



MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2008 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
Mrs K Wride
Mrs. C Eastwood
Mrs C Nicholson
Mr T Thompsett
Mrs S Akers
2 Members of the public

APOLOGIES: Mrs S Angel

MINUTES: The minutes of a meeting held on 15th July, 2008 were signed as a true record.
The minutes of planning meetings on 2nd and 16th August, and 6th September 2008 were signed as true records.

MATTERS ARISING: **Half Moon Licence hearing** - This had taken place and had been passed. Clerk had asked Mr Moorhouse for information as he had been present.

Proposed Pharmacy at South Chailey surgery - A meeting was planned arranged by Newick Parish Council and Clerk would be informed.

Land adjacent to Old Brickworks – No reply had been received from District Solicitor in answer to letter.

Mr Crawford had sent e mail saying that letters from Planning had explained the facts fully and he had nothing further to add.

ACTION: Clerk to wait until end of the month for reply from District Solicitor and if not, contact Ombudsman. Mr Speirs would chase up information regarding resident's legal representation.

Fly Tipping – Report of fencing and a bed dumped at the Ferrings Bridleway. LDC Mr Stratton said rubbish was in farmer's field and this was private land so no **ACTION:** could be taken by Clean team.

Naming of new development at Plumpton Garage Site – Letter received that not thought appropriate to use the connection of Hills family as there were residents who did not appreciate the movements of large vehicles through the village. Smithys Close was suggested as there had been part of the site used as a blacksmiths sometime between 1911-1957.

ACTION: Council still want Hill Side. Clerk to write to LDC.

It had been noticed that the windows at the front and back of the development were different, larger ones at the front and leaded at the rear.

ACTION: Mrs Watson to check conditions with LDC Planning

Hedge - Hedge at 22 Southdowns had been cut back.

Flooding at Old School Cottages area – Mr Ramsay had sent e mail saying that EA had looked at flooding at the bridge and it was hoped something would be done. Mrs Akers said that certain measures taken by EA may not be the right way to proceed.

Highways – Member of public had liaised with Highways during work done on Plumpton Lane to preserve primroses on bank.
C6 South Road, temporary speed restriction whilst new kerbing and carriageway work taking place from 1st September to 3rd October, 2008.

Trees - Poplar tree had been felled in Riddens Close, PC had paid account.

Pit Stop – Half Moon - Mr St John had reported that PACE petroleum had a charge on it and it had been difficult to find who was responsible for the estate. Mr St John told the meeting it was unsightly and he would endeavour to find out information about the owners of the estate by putting a request in the parish magazine.

Footpath 7 – Letter from ROW containing reply to letter sent by Mr Timmons. Mrs Nicholson said she had heard from residents who had complained about the inaccessibility of this footpath; they had apologised, having looked again and realised their comments were not valid.

Car repairing on highway - Clerk had spoken to Mr. Humphrey LDC who explained that there were several issues here, but they were hard to prove; he gave details of how to pursue this further if it could be proved that it was actually taking place. Residents were asked to keep an eye on the area and report anything repair work taking place to LDC immediately by phone.
PCSO had placed a notice on the Peugeot that had been left opposite the shop for some time; it has now been removed.

Registration of Food Business – LDC letter acknowledging Pavilion's registration.

Tractors in North Barns Lane – Clerk had spoken to Mr Harvey; this had been a misunderstanding; Mr Speirs had spoken to Mr Harvey who said tractors belonged to another farmer; Mr Speirs apologised on behalf of the Council as it was though Mr Harvey was managing the farm.

Water Report – Mr Hawthorne had sent Clerk this enquiring if there were any areas in the village that had water facilities for use as recreational/environmental purposes. Clerk had filled in form and sent to South Downs Joint Committee immediately as deadline date was the day report received. General questions had been answered, but PC did not think it appropriate to name any potential sites without permission of landowners.
Mrs Nicholson said she had responded on behalf of SOCS.

Mrs Eastwood had completed a form for Awards for All for equipment at Playing Field.

Resident had asked Clerk if PC could contact owner of garages in Riddens Lane to ask if they were to be sold.

ACTION: PC felt this was a private matter.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

Mrs Watson had been approached by a resident to have a new speeding sign in Chapel Road.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Kelly Burr ESCC to ask for more signs and to liaise with Mrs Wride as to where they should be put.

Mr Thompsett said he had seen speed reduction indicator signs in Scotland while on holiday and thought they were a good idea. They are placed at 50m intervals warning motorists that they are entering a speed restriction area. He wondered if it may be possible to have them at each end of the village before the 30mph signs.

ACTION: Clerk to ask Mr Johnson ESCC Highways.

Mrs Eastwood reported that when Plumpton Lane was shut recently for maintenance, someone had cut down trees and left them on the side of the road. It was thought it was possibly the residents of Rylands, as it was outside this property.

ACTION: Clerk to write to ask if they propose to remove trees, if they had felled them.

Mrs Eastwood reported that the new pavement by Wells Chase was good. She had observed that opposite Wells Chase there is a holly tree on highway land that is obstructing the view of pedestrians crossing from west to east; lots of children use this area to cross.

ACTION: Clerk to ask highways to trim tree.

Mrs Eastwood had purchased bulbs to plant round the village. She hoped a working party could be arranged to plant these.

ACTION: Clerk to ask for volunteers for working party in Parish Magazine article.

SANDPIT - Mrs Nicholson reported that the Conservation Management Plan had been signed off by ESCC.

Mr Nicholson had a site meeting with Site Manager; he is keen to look after wild life. Activity very low at present, 25% of target; stockpile is 150 tonnes, each lorry takes about 20 tonnes; two vehicle movements took place on the day Mr Nicholson visited. Mr Nicholson asked for movements to be reported by e mail and he would respond. Crucial facts are time, date and number plate of vehicle.

ACTION: PC asked if Mr Nicholson could liaise not to have lorries coming through the village at school start and closing times 0815 to 0845 and 1500 – 1530.

Waste and Minerals Plan Submission: acknowledged by ESCC but no response to submission. PC did not want to see expansion of the site to the other side of the Novington Bridleway; this was not in current plan and is not explicitly mentioned in the current scoping document.

Mr Nicholson agreed to stay in post as Chairman, as it was felt by the committee that he had met the group's requirements. Mr McClelland agreed to stay at Deputy Chairman but requested that a second deputy be appointed. It was suggested that Mr Nicholson approach Mr Bowden.

Mr St John said that he had experienced a lorry going past his house to the sandpit at 7am; it was thought that 7.30 was the earliest time allowed; ESCC enforcement visiting shortly.

VILLAGE ACTION: PLAN – Mrs Nicholson reported that the book had been published; the Horticultural Society had donated £400 towards it. Clerk had now paid printing bill making up a shortfall from PC funds (£57.00).

Steering Committee had been formed on 2nd September. Seven members: Mr Baker, Mr Gardiner, Mr Speirs, Mr Jonathan Taylor, Mr Ward, Mr Hawthorne (Chair) and Mrs Nicholson (Vice Chair).

70 people had volunteered to be on teams which is 1 in 20 of the electorate.

Mrs Akers and Mr Thompsett had joined these teams, and there had been a meeting of volunteers on 3rd September.

Mr Green had suggested that the **ACTION:** Plan were given their own domain on the website, as the VAP is a popular part of the current website; this would be at a cost of £50 p.a. and PC were asked if they would fund this. It was pointed out that this amount could not be raised in this financial year but possibly in subsequent years.

Mrs Akers asked if there were any plans to fund raise. This would be discussed at the next meeting.

Mrs Nicholson asked about insurance of volunteers of VAP members?

ACTION: Clerk to enquire from insurance company.

Mrs Nicholson asked if the hall could still be used free of charged for VAP meetings.

Mr Taylor said if it wasn't too often as the hall cannot afford to turn away revenue.

FINANCE:

The balances at the end of July were Admin £1941.86, V Hall £9857.84, Playing Field £8138.55. August Admin £1253.69, V Hall £9434.16, Playing Field £7550.94.

Precept had been paid

Estimates to be decided next month. Clerk had made note of several increases necessary in Admin budget, including reserves (as directed by Auditor), more funding for S137 payments, increase in stationery budget, etc. These will be discussed at

October meeting,

Clerk had queried three bills for dog bin emptying arriving in three different envelopes, costing charge payer for postage of three letters instead of one. LDC Finance said not cost effective to send out in one envelope as machine was used for bulk mail outs. Suggested PC paid one bill.

ACTION: This would be discussed with estimates in October.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT:

Mr Speirs reported that the train franchise is coming up for renewal, and it was hoped to improve rail services to Plumpton, and comments had been requested from interested parties to a document. The PC had not been informed.

ACTION: It was thought the only significant gap was at lunchtime from 12.30 to 1530 from Lewes and during the afternoon from Haywards Heath 1245-1545 which could make it difficult for students wanting to come to Plumpton at this time.

Clerk had received a letter from Peter Brett Associates about Zero Based Budget Bus Review, asking for submissions from interested parties by 1st September. This had been received on 29th August.

There had been changes in bus times and the buses were being well used mostly by people with concessions.

The bus timetable had been damaged at the Riddens bus stop.

ACTION: Clerk to ask ESCC to replace this.

ENVIRONMENT:

NTR

HIGHWAYS:

Enquiry when setts would be done in village.

ACTION:; Clerk to ask Mr Brooke and to arrange a meeting for a walk round with Mr Speirs in October.

Mrs Akers reported that there were two loose plates outside Newburn Station Road. It was thought these were the responsibility of South East Water

ACTION: Clerk to contact SE Water.

PARKING SPEEDING AND PAVEMENTS Mrs Wride reported that ESCC had put speeding signs in the village at designated places.

Large pothole north end by the Half Moon layby.

ACTION:; Clerk to report to Highways.

Car on verge at Dragons Green, damaging verge.

ACTION: Clerk to report this to Highways.

Mrs Eastwood and Mrs Wride had been sent minutes of an **ACTION:** Plan representatives' meeting on road safety and speeding. VAP would like to liaise with the PC on such issues.

**POLICING AND
NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH**

VILLAGE CARE - Smell, during summer months at Bevernside Bridge, north side of Bevern Stream near the dog bin and parking area, reported coming from manholes.

ACTION:; Clerk to contact Southern Water.

Mrs Angel sent a report to the meeting. Advice on crime prevention in the current issue of the parish magazine. New neighbourhood watch e mail starting up; free, fast, two way communication channel to keep residents informed of local crime.

Police Campaign – seat belts saves lives. In September Sussex Police are targeting young motorists not wearing seat belts, and if found, will be issued with fixed penalty notices or prosecution.

There had been a burglary in East Chiltington on 16th September.

A phone scam was in operation; person goes to house asking to use the phone as car has broken down; dials through to a phone line signing owner of house to an expensive phone deal. Residents asked to be vigilant.

LITTER - NTR

RECYCLING – NTR

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS – Maintenance required on the following footpaths: 36, 17d, 17b, 12b, 7, 6, 37b, 6a/b, 8a, b, junction 32 and 35.

ACTION: Clerk to write to ROW Officer regarding the above.

Amanda Philpott (Mid Sussex Area Bridleways Group) was at the meeting enquiring if

Footpath 30 was a bridleway as June minutes had said it was. She was assured it was a footpath and not a bridleway.

REPORT OF TREE WARDEN – Mrs Akers had received report from resident of East View Fields of a tree on PC land at the end of their garden which was potentially dangerous; Mrs Akers and Mrs Wynn had looked at it.

ACTION: Mr Speirs would look to see if he thought there was need for **ACTION**:

PLANNING:

The following application was considered: LW/08/0890 Lentridge Barn, Station Road, Retention of caravan for living accommodation, storage shed and storage contained during conversion to barn to residential (renewal of temporary planning permission LW/07/1509) for Mr Bicknell. PC supported this application
Letter regarding application for Russ Tudor Lodge sent to LDC – concerns over access track to property.

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT:

NTR

VILLAGE HALL:

EDF had done a test and report on electrical items in hall.
Lighting tubes had been cleaned and changed.

PLAYING FIELD:

Mrs Eastwood was organising a jumble sale at the Pavilion on 8th November, 2008. Clerk to advertise this in the parish magazine.
New bins purchased for outside the play area and skateboard area are being used well. Wheelie bin had been stolen.
Incidents reported of motor bike/quad bike being driven on the playing field at night. Mr Speirs said he would keep an eye on the situation.
Parking at the Pavilion had increased since the school went back, 28 cars on 16th September. Cone system did not appear to work; parents dropping off toddlers at playgroup and those using the Pavilion and Playing Field facilities finding it difficult to park.
Area to the left of the entrance to playing field needs clearing of old gates etc.
ACTION: Mr Speirs will arrange with Mr Westgate to move this.
Maintenance and refurbishment had taken place of the play area, costing £2000.

LOCALBUSINESSES:

NTR

YOUTH COUNCIL:

NTR

REPORT OF CLERK:

Clerk presented to the Council: ESCC Transport and Environment Management Structure, SALC Conference 23/10/09, AIRS Conference 7/11/08, SALC Briefing and Update Bulletin May and Sept 2008, ESCC Roundabout Sponsorship scheme, minutes Lewes CVS 1/7/08, brochure Steelway, LDC Fume Free Friday, FWAG Autumn events, SOCS summer 2008, NHS press release regarding maternity services, Your County, Lewes area bus time table, Glasdon brochure, East Sussex Downs and Weald Patient Prospectus, Cab Lewes and Seaford Annual Report, SLCC Regional Conferences, Exploring East Sussex, LCR NALC Sept 2008, Ipsos MORI National Survey of Third Sector Organisations, North Wealden and Lewes Local Accessibility Assessment, SVS Presentation about gypsy and traveller issues 7/10/08.

Request for donation from Activity Scheme – accounts received.

ACTION: PC to give £50 donation.

Partial Review of the Draft South East Plan: somewhere to live: planning for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople in the South East.

ACTION: PC answered questionnaire.

E mail from ESCC Compost Doctor Service – offering advice and talk at PC meetings.

ACTION: - Could be of interest to VAP. Copy to Mrs Nicholson.

THESE MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM. THEY WILL BE RATIFIED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL AT THE MEETING ON 21st OCTOBER, 2008.

CHAIRMAN