

LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting held in the Church Room, Plummers Plain on Tuesday, 30th May 2017 at 7.30p.m.

Present :

LBPC Councillors Ed Allen (Chairman), Michael Lloyd , Geoff Peckham, Andy Hinton, Mrs. Kate Hough and Mrs. Jaimie Daniels.

Mrs. Leslie Bamford

WSCC Councillor Liz Kitchen
HDC Councillor Toni Bradnum

8 members of the Public

Clerk: Michael Tuckwell

SECTION 1 (Lead Councillor: Ed Allen, Chairman)

1. Minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday, 30th May 2016 and the LBPC Meeting held on Tuesday, 25th April 2017.

The Minutes, having been circulated to all members, were agreed as accurate (Proposed by Cllr Peckham, Seconded by Cllr Hough) and were duly signed by the Clerk per pro the Chairman..

2. Matters/Actions Arising

These were dealt with later in the Meeting i.e. within the appropriate Sections of the Agenda.

3. Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from LBPC Cllr. Mrs. Jacqui Ward
LBPC Cllr Graham Miller (Vice Chairman) sent no apology and was not present.

4. Declarations of Interest from members in respect of any items in the Agenda.

Cllr Lloyd stated that he, obviously, had an interest in Planning Application No. DC/17/0954 (The Old School, Brighton Road) since he was the applicant.

5. Chairman's Report for 2016-17

Councillor Allen read out his Annual Report to the Meeting and highlighted, in particular, the good work carried out by Cllr. White in respect of the control of traffic and speeding through the village. It was disappointing that, so far, despite all LBPC's efforts, the promised new lower speed controls and restrictions had still not been put in place by WSCC Highways. Cllr. Allen stressed the need for all concerned parties in the village to work together on this matter. Apart from speeding, there were also outstanding for clearance a considerable number of general highway maintenance issues and it was suggested that the Clerk make an inventory of all such items. WSCC Cllr. Liz Kitchen has offered to progress the speeding and the general maintenance issues with Chris Stark, WSCC Highways Department. See Item 8 below. **Action: Clerk and WSCC Cllr. Kitchen.**

6. Election of Officers for 2016-17

- (a) **Chairman.** Cllr Ed Allen was re-elected as Chairman, Proposed Cllr. Daniels, Seconded Cllr. Peckham
- (b) **Vice Chairman.** The situation regarding the present Vice Chairman, Cllr Miller, was unclear. He had verbally intimated to the Chairman that he was resigning but no formal letter or e-mail advising his resignation had been received by either the Chairman or the Clerk. Since Cllr. Miller had not in fact attended the previous 3 Meetings (or advised his apologies) for non attendance of them), it was assumed that he no longer wished to serve on the Council or continue as Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Michael Lloyd was asked and agreed to serve as Vice Chairman and was duly elected, Proposed Cllr. Allen, seconded Cllr. Hinton.

- (c) **Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer.** Michael Tuckwell was re-elected as Clerk, Proposed Cllr. Allen, Seconded Cllr. Lloyd.

Mrs. Leslie Bamford had expressed a wish to join the Council – resulting from the vacancy re (b) above. The Council would be delighted if she could join but, under the rules, LBPC would need to advertise the vacancy on the website (Cllr. Hough) and in the Parish Magazine (Cllr. Peckham) first. If there were no other applicants (necessitating an election), Mrs. Bamford's application could be accepted. **Action: Cllrs. Hough and Peckham**

7. Public Forum (Part 1) (Council agree to adjourn proceedings for questions from members of the public).

The Council's attention was drawn to the excellent speeding sign which had been put in place in Warninglid Lane by Bolney Parish Council. LBPC stated that they were

currently looking into the effectiveness and cost of a number of different automated speeding signs.

The Council was also advised of two serious crimes which had taken place in the village in recent weeks i.e.

(a) A forced break in by intruders to Jackie Fake's house in Brick Kiln Close. Fortunately, no one was hurt but considerable distress was caused.

(b) A forced break in by intruders to a child's bedroom in a house in Church Close. Again, no one was hurt fortunately.

SECTION 2 (Lead Councillor : Gevin White)

8. Highways & Traffic

Cllr. White and the Chairman welcomed our new WSCC Councillor, Mrs. Elizabeth (Liz) Kitchen to the Meeting and briefly summarised to her our various correspondence/discussions with Chris Stark of WSCC Highways regarding LBPC's efforts to establish reduce speed limits and speed controls in parts of the village. WSCC Cllr. Kitchen stated that she would chase Chris Stark urgently to get some action taken. **Action: WSCC Cllr Kitchen**

9. Commemorative Benches/Seating & Flower Baskets etc. in the Village

The Clerk had, as requested, researched the various bench types and flower baskets available commercially with appropriate costs – a local specialist ('Annie's Baskets') had proposed a very good quantity deal. However, there did not appear to be much interest from Councillors in pursuing the matter and it was not discussed further.

10. Pathways, Footpaths & Hedgerows

(a) Hedge Cutting.

(b) Pavement Cleaning.

(c) Path Clearance and other miscellaneous items.

Due to lack of progress and time constraints, discussion on these items was deferred until the next LBPC Meeting.

It was agreed that a note should be put on the website and in the Parish Magazine reminding residents that it was their responsibility to cut their hedges and keep their frontages/pavements clear. **Action: Cllrs Hough and Peckham**

SECTION 3 (Lead Councillor : Kate Hough)

11. Website Report. Cllr. Hough passed around several copies of LBPC's New Price List for Advertisements on the Website.

12. Communication

There were no items for discussion.

SECTION 4 (Lead Councillor: Geoff Peckham)

13. Neighbourhood Plan.

A vote of thanks was given to Mrs Leslie Bamford for her excellent and committed work on the Neighbourhood Plan, particularly with the assessment/rating sub committees

An exhibition of LBPC's Proposals/Neighbourhood Plan would be held on 5th/6th October this year.

SECTION 5 (Lead Councillors : Liz Kitchen, WSCC and Toni Bradnum, HDC)

14. Reports from other authorities

(i) County Councillor's Report.

Since it was WSCC Cllr. Kitchen's first Meeting with LBPC, she did not give a Report but she did say that she very much looked forward to working with the Parish Council and would try to help in any way she could.

(ii) District Councillor's Report.

Please refer to HDC Cllr. Toni Bradnum's Report which is attached herewith.

SECTION 6 (Lead Councillor: Ed Allen (Chairman))

15. Planning

(i) Applications for consideration at the Meeting

DC/17/1084 (Old Camp Farm, Brighton Road, Monks Gate).

Investigation as to whether the property was constructed in accordance with Planning Approval.

LBPC have no comment

DC/17/1070 (Rojena Cottage, Brighton Road) Two Storey Side Extension.
This Application is not particularly clear. A precedent has been set by neighbouring property Ivy Cottage and LBPC have no objections. We believe that the distance to the boundary fence is in need of review.

DC/17/0954 (The Old School, Brighton Road). Proposed erection of a single 3-bedroom dwelling, detached triple garage and construction of a new driveway.
There appears to be little or no impact from this development and it will not be able to be seen from the road. Also, LBPC believe that the development will fulfil a requirement for new housing in the area. LBPC therefore have No Objections.

DC/17/0864 (Taverners, Warninglid Lane). Extension to side and rear (ground floor) rear facing conservatory: and 2 no. rear facing hipped dormer windows (first floor).
LBPC have No Objections.

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

None

(iii) Decisions Made

None

(iv) Other Planning Issues

None

SECTION 7 (Lead Councillor : Michael Lloyd)

- 16. Care of the Elderly in the Parish.** Further discussion/Update deferred until the next Meeting.
- 17. Police Activity.** There had been two serious incidents in the village since the last Meeting – see Agenda Item 7 (Public Forum)
- 18. HALC.** Next Meeting: Wednesday, 12th July 2017 in the Sandham Hall, Coldwaltham..

19. Motions: The following Motions were proposed by Cllr Lloyd in his e-mail of 19th February 2017:-

1. EMERGENCY PLAN

THE MOTION IS FOR APPROVAL OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EMERGENCY PARTY SYSTEM FOR THE PARISH BASED ON THE MEMO SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL BY COUNCILLOR LLOYD.

2. SCHOOL PARKING

THE MOTION IS FOR THE APPROVAL FOR THE ALLEVIATION OF THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM IN CHURCH CLOSE BY ESTABLISHING A CROSSING SYSTEM TO THE CHURCH CAR PARK .

Further discussion on these items has been ‘parked’, pending future funding determination.

SECTION 9 (Lead Councillor: Ed Allen (Chairman) + Clerk)

20. Public Forum (Part 2) (Council agree to adjourn proceedings for questions from members of the public). There were no further questions raised.

21. Finance

(i) **Accounts Status/Summary at 31st. May 2017.** This was reviewed at the Meeting and it was agreed that LBPC would make a contribution of £5,000 towards the cost of updating the facilities at the Church Hall. It was also agreed that we would look into the possibility of taking out a loan to fund other future expenditure.

(ii) **May 2017 Cheques for signature** - signed by Cllrs. Hough and Hinton

(iii) **Section 106 Report (Current Total Available £82,992.58)** – per HDC

22. Literature for Circulation

These were Issued, for circulation to Councillors, at the Meeting.

23. Dates of Next LBPC Meeting & Annual Parish/General Meeting (Tuesday, 27th. June 2017 and Tuesday, 29th. May 2018 respectively).

The next Meeting of Lower Beeding Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, 30th. May 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Signed _____

Date _____