

ALBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL [2019]

Minutes of the meeting of Albourne Parish Council

held on: Tuesday, 2nd April 2019, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr Graham Stafford (GS) – Chairman
Cllr Nikki Ernest (NE)
Cllr Jerry Butler (JB) – Vice Chairman
Cllr Heather Jordan (HJ)
Cllr Di Smith (DS)
Cllr Suzi Sawyer (SS)
Cllr John Drew (JD)

In attendance: Iain McLean (Parish Council Clerk), and 4 members of the public (for all or parts of the meeting).

- 1. (2019/033) – Councillor GS formally opened the meeting, welcomed those present, and received apologies for absence.** There was an apology for absence from Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke (MSDC).
- 2. (2019/034) – Declarations of interest.** Councillor HJ declared a personal interest in planning application DM/19/1081 (Bounty Cottage) as the applicant is a next door neighbour. She therefore said that she would not take part in the discussion of this application.
- 3. (2019/035) – Adjournment for any questions or issues raised by members of the public.** A resident referred to the Retirement Village planning application, and raised a number of issues, including parking concerns, the speeding of traffic along the B2118, and a concern about excessive tree removal. There needs to be more replanting done, if the scheme is to go ahead. It was noted that the matter will be coming up later on the Agenda.
- 4. (2019/036) – Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th March 2019 were duly approved and signed, as a true record, by the Chairman.
- 5. (2019/037) – To receive reports (if any) from WSCC Councillor Joy Dennis (JDS), and MSDC Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke (JLB).** There were no reports as neither Councillor was present.

6. (2019/038) – Planning matters.

6.1 Three planning application was considered, and the plans and relevant policies presented and discussed. It was therefore **RESOLVED to comment to MSDC as follows:-**

PROPERTY	PROPOSAL	AGREED RESPONSE
AE/DM/19/0259 Kings Head Stud, London Road	Full planning application for the erection of four detached dwellings, each with garaging, along with associated hard and soft landscaping works. To include new highway access to London Road. This application seeks an amendment to the vehicular access approved under reference DM/18/0025. Updated ecology report received on 25.02.2019.	Albourne Parish Council objects to this application. The proposed access crossover was put forward as part of the previous planning application, but caused concern with the planning officer due to its adverse visual impact We can see no evidence in this application to change that view.
AE/DM/19/1081 Bounty Cottage, the Street	Scots pine – fell and replace.	Albourne Parish Council has no objections to this application.
AE/DM/19/1001 Site Of The Former Hazeldens Nursery, London Road	Outline application for an extra care development of up to 84 units (comprising of apartments and cottages) associated communal facilities, 2no. workshops; provision of vehicular and cycle parking together with all necessary internal roads and footpaths; provision of open space and associated landscape works; and ancillary works and structures. Works to also include the demolition of the existing bungalow on the site. All matters to be reserved except for access.	<i>(It was agreed that as the Planning Officer has extended the deadline for comments to 15th May 2019, the application will be discussed, and the response finalised, at the Parish Council's meeting on 14th May 2019. However, it was noted that there are a number of planning policy issues that still apply, and comments made on behalf of the Gospel Hall mentioned issues of flooding potential and sewerage problems. The District Plan policies now carry full weight, given that the Plan was adopted before this application was submitted.)</i>

Note: In accordance with her declaration of interest above, HJ took no part in the discussion or decision relating to Bounty Cottage.

6.2 On the traffic issues, Councillor JD confirmed that the Community Highways scheme has now been submitted to WSCC (on 31/03/19), and is in the course of assessment. The formal support of the School to the measures proposed in the document, has been achieved, focusing on the safety of the school children. The speed loops have been booked, and will hopefully be installed after the Easter holidays. The Speed Indication Device (SID) data is being recovered and analysed. This appears to back up the previous study, which showed that at least 50% of cars are speeding on the B2116. On Firland, a third meeting took place with Olus on 8th March 2019. The need to fully implement the previous measures has been

reiterated, and Olus need to stay on the case. They have said that they will re-route lorries if and when any Bank Holiday working takes place. The view was offered that the Firland site does not have the capacity to go up to its limit of processing 75,000 tonnes. The Stage 2 complaints on the Ombudsman process (WSSC's handling of planning applications) are in. The issue of the bent or damaged road signs has been reported to WSSC, and some action has been taken to rectify the situation. It was noted that the Government has issued an instruction to Highway Authorities to remove redundant traffic signs. The damaged plastic Gateway sign at Sayers Common confirms the view that if the Parish Council does decide to go for these, they need to be proper wooden, robust signs. A summary of the traffic issues has been posted on the Albourne connected face-book page, and the Clerk will arrange (with JD) to put the document up on the Parish Council website.

6.3 On current planning and planning enforcement matters, Councillor NE reported that there is still no decision on the Equestrian Centre floodlighting planning application, but indications are that it is not likely to be granted. On the enforcement issue at the Barn (agricultural building) the applicants had until the end of March to put in a planning application, or to rectify the situation. If not an enforcement notice will be issued. On the Mayfields Market Town and the Horsham District Plan issues, there is a community awareness meeting being arranged for 4th May 2019. There is still no response from Horsham District Council to NE's list of questions and concerns following the Inter Parishes meeting. Finally, there is an issue about some work at the Wickwoods County Club and Spa, and whether or not permitted development rights can apply in the South Downs National Park. The Clerk will take this up with the SDNP Authority.

7. (2019/039) – Finance report and matters.

7.1. The financial summary and the Bank reconciliation for the month, were received, noted, and approved. It was again noted that the current account bank balance includes the ring fenced sum of £29,041-20 being the Operation Watershed grant recently received from WSSC.

7.2. The invoices were presented for payment, and it **was RESOLVED to agree and to make the following payments:-**

AMOUNT	PROCUREMENT	PAYEE
£427-83	Clerk's salary + on costs (March 2018)	West Sussex County Council
£45-29	Payroll admin. charges for the period 01.10.18 to 31.03.19	West Sussex County Council
£702-00*	Repairs to the Medieval Pound*	The Flintman Company Limited*
£399-56	Mobile freighters 2018	Mid Sussex District Council
£218-10	Subscriptions 2019/20 for WSALC and NSALC	WSALC Limited
£165-42	Additional dog waste bin – emptying charge (period 26.03.18 – 25.03.19)	Mid Sussex District Council
£211-21	Annual grounds maintenance High Cross	Mid Sussex District Council

* For information and noting only, as in view of the urgency, this invoice has already been paid under the delegated procedure set out in Council Standing Orders.

7.3 The Parish Council formally received ASCAT's (the Parochial Church Council) thanks for its donation of £400 (agreed at the meeting on 5th March 2019) towards the maintenance and upkeep of St. Bartholomew's Church.

8. (2019/040) – Current issues. (i) The issue of the Village Gateway signs is ongoing, and it was noted that the matter will also be put on the Agenda for the Annual Parish meeting of Electors on 21st May 2019, (ii) there is still no update from Richard Speller (WSCC) regarding the Common Copse land. The issue is therefore still held up pending the adjoining resident agreeing the plan.

9. (2019/041) - Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC). Councillor JB reported that the garage roof is to be replaced. A generous donation from the Village Show means that the cost to the VHMC will only be in the region of £300. The gentleman's toilet is being converted into a unisex WC in the forthcoming school holidays. It has been agreed to provide some acoustic panelling in the Hall to improve sound quality. There has been further anti-social activity around the Hall, and so the VHMC is now looking into installing some CCTV at the Hall. Estimates are therefore being sought. The Clerk confirmed that at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May, the VHMC will be formally reconstituted and appointed as a proper committee of the Parish Council, under the new constitutional arrangements.

10. (2019/042) – Operation Watershed (OW). There is nothing further to report at present. The Parish Council is still just waiting to be advised by the contractor, Landbuild, of the start date for the Oakvale Cottages flood relief works, under the currently approved OW scheme.

11. (2019/043) - Councillors exchange of information/new matters. HJ who is standing down from the Council at the elections in May, bade farewell, and referred to her time as a Parish Councillor. She kindly offered to help the next Parish Councillor looking after the footpaths issue in any way she can. DS thanked GS for his help with the new bar for the Pop-up-Pub. NE noted that Cllr Garry Wall is stepping down as leader of MSDC. SS said that she had now looked into the issues with regard to the Millennium Garden. Although the state of the Garden is not too bad, it does need some tidying up. The Oak tree roots around the bench are a particular problem, as this is bringing up the path around the tree. Overhanging brambles also need to be cut back. It was agreed to price up the required work, and that the Clerk would contact MSDC's Tree officer (Greg Sweeney), and also Barcombe Landscapes Limited, who carry out general maintenance work in the Garden on behalf of the Parish Council in order to see if they may be able to assist. The Hunters Mead fence is still an issue (see previous minutes). JB mentioned an issue of a grab lorry being parked up at land at a property in Truslers Hill Lane, causing a potential danger to other traffic. This needs to be reported to the Enforcement Officer at MSDC in order to see whether any action is needed. The Clerk will pursue this with MSDC. Finally, JB mentioned that he will not be able to attend the next meeting in May.

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m., (and afterwards a presentation of flowers was made to Councillor HJ to acknowledge and thank her, for all her hard work and dedicated service

as a member of the Parish Council.)

SIGNED.....Graham Stafford/Jerry Butler
Chairman/Vice Chairman

NEXT ORDINARY MEETING: TUESDAY, 14th MAY 2019 @ 7.00 p.m. (being the Annual Parish Council meeting, and the first meeting of the new Council following the Parish Council elections on 2nd May 2019)