

# LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Church Room on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30p.m.

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### Present :

LBPC Councillors Ed Allen (Chairman), Graham Miller (Vice Chairman), Geoff Peckham, Mrs. Kate Hough, Mrs. Jackie Ward and Mrs. Jaimie Daniels.

7 members of the Public

HDC Councillor Toni Bradnum.

Clerk: Michael Tuckwell

Not Present: LBPC Councillor Ian Shaw

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from WSCC Councillor Brad Watson and LBPC Councillor Gevin White.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – There were none.
3. **Public Forum (Part 1) (Council agree to adjourn proceedings for questions from members of the public) –**
  - A) It was noted that the collapsed iron railings on the verge opposite the Church had not yet been replaced. The Clerk was asked to chase this up with WSCC Highways. **Action: Clerk.**
  - (B) In response to an inquiry, LBPC and HDC Cllr. Bradnum confirmed that there was no reason why residents shouldn't mow the grass at Church Close.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2016.** The Minutes, having been circulated to all members, were agreed as accurate (Proposed by Cllr Peckham, Seconded by Cllr Ward) and were duly signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters Arising.**
  - (i) **Website.** Cllr Hough stated that there was no significant progress to report this month – MAS Design were still chasing some advertisers for payment.

## 6. Matters for Consideration

i) **Speeding Traffic through the Village. In the absence of Cllr. White**, a latest report on progress was not available. It was noted that the Chairman together with WSCC Cllr Watson, Cllr. White and the Clerk needed to discuss completion of the new TRO/Funding Application Form. **Action: Chairman, WSCC Cllr. Watson, Cllr. White and Clerk.**

### ii) **Playground Maintenance**

Cllrs. Miller and Daniels reported that installation of the new playground equipment was hoped/expected to be fully completed by Bank Holiday Monday, 1<sup>st</sup>.May. They would then arrange for RoSPA to carry out a Health & Safety Inspection which was legally required before the New Playground could be opened to the public.

## 7. Reports from other Authorities.

(i) **County Councillor's Report.** In the absence of WSCC Cllr. Brad Watson a report was not available.

(ii) **District Councillor's Report.** HDC Cllr. Toni Bradnum reported on the following matters:-

- a) A Planning Appeal by Beedinglea to allow the use of their private swimming pool for the purpose of swimming lessons had been upheld.
- b) Cllr. Bradnum stated that she was personally very sorry that the New Building at the old Howards Nursery Site had been given the go ahead, despite strong objections from LBPC and local residents, and that the decision meeting in Horsham had been so badly run.
- c) Tennis Tuesdays would be starting in May.
- d) In future HDC Planning Department will be charging for e-mailed and other *written* planning advice but verbal advice will remain free of charge.
- e) The Shelley Fountain in Horsham (at the top of the Bishopric) is to be taken down and replaced, temporarily, with flower beds – pending a decision on a new sculpture/feature.

## 8. Neighbourhood Plan.

A Working Party Meeting is to be called for week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> May – on either 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>. Cllr. Peckham advised that a Call for Sites would be going out to the Website and the Parish Magazine shortly.

## 9. Planning.

In order to save time at the Meeting, it was decided to defer discussion on the New Planning Applications and Decisions Made listed in the Agenda until a separate Planning Meeting to be arranged for Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup>.May.

The Council had been advised by Mr. David Christian of his dissatisfaction at not being notified by HDC/LBPC of Mrs. Pritchard's land appearing in the recently updated SHEELA..

## 10. Highways, Pathways, Footpaths and Hedgerows.

### (a) Cutting of Mrs. Pritchard's Hedge

A letter had been received from Mrs. Pritchard authorising LBPC to arrange the cutting of her extremely overgrown hedge, along her land fronting Handcross Road, and send her the account for settlement. It was hoped that David Christian would undertake the work on behalf of LBPC.

### (b) Pavement Clearing (Machine from HDC)

The Clerk advised that he been in touch with HDC Hop Oast Depot on several occasions in order to arrange for HDC to bring their pavement clearing machine to various sites in Lower Beeding that needed tidying up. However, for some reason, despite several firm promises, it had not yet happened. The last time that the Clerk had phoned (some 10 days ago) he had spoken to a gentleman called Duncan, a Report No. 16305 had been raised, and the machine had been promised for the following week.

The Clerk said that he would continue to progress the matter. **Action: Clerk**

## 11. Litter Warden.

The Chairman agreed to raise a Draft Sole Trader Contract for the proposed new Litter Warden's approval/signature. The Clerk will speak to our insurers, Zurich, to see what additional cover and amendments require to be arranged to our insurance policy.

**Action: Chairman and Clerk**

## 12. Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

It was planned that this event would be held on the Playing Fields on 11<sup>th</sup>.June.

Unfortunately, in the absence of Cllr. White, who was organising the event, it was difficult to meaningfully discuss the matter further at the Meeting.

## 13. Care of the elderly in the Parish (item requested by Cllr. Michael Lloyd)

Cllr. Lloyd stated that he had requested this item to go on the Agenda because he felt strongly that with an ageing population it was becoming, more and more, a social responsibility on us all for the care of the elderly in LB Parish and, as such, he would like to see the Parish Council take a lead on the matter. The Rev. Mark Betson agreed and added that this function was partly fulfilled at present by the LB Thursday Club. It was agreed that this subject should in future be a standing item on the LBPC Agendas.

**14. Commemorative Tree and Plaque for Colin Makey.**

The Clerk advised that he had received the all clear from WSCC Highways and Saxon Weald to plant a tree (Gingko Biloba) – all we need to do now is buy one and plant it!

**15. HALC**

It was noted that the next HALC Meeting will be on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Henfield Hall.

**16. Storing of LBPC Papers (including old Planning Applications).**

Approval was given at the Meeting for the Clerk to purchase a good quality Scanner for him to keep at his home and arrange for the copying and electronic storing of many old documents on his computer. It was felt that this would not be practical for the large number of past *Planning Applications* currently stored in the Clerk's garage and permission was given for a small area of storage space in Horsham to be rented from Henfield Storage in order to keep these (costs to be covered by LBPC, via the Clerks Administration Expenses).

**17. Public Forum (Part 2) (Council agree to adjourn proceedings for questions from members of the public) –**

There were no further items raised.

**18. Finance**

- (i) **Accounts Status/Summary at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016.** This had been previously circulated to Councillors and was summarised by the Clerk at the Meeting.
- (ii) **April 2016 Cheques for signature.** As per Accounts Summary.
- (iii) **Section 106 Report.** Current Total available £14,923.68 i.e. £74,805.00 less £59,881.32 allocated for the new Playground Facilities.

**19. Any Other Business + Literature for Circulation**

Various literature received was circulated to Councillors for reading.

**20. Date of Next Meeting & Annual General/Parish Meeting (Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016).**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_