but not necessarily getting numbers which is very important for evidence. Document from LDC says nothing about lorry movements.

ACTION – Members of the public should give dates and times of lorry movements as evidence.

Mrs Nicholson had met Mr Leggo offering a visit to PC meeting

She asked to go on a three day new Councillors Course in October.

ACTION Clerk to invite Mr Leggo to September meeting and send off forms for course.

Mrs Wride asked if there are any conservations zones in the village. Copy of the Habitat Survey could help with this. Trees on vicarage land: are there TPO's on these trees.

ACTION Clerk to check TPO list.

North Barns Farm. Tractors being driven down here at speed.

ACTION Mrs Wride will give address of farmers using lane with tractors to Clerk.

Hedge at 22 Southdowns needs cutting back

ACTION Clerk to write to owner.

#### **FINANCE:**

The balances at the end of June, 2008 were Admin £2715.52 Playing Field £8447.63 and Village Hall £10,432.94

Telephone call from Mazars asking why valuations given by insurance company were different from last year's Asset Register; this is because a new insurance company has increased these. Council should have 25% of outgoings in reserve; this should be put into next year's budget.

#### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

NTR

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Footway at Wells Chase had been done. VMT coming to repair setts.

ACTION Clerk to check when this was happening.

#### **HIGHWAYS -**

#### **PARKING SPEEDING AND PAVEMENTS NTR**

**VILLAGE CARE - NTR**

**LITTER - NTR**

**RECYCLING – NTR**

**FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS –** Mrs Nicholson reported that the bridleway near Plumpton College had been repaired and the surface was in good condition.

Notice by the Monday Group about temporary repair had gone.

#### **REPORT OF TREE WARDEN – NTR**

#### **POLICING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Stickers had been delivered in parish magazine. Bogus caller had been reported: documentation correct; some do have criminal records.

Member of the public had reported a baby crawling along the road near Ditchling Village Hall; reported to Police, ten minutes to discover who it belonged to!

6<sup>th</sup> July: Spare wheel cover stolen

14<sup>th</sup> July: 2000 litres heating oil siphoned off from tank.

ACTION Clerk to put in Parish Magazine asking residents to secure area round tanks containing heating oil.

Letter from Mr and Mrs Young apologising delay in deliver Neighbourhood Watch Membership cards, and that they would pay the cost of printing extra 500 cards. 12 further residents had joined the e mail scheme; village resident had suggested putting post code references to make it easier to locate for emergency services; looking into idea.

### **PLANNING:**

The following application was considered: LW/08/0713 Selhurst, Strawlands, Plumpton Green. First floor extension to side and single storey extension to front of property for Mr Wells. Mr Speirs declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

The PC supported this application.

The Minutes of a planning meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2008 were signed as a true record.

The following applications had been approved:

LW/08/0545 Hectors House, Station Road. Single storey porch and cloakroom at front.

LW/08/0606 Plumpton Post Office and Store. Erection of single storey side extension.

Notification for tree works to trees within conservation areas: 5 Old School Cottages, Station Road. Westlands, Beresford Lane.

Letter regarding TPO (no 63) 2997 6 Old School Cottages.

Information distributed to Councillors regarding planning public access website.

LDC document on Planning Procedures.

### **HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT**

#### **NTR**

### **VILLAGE HALL:**

Some gutters on the road side of the hall are blocked.

ACTION Ask Mr M Beard to clear.

SOCS will be looking at the stream from the pond to the road in the autumn.

Chailey has recently had a grant (£2081) for a new kitchen for their hall.

ACTION Clerk to find out where grant came from.

### **PLAYING FIELD:**

Burglary at Pavilion, windows broken and cash stolen from Honeybees and bar takings.

Meeting had taken place with Mr Speirs, Mrs Eastwood and Mrs Wride. Decided that there was no need to do anything different with management of Playing Field; good will would be lost if commercial charges were imposed. Further meeting in September.

Football Club will paint inside of Pavilion.

Mr Thompsett said that the road to the tennis club was in reasonable condition though cars are driven too fast in the area.

Jumble Sale for the Pavilion in the Village Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> November.

Car parking solution: chain link fence (like at the Scout hut) with posts and some people to have keys for locks, cheaper alternative.

ACTION Mrs Wride would look into this.

### **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

#### **NTR**

### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

#### **NTR**

### **REPORT OF CLERK**

Clerk presented to the Council: Communication from Fields In Trust about Bio Diversity Plan Clerks and Councils Direct, leaflet cutting grass and maintaining hedges, Safer Communities Newsletter, Glasdon Seating Collection brochure, AIRS Information, Developing Communities Project News, NHS Forward from 50, Applause rural touring live arts in local venues, District Link, LCR NALC Journal, Your County, South Downs Management Plan 2008-2013.

Letter of thanks from Victim Support for donation.

**News from the School:** The deputy Head Teacher is taking over as Head for one term from September.

Year six had a residential trip to Bristol. The summer Barbecue would take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Reports had been received of children cycling to school in a dangerous manner, and parents are encouraged to ensure their children are safe on their bikes. M Hawthorne had called a meeting regarding the swimming pool on 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2008.

THESE MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM. THEY WILL BE RATIFIED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL AT THE MEETING ON 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008.

**CHAIRMAN**