

LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Church Room, Plummers Plain on
Tuesday, 28th June 2016 at 7.30p.m.

Present :

LBPC Councillors Ed Allen (Chairman), Graham Miller (Vice Chairman), Geoff Peckham, Michael Lloyd, Gevin White, Mrs. Jackie Ward and Mrs. Jaimie Daniels.

WSCC Councillor Brad Watson, HDC Councillor Toni Bradnum.

9 members of the Public & Rev. Mark Betson

Clerk: Michael Tuckwell

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from LBPC Councillors Ian Shaw and Mrs. Kate Hough.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – There were none.
3. **Public Forum (Part 1) (Council agree to adjourn proceedings for questions from members of the public) –**

Parking on Hampshire Hill. It was recognised that due to the problems being experienced by residents (especially at weekends), due to customers for the Wheatsheaf Inn parking on the road, a TRO was needed to fund double yellow lines, or some other measure, being put in place. This will be auctioned by LBPC and WSCC Councillor Brad Watson (on behalf of WSCC Highways). Cllr. Watson stated that it should be expected that this process would take a considerable time. In the meantime, it was suggested that LBPC set up a joint meeting with residents and the owners of the Wheatsheaf to discuss/review other possible resolutions to the issue. **Action: LBPC & WSCC Cllr. Watson**

4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting & Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday, 31st May 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/Actions Arising from Previous Minutes

- A) A Green Waste Bin has been purchased from HDC, and delivered to the Plough Inn, for the disposal of grass trimmings etc. Regular collections of 2 Bins by HDC, for 12 months, had been arranged and paid for. The Clerk was in the process of purchasing a second bin (cost £43.40) **Action: Clerk**
- B) Padlock on the Brick Kiln Close gate entrance to the Playing Field. This has now been removed.
- C) Fencing Repairs at the Brick Kiln Close entrance to the Playing Field. The Clerk has reported this matter to HDC
- D) HDC cutting of the grass on the Playing Field. **Action: The Clerk is in the process of obtaining some quotes from private contractors.**
- E) Collapsed iron railings on the verge opposite the Church. As requested, the Clerk has sent a copy of the May Minutes of Meeting to Chris Stark, WSCC Highways, pointing out that the Police were very concerned about the matter.
- F) Overgrown Hedges on Leechpond Lane. The Clerk has requested the landowners, Mr. Tregear and Mrs. Jo Longley to arrange cutting of them.
- G) Speeding Traffic through the Village. As requested the Clerk has sent a copy of the May Minutes to Val Court, Chairman of Nuthurst Parish Council and asked if she will add this item to their next Agenda so that we can work together on this matter in future.

6. Presentation by CAGNE (Campaign Against Gatwick Expansion)

In the absence of CAGNE, a Presentation was not given.

7. Website

In the absence of Cllr Hough, a Report was not available.

8. Matters for Consideration

- 1) **Speeding Traffic through the Village.** Cllr. White was congratulated on his recent success in obtaining clearance for a TRO for the establishment of a lower speed limit in Handcross Road. The following e-mail, dated 27 June 2016, from Chris Stark, WSCC Area Highways Manager, has been received:

“ Hello Gevin

Further to your telephone call last Friday as you will see from the below communication there were no objections received to the TRO.

On that basis, we can now begin the process to arrange installation of the relevant speed limit signs and VAS. The latter is probably going to take longer to organise, but in order to provide a complete package it should all be installed at the same time. I will need to discuss this with our Traffic Signals Team who order the VAS etc before I can update you on an accurate timescale, but along with the design work needed to give our contractor it will probably be late summer before the signs go in.

Regards

Chris Stark

Area Highways Manager - Horsham

Residents' Services – Highways and Transport

West Sussex County Council”

2) New Playground

Cllrs. Miller and Daniels reported that, apart from a slight tear in the fake grass and the zip wire needing tightening, installation of the new playground equipment was complete. The 2 snags would be dealt with by the Contractors, Playdale. The Clerk was asked to contact Paul Parks of HDC regarding playground signage and the need for chicken wire to be put on the gate and on the fence adjacent to the gate. **Action: Clerk**

- 9. Neighbourhood Plan.** Councillor Peckham reported that, so far, 12 sites had been submitted for consideration under the ‘Call for Sites’ process – the closing date for receipt of applications was the 30th June.

10. Reports from other Authorities.

(i) County Councillor’s Report. WSCC Cllr. Brad Watson reported, as follows:-

- (a) Cllr. Watson offered his personal congratulations to Cllr. White for his persistence and the considerable achievement of obtaining the TRO for a new speed limit in Handcross Road (see Section 8.1 above).
- (b) A new Chief Executive for WSCC had been appointed and was now in place.
- (c) Operation Watershed for 2016-17 was now open for bids.

(ii) District Councillor's Report. HDC Cllr. Toni Bradnum reported, as follows:-

- a) Waste Bin Collection arrangements may be changing – there was a move in process to remove some of the smaller waste lorries from service.
- b) An exhibition of Horsham Football Club's Proposals for a new site was being staged at Beeson House, Southwater..
- c) A new company would be taking over the management and control of Horsham Market..

11. Planning.

(i) Applications considered at the Meeting

DC/16/1160 (IDMISTON, HANDCROSS ROAD) - CHANGE OF USE AND EXTENSION OF EXISTING DWELLING TO CREATE CHILDREN'S NURSERY ON THE GROUND FLOOR AND SINGLE FLAT ON THE FIRST FLOOR. DEMOLITION OF GARDEN BUILDINGS AND CREATION OF NEW ENTRANCE FROM THE HIGHWAY AND PARKING AREA.

LBPC's revised response to HDC Planning, following a further review of the Application, together with the applicants, at the Meeting was as follows:-

"FURTHER TO LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL'S (LBPC'S) EARLIER OBJECTIONS TO THIS APPLICATION, WE HAVE RECENTLY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE PROPOSALS IN DEPTH WITH THE APPLICANT AND HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN REASSURANCE IN RESPECT OF OUR CONCERNS. LBPC CAN NOW THEREFORE CONFIRM THAT OUR PREVIOUS OBJECTIONS CAN BE WITHDRAWN AND WE ARE NOW GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE APPLICATION. IN THIS REGARD WE WOULD OFFER THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

LBPC IS SUPPORTIVE OF NEW LOCAL FIRST BUSINESSES IN THE VILLAGE AND IS ENTHUSIASTIC TO CREATE FACILITIES IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE SAME.

OUR CONCERNS REGARDING TRAFFIC ISSUES AND ACCESS FROM THE ENTRANCE ON TO THE MAIN ROAD HAVE BEEN CLEARED AND WE ARE SATISFIED THAT SECURITY AND GATING AT THE REAR OF THE NURSERY WILL BE SUFFICIENT AND SAFE. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT HDC WILL MAINTAIN THE HEDGES ALONGSIDE THE MAIN HANDCROSS ROAD IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE VISIBILITY AT ALL TIMES.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE APPLICANT WILL MAKE A REASONABLE CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS ROAD SIGNAGE COSTS."

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

DC/16/1085 (LAND SOUTH OF PEPPERSGATE FARMHOUSE, BRIGHTON ROAD) - CHANGE OF CONDITIONS RE SUBSTITUTION OF APPROVED PLAN.

LBPC HAD NO OBJECTIONS

DC/16/1095 (HAVEN MOTOR HOLDINGS, HANDCROSS ROAD) - USE OF LAND FOR OVERFLOW PARKING

LBPC OBJECTION: "The area currently used is a small part of the field that they are seeking to use for overflow parking/parking. The field total area is at least 3 times the size of the footprint of the garage. This could have a massive effect on the neighbours and the surrounding properties, LBPC cannot see how it can be allowed to be the whole area proposed."

It was agreed that LBPC members would visit Haven Motor Holdings to see for themselves the land to be used for the proposed overflow parking.

(iii) Decisions Made

DC/16/1013 (7, CRABTREE COTTAGES, BRIGHTON ROAD) – DEMOLITION OF SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION. PROPOSED TWO STOREY SIDE AND REAR EXTENSION AND CONVERSION OF GARDEN STOREY INTO A STUDY.

PERMITTED BUT UNDER REVIEW BY HDC PLANNING – INADVERTENTLY, AND INCORRECTLY, LBPC ADVISED HDC 'NO OBJECTIONS' BUT, IN FACT WE DID HAVE OBJECTIONS (IN COMMON WITH NEIGHBOURS FITPATRICK AND BISHOP) I.E. THE PLANNED EXTENSION WAS CONSIDERED TO BE TOO CLOSE TO THE NEIGHBOURING PROPERTY AND WHOLLY OVERLOOKED THEM. THE DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT DOES NOT TAKE ANY ACCOUNT OF THIS.

As a result of the above error, LBPC had subsequently issued the following amended response to HDC Planning:-

" Lower Beeding Parish Council's (LBPC's) Comments in respect of the above referenced Application, which we note has recently been advised as 'Permitted', records that we had 'No Objections'. Unfortunately, in advising that comment, an error was inadvertently made since LBPC did in fact have some objections which supported those made by the neighbours to 7, Crabtree Cottages i.e., "LBPC Object to this Application due to the planned extension being considered to be too close to the neighbouring properties and wholly overlooks them. The Design and Access Statement does not take any account of this."

In view of the above oversight, we would appreciate your earliest advices as to whether there is any way that HDC Planning can reconsider the decision made. Please accept our sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused."

(iv) Other Planning Issues

None

12. Litter Warden. It was agreed that a final decision on this matter should be deferred until the next LBPC Meeting.

13. Highways, Pathways, Footpaths and Hedgerows.

(a) Cutting of Mrs. Pritchard's Hedge

It was hoped that, following bird nesting time, Mr. David Christian would undertake the work on behalf of LBPC. **Action: Chairman (to arrange with Mr. David Christian)**

(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**

Councillor Lloyd stated that he would willingly write to Mrs. Jo Longley of Beedinglee regarding arranging for a contractor to undertake pavement clearance and hedge cutting in Brighton Road/Leechpond Road. **Action: Cllr. Lloyd**

(c) Hedge at Junction of Warninglid Lane & Plummers Plain. It was noted that this also needs cutting although it did not seem clear whose responsibility it was and who was going to cut it.

(d) Hedge alongside Leonardslee in Brighton Road. It was noted that this also needs cutting. **Action: Clerk to write to Leonardslee.**

14. Care of the elderly in the Parish

Cllr. Lloyd stated, and the Reverend Betson agreed, that we needed to establish a register of people who lived alone in the Parish so that we could keep in contact with them, and provide assistance if needed, especially during the winter months. The Chairman suggested that this subject should be a regular item at future LBPC Meetings.

15. Commemorative Tree and Plaque for Colin Makey.

Cllr. Ward had located a supplier of Gingko Biloba trees on the internet. Details were passed to the Clerk who was asked to purchase the tree which would then be planted in the agreed position on land at Church Close. The plaque still needed to be sourced, priced and purchased. **Action: Clerk**

16. HALC

The Chairman stated that he would be going to the next HALC Meeting on 13th July 2016 at Henfield Hall.

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

a) Mrs. Jackie Fake undertook to provide the Clerk with the name of a contact of hers who did signage e.g. 'No Dogs Permitted on the Playing Field'.

18. Finance

(i) **Accounts Status/Summary at 30th June 2016.** This had been previously circulated to Councillors and was summarised by the Clerk at the Meeting.

(ii) **June 2016 Cheques for signature.** As per Accounts Summary.

(iii) **Section 106 Report.** Current Total available £21,048.47 i.e. £74,805.00 less £53,756.53 released for the new Playground Facilities.

(iv) **Other Matters.**

(a) It was agreed that it would be desirable for there to be a third cheque signatory in place (so that there was always a signatory available). Cllr. Peckham was proposed as the new signatory and agreed.

(b) It was proposed that a new salt order should be forwarded to WSCC as soon as possible in order that we should be early prepared for next winter. Mr. David Christian had kindly agreed that the salt could be stored at his farm prior to distribution to the bins.

19. Any Other Business + Literature for Circulation

Various literature received was circulated to Councillors for reading.

20. Date of Next Meeting (Tuesday, 26th July 2016).

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

Signed _____

Date _____