

ALBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL [2013]

Minutes of the meeting of Albourne Parish Council held on:

Tuesday, 5th March 2013, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr Meg Price (MP) (Chairman)
Cllr Graham Stafford (GS) (Vice –Chairman)
Cllr Mick Gratton (MG)
Cllr Elaine Makey (EM)
Cllr John Gooch (JG)
Cllr Nikki Ernest (NE)

In attendance: Iain McLean (Parish Council Clerk), Cllr Sue Seward (MSDC) for part of the meeting, 2 members of the public.

- 1. (2013/043) – Chairman opens meeting and receives apologies for absence.**
Apologies were received from Councillor Peter Griffiths (WSCC). It was noted that Cllr Robert Dunckley was absent.
- 2. (2013/044) – Adjournment for any questions or issues raised by members of the public.** Barry Compton reported that the flooding issue at his property had been resolved. WSCC wants to put in place maintenance programmes in the future. Cllr Sue Seward referred to the responsibilities of landowners. The Clerk will diarise for 6 months time, in order to see what progress had been made. GS raised the flooding issue in Church Lane, and the question of the blocked drains. This needed to be checked with WSCC Highways (Gulu Sibanda) and GS would provide the details to the Clerk so that the matter could be pursued with Gulu Sibanda.

Action:	Cllr GS and the Clerk
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- 3. (2013/045) – Declarations of interest.** None were received.
- 4. (2013/046) – Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 5th February, and the minutes of the Extraordinary meetings of 12th February and 16th February 2013 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman, and Vice Chairman, subject to one amendment to the 16th February minutes.
- 5. (2013/047) – To receive reports (if any) from WSCC Councillor Peter Griffiths and MSDC Councillor Sue Seward.** Cllr Sue Seward asked that draft

minutes of APC meetings should be sent to her and Cllr Griffiths by the Clerk. She referred to the state of the grass verges at Leyfield and indicated that the matter of restoration was not part of the planning consent. MG was concerned that MSDC seemed to impose conditions that they knew could never be enforced, so he queried why they were attached in the first place. The issue of planning enforcement was a wider issue that still needed to be addressed. Cllr Seward will write again to the Planning Department and MG agreed to let her have a list of current issue for this purpose. She referred to a new initiative for loft insulation, and agreed to provide further details to the Clerk. She confirmed no increase in MSDC's budget this coming year. She referred to the recent benefit changes affecting Council tax calculations. She said that she would look into a landfill rubbish collection issue at Barleycroft raised by MG.

Action:	Clerk
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6. 1 (2013/048 – Planning matters). MG reported on the background to the application below, and Members inspected the plans. It was resolved as follows:-

APPLICATION AND LOCATION	PROPOSAL	DECISION
AE/13/00477/LDC Foxglove Cottage, Truslers Hill Lane, Albourne.	Two storey rear extension. Whether the development is lawful.	The Council defers to MSDC but would wish to make a number of observations regarding permitted development policies. (MG to provide the Clerk with details for a full response).

6.2 Cllr MG reported that the Neighbourhood Planning scoping document could not now be looked at by Andrew Marsh until after 1st March. This would mean that the start of the 6 week consultation period would be delayed. Hopefully the public exhibition would be held during April.

6.3 Cllr MG reported on the revocation of the South East Plan, and that the number of houses to be provided could now be set by MSDC in the draft local plan (some 10,600, down from 17,100). It was noted that the District Plan should now carry more weight in respect of planning matters.

Action:	Cllr MG and the Clerk
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7. (2013/049) – Finance report).

1. The financial summary was received and noted. The Clerk reported that this had again been prepared from the Cash Book on this occasion, as the Bank Statements had not arrived in time for the meeting. It was noted that hopefully before long, the Statements would be sent directly to the Clerk.
2. Invoices were presented for payment, and it was **resolved** to agree and to make the following payments (Councillors GS, and JG as signatories):

AMOUNT	PROCUREMENT	PAYEE
£296-87	Salary and on-costs	WSCC
£18-00	New Councillors Pack	SSALC
£60-00	Chairs briefing course	SSALC

- 8. (2013/050) – Clerk’s report.** The Clerk reported on the lamp-posts and the fact that the insurance cheque for post “P” had now been received. He reported on the High Cross finger-post, and was instructed to obtain an up to date quote from Jakks. No further response had been received from WSCC on the clapperboards, and the Clerk would chase this up. It was noted that Cllr Sue Seward would provide further information on cavity wall insulation for the Hall to the Clerk, as referred to elsewhere in these minutes.

Action:	The Clerk
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- 9. (2013/051) – GIS Digital Mapping.** The Clerk reported on the fact that this might be helpful for tracking and logging various matters in the Parish, if at a reasonable cost. He handed some marketing material from Pears to MG, who agreed to have a look at it, and to recommend future action to the Council.

Action:	Cllr MG
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- 10. (2013/052) – Tree Wardens report.** Cllr MG read out the Tree Warden’s report, which was noted. He agreed to contact Heather Jordan.

Action:	Cllr MG
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- 11. (2013/053 – Cllr exchange of information/new matters.** (i) GS noted that the salt bins had still not been refilled and he would chase up WSCC and Cllr Griffiths. He mentioned that he had met the Parish’s Police Community Support Officer, and that he should be invite to attend a future meeting. The Clerk would also post details on the website. Farm-watch was not running particularly well at present. (ii) NE noted that

a fallen tree in the Churchyard had been removed. (iii) MP raised the issue of the Register of Interest forms for the website, and the Clerk was asked to pursue this with MSDC. (iv) EM raised the use of the lorries going to and from Avtrade. The maximum weight issue for the road was being addressed in the SWOT analysis for the Neighbourhood Plan, but it was agreed that this should not be specific, but looked at generically as part of the overall traffic calming approach. EM reported that following a conversation with Cliff Emery, a response on the funding issue from WSCC was still awaited but that Cllr Griffiths had been in touch. The provisional costs in the various estimates would need to be updated. It was aimed to start the work after the 19th July 2013, and it was agreed to put this item on the Agenda for all future APC meetings. It was noted that the VAT structure needed to be investigated, depending on whether work should be commissioned by APC or the Village Hall Committee. (v) MG noted and confirmed that the clearance of the soil, etc, at Singing Hills Golf Club had been done. He mentioned an imminent planning application relating to Magnolia House that would need to be dealt with at an Extraordinary meeting (to be arranged). He flagged up the land known as “The Mount” (near Wick Farm) as a potential market garden site. The issue of the Village show was raised again, and the Clerk was asked to put this on the Agenda for the next meeting. GS mentioned a tree issue in regard to a footpath, and it was agreed to involve the tree warden.

Action:	Clerk and all Councillors
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12. (2013/054) – Any other business (not requiring a major decision). There was none, except that MP queried whether in view of the standard item (11) above, the AOB item was really necessary.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

SIGNED.....Meg Price/Graham Stafford
 Chairman/Vice Chairman

NEXT ORDINARY MEETING: TUESDAY, 9th APRIL 2013 @ 7.00 p.m.
 (Members agreed to change this from 2nd April 2013)

[N.B. Meeting later changed to **WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2013.**]