

ALBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL [2020]

Minutes of the meeting of Albourne Parish Council

held on: Tuesday, 3rd March 2020, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr Graham Stafford (GS) – Chairman
Cllr Nikki Ernest (NE)
Cllr Jerry Butler (JB) – Vice Chairman
Cllr Suzanne Sawyer (SS)
Cllr Joy Parks (JP)
Cllr Di Smith (DS)
Cllr John Drew (JD)

In attendance: Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke (MSDC), and several members of the public (for all or parts of the meeting).

- 1. (2020/019) – Councillor GS formally opened the meeting, welcomed those present, and received apologies for absence.** An apology for absence was received from the Clerk, Iain McLean. Councillor Joy Dennis (WSCC) had also sent an apology for absence.
- 2. (2020/020) – Declarations of interest.** There were none declared on this occasion.
- 3. (2020/021) – Adjournment for any questions or issues raised by members of the public.** Concerns about traffic speeding near the Q Leisure site were expressed. The speed limit needs to be restricted. The Parish Council is looking at these issues as part of its ongoing traffic management scheme, but it is a slow process. The purchase of the Speed Indication Device (SID) for use around the Village may help gather the evidence. The Church expressed its thanks for the use of the Village Hall for the recent Quiz night, which had been very successful, although there was an issue about the number of chairs available.
- 4. (2020/022) – Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th February 2020 were duly approved and signed, as a true record, by the Chairman.
- 5. (2020/023) – To receive reports (if any) from WSCC Councillor Joy Dennis (JD), and MSDC Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke (JLB).** JLB gave her report. MSDC is trialling a food waste recycling scheme in a number of areas. The application for the VE day grant has not yet been determined. The Equestrian Centre lighting issue

is still ongoing, and although this has chased this up again, there is still no response as yet. There is a new website for local road updates www.burgesshill.net.

6. (2020/024) – Planning matters.

6.1 Two planning applications were 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/19/5113 - 1 Albourne Place Farm Cottage, Shaves Wood Lane	Proposed two storey side extension.	Albourne Parish Council has no objections to this application.
AE/DM/20/0588 - Daisy Fields, Truslers Hill Lane	Seeking permission to retain 6 solar floodlights and poles around equestrian sand school.	Albourne Parish Council objects to the application as it would set a precedent for other similar properties. It also goes against the dark skies policies of both the SDNPA and the Neighbourhood Plan.

6.2 Cllr JD proposed that the Parish Council should purchase its own SID machine from Stocksigns (the appropriate quotes having been obtained) and it was duly **RESOLVED** that this be agreed, subject to confirmation that funding from WSCC was available. On this basis, the matter would be taken forward in correspondence on the grounds of urgency, as the money needs to be spent this financial year (i.e. before 31st March 2020). On the issue of the Village Gateways, three quotes have been obtained, and it was agreed to proceed with the purchase of the six signs in principle, once the quotes have been obtained for the installation costs. On the Highways scheme, some indicative costs have been obtained for the improvement proposals at Truslers Hill Lane, but more estimates are awaited. On the Ombudsman complaints, these have not been upheld, although it was good that the concerns were recognised. *(For further background, this minute needs to be read in conjunction with previous Council minutes)*. It was noted that WSCC will not remove redundant road signs as they have no funds to do this. The Parish Council is therefore looking at funding this need itself, and is obtaining the appropriate quotes.

6.3 On current planning matters, the Horsham District Plan review is out for consultation, and this has been widely publicised. There is a meeting of the Inter Parishes Group on 5th March 2020. The Parish Council needs to put in its own response, particularly in regard to the number of houses proposed. The MMT proposal in the Plan for the land at Henfield is not credible, and there are many issues with it. For example, it is not clear how the site assessments have been done. Has there been the right level of consultation with neighbouring District Councils, given the duty to co-operate? **Cllr NE will take the response forward after the meeting, and seek agreement from Councillors in correspondence, as the deadline date for responses is the 30th March 2020.** The Parish Council also needs to finalise its response to the Croudace proposal for the development of the land near the School (as presented to the meeting in February), and so **Cllr NE will send some suggested wording to the Clerk.** Finally, the meeting was reminded that the appeal for the Hazeldens former garden nursery site begins at MSDC on 17th March 2020, and will last for up to 6

days (but probably more likely to be 4). It is hoped that an Agenda will be produced, so the Parish Council can plan its representation. Cllr NE will email everyone when more is known.

7. (2020/025) – Finance report and matters.

7.1 The financial summary and the Bank reconciliation for the month, were received, noted, and approved.

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 (February)	West Sussex County Council
£74-20	Councillor ID name badges	Name Badges International (reimbursement to Di Smith)

Under this item, expenditure of £298-20 to renew the battery for the VH defibrillator was also **APPROVED**, and the Clerk will bring the invoice to the next meeting.

8. (2020/026) - Village Hall Management Committee. The meeting was held on 25th February 2020. Main points include the fact that the hall letting rates have been reviewed and updated, along with honoraria and payments to staff. The VH flooring is going to be replaced. More chairs are to be acquired. It is hoped that an Under 5s Group representative (as a main user of the Hall) will take up the vacant space on the Committee (as a co-opted member). The VE day celebration plans are proceeding well, and the appropriate advertising for the event is underway.

9. (2020/027) – Current issues. None were raised, as not otherwise covered in these minutes.

10. (2020/028) - Councillors exchange of information/new matters. Cllr DS said that the bricks/rubble at Barleycroft green were surplus to some driveway works that had been carried out by a nearby property. They have not been dumped, and will be used up in due course. Cllr JP noted that the concrete surround (South East Water issues) had been removed from the corner at Church Lane, but the stop cock has not yet been replaced. The fly tipping/burning of rubbish issue in Church Lane is continuing despite the warning notice. The Clerk is asked to take this up with MSDC. Is the silent soldier being brought back up to the Village for VE day (perhaps to be put in the Millennium Garden)? However, having given it to the Church, any such proposal would need to be checked with them. Cllr JB reported that Truslers Hill lane will be closed all day on 4th March 2020 for pot-hole repairs. Twineham Lane will also be closed the day after. Cllr GS said that subject to further investigation, the Parish Council should pursue a further Operation Watershed grant to try and deal with the continual flooding issues at the bottom of Church Lane. He mentioned that it would be a good idea to invite the Head of the School to a future meeting, as there are a number of issues of common ground. He is still waiting on final quotes for the installation of the new replacement rubbish bin, and the dog waste bin (see previous minutes).

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

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

NEXT ORDINARY MEETING: TUESDAY, 7th APRIL 2020 @ 7.00 p.m.