

LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Church Room on Tuesday, 26th January 2016 at 7.30p.m.

Present :

LBPC Councillors Ed Allen (Chairman), Gevin White, Geoff Peckham, Mrs. Kate Hough, Mrs. Jackie Ward and Mrs. Jamie Daniels.

Not Present: LBPC Councillors Graham Miller (Vice Chairman) and Ian Shaw

HDC Councillor Toni Bradnum.

Also In Attendance: Lower Beeding resident Mrs. Jackie Fake.

Clerk: Michael Tuckwell

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from LBPC Councillor Michael Lloyd and WSCC Councillor Brad Watson.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – There were none.
3. **Public Forum (Part 1) (Council agree to adjourn proceedings for questions from members of the public)** - There were none.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 24th November 2015.** The Minutes, having been circulated to all members, were agreed as accurate (Proposed by Cllr Hough, Seconded by Cllr Peckham) and were duly signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters Arising.**
 - (i) **Website.** Cllr Hough advised that advertisers fees for 2016 were currently in the process of being collected. Some advertisers from last year had now dropped out and replacement/new advertisers were being sought. It was considered that 2016 fees collected so far should be enough to cover the cost of advertising on the website. Councillor Peckham commented that, in his opinion, the website was excellent. The Chairman has replied to the e-mail received recently from Jeremy Frost.

6. Matters for Consideration

i) **Speeding Traffic through the Village.** Since the previous meeting, there had been no significant progress to report. It was agreed that Cllrs White and Lloyd would try to set up a meeting with Chris Stark of WSCC Highways Department to determine what speeding restriction measures were possible and who and how these might be paid for. **Action: Cllrs. White & Lloyd.**

ii) **Playground Maintenance**

The new playground equipment has been delivered to the playground and installation has commenced. HDC have release appropriate funding from S106 accounts and LBPC have received an invoice from Playdale which will be settled in February's accounts. Councillor Daniels advised that a sum of £300 + 20% VAT was required to be reimbursed to her husband, Alan Daniels, for the delivery of hardcore.

7. Reports from other Authorities.

(i) **County Councillor's Report.** In the absence of WSCC Cllr. Brad Watson, no report was available.

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

a) A revised SHLAA document, produced by HDC Planning Department, was tabled which identified key sites in Lower Beeding for possible development - based on sites offered for by local landowners. There was some considerable disquiet and protest about this from LBPC Councillors since, in at least one case, the Council were not aware of the particular site offer and, as a general principle, the SHLAA and the approach to same seemed to override and circumvent the whole purpose and the work that the Council was currently doing in producing a Neighbourhood Plan. It was proposed by Councillor Lloyd (fully supported by the Chairman and the whole Council) that an urgent Meeting should be sought with Chris Lyons, Director of Horsham Planning, to discuss the issues arising from the SHLAA. HDC Councillor Toni Bradnum agreed to try and arrange this Meeting.

Action: HDC Cllr Toni Bradnum

b) Proposed electoral boundary changes – see separate Agenda item covered by Section 13 of these Minutes.

c) No decision has yet been made on the various Stonehouse Farm Planning Applications.

8. Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Peckham advised that, at present, work on the Neighbourhood Plan was proceeding extremely satisfactorily. There would be a Council Review Meeting (at which members of the public would be welcome to attend) on Tuesday, 9th February and an Open Meeting for all residents of the Parish during the weekend of 5th & 6th March – full details/advertisements regarding this Meeting had already been and/or would be published on the website and in the Parish Magazine etc.

9. Planning

(i) Applications for consideration at the Meeting

DC/15/2827 (home Farm House, Prings Lane, Maplehurst). Replace existing Garage with new Garage and Workshop.

No Objections from LBPC

(ii) Applications dealt with outside the meeting - for information

There were none.

(iii) Decisions Made

There were none.

(iv) Other Planning Issues

DC/14/2437 (Wheatsheaf Inn, Plummers Plain) – Appeal against refusal of planning permission for a balcony over a flat roof area.

Appeal has been dismissed.

10. Highways, Pathways, Footpaths and Hedgerows.

The Clerk was asked to chase HDC, Hop Oast Depot for provision of the pavement clearing machine which was originally requested in autumn 2015. **Action: Clerk to contact HDC, Hop Oast Depot**

11. Clean for the Queen Celebration 4-6 March 2016) *Dealt with as one item*

12. Litter Warden.)

The Council confirmed their interest in hiring Mr. Ronald....? as Litter Warden for Lower Beeding. The Clerk was asked to research appropriate suppliers of equipment for this

position i.e. work boots, hi-viz jacket, litter grabber & sacks etc and was authorised to spend up to a maximum sum of £150.00 to acquire same. **Action: Clerk**

13. Electoral Review of West Sussex.

Following Toni Bradnum's previous advice (see Section 7 ii above), the Clerk tabled a communication from the Electoral Review Commission concerning forthcoming electoral division boundary changes which will affect Lower Beeding. At the next election date, it is proposed that we will become part of a 'new' St. Leonards ward. There was some discussion on this matter but no major objections were raised to the changes

14. Queen's 90th Birthday Party

It is planned that LBPC's Celebrations of the Queen's 90th Birthday (if we decide to go ahead) will be held on the LB Playing Fields on 9th July 2016. The event will be discussed in greater detail, including a decision to be made on whether it goes ahead or not, at the next Meeting (23rd.February).

15. Commemorative Tree and Plaque for Colin Makey.

The Clerk stated that, despite chasing Chris Stark of WSCC Highways and Saxon Weald, the owners of the land, he had still not obtained their clearance for siting/planting of the tree and plaque. The Clerk will follow this up again **Action: Clerk**

16. HALC

It was noted that the next HALC Meeting will be on Thursday, 28th January 2016 at Mannings Heath Village Hall. LB's HALC representative, Cllr Geoff Peckham, will be unable to attend this time. Since Chris Stark, WSCC Highways Manager will be in attendance, Cllr. Gevin White undertook to attend on behalf of LBPC and report back at the next Council Meeting. **Action: Cllr.White**

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

There were none.

15. Finance

- (i) **Accounts Status/Summary at 31st. January 2016.** This had been previously circulated to Councillors and was summarised by the Clerk at the Meeting.
- (ii) **Annual Precept & Environmental Grant 2016/17.** LBPC decided to maintain and apply for these at the current/same level as 2015. The Clerk to advise and submit the application form to HDC accordingly. **Action: Clerk**

- (iii) **Other Accounts items i.e. Neighbourhood Plan Grant/s, Transparency Grant, VAT Reclaim, Release of S106 Funds for New Playground, Playground Invoice, Invoice for Church Lighting.** The Clerk confirmed that he had made application for all the referenced Grants & Reclaim and had received invoices, for payment in February's accounts for the Playground and the Church Lighting.
- (iv) **January 2016 Cheques for signature.** As per Accounts Summary.
- (v) **Section 106 Report.** Current Total available £14,923.68 i.e. £74,805.00 less £59,881.32 allocated for the new Playground Facilities.
- (vi) **Cash Flow Forecast.** The Clerk stated that he had drawn up a rough draft of a provisional cash flow forecast for 2016/17 which he would be transferring onto a proper spreadsheet in due course. However, at the present time, there were still a number of unknown or unconfirmed figures which would need to be finalised before further progress could be made. **Action: Clerk**

16. Any Other Business + Literature for Circulation

Various literature received was circulated to Councillors for reading.

The Council expressed their disappointment at the continued absence of the Sussex Police representative from Meetings (The Clerk stated that she, Susan Poynter, was always circulated with Agendas containing dates, times and place of meeting etc.). The Clerk was asked to especially request Susan to attend the February Meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

17. Date of Next Meeting (Tuesday, 23rd. February 2016).

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 p.m.

Signed _____

Date _____