

Present Mrs Y Sen in the Chair, Mrs B. Brittain, Mrs M Bolton, Mrs C.M. Robinson, D.W. McBeth, A.T. Jones, M. Madden, and the Clerk Mrs Mary Holman.

Apologies R. Burman (car problem), Mrs N. Banfield (personal), D. Carpenter, P.M. Smith (away)

178. Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 12th November having been circulated were taken as read, agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
179. Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting held on 12th November, moved by Mrs B. Bolton, seconded and agreed that Minutes be accepted as a correct record and adopted by the Council.
180. Minutes of the Burial Ground Committee Meeting held on 12th November, moved by A.T. Jones, seconded and agreed that Minutes be accepted as a correct record and adopted by the Council.
181. Minutes of the Lighting Committee Meeting held on 12th November, moved by Mrs B. Brittain, seconded and agreed that Minutes be accepted as a correct record and adopted by the Council.
182. Minute 151 Spatham Lane & Speeding. A.T. Jones reported on the latest meetings with the County Council.
183. Minute 152 Neighbourhood Plan Confirmation had been received that Westmeston PC and Streat Parish Meeting wished to be involved, this was agreed. An email had been received and circulated from Andrew Triggs stating that he was advertising this new area.
184. Minute 153 18 South Street It was noted that a second response had been received from LDC and circulated. The wooden structures at the front of the terraced houses had been authorised by the Conservation Officer but it still did not address whether the whole site of 18 South Street was in accordance with the Planning consents and conditions.
185. Minute 154 Suggested additional Car Park in Keymer Road A formal response was still awaited following the email from Tim Slaney.
186. Minute 156 SDNP/13/04472/TCA - Jointure Studios, South Street, Ditchling. Further information re the TPOs had been requested. the applicant had taken the refusal to appeal.
187. Minute 57. Conference for Town and Parish Councils and Parish Meetings Telscombe Civic Centre, South Coast Road, Telscombe Cliffs BN10 7ES Thursday, 24 October. Details of the presentations could be viewed on <http://www.lewes.gov.uk/community/21586.asp>.
188. Minute 160 Great news for South Downs cyclists – a major new funding package for cycling routes into and within the National Park SDNP referred the request for further information to Brighton and Hove. His response had been circulated – details on <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/ditchling-road-south-downs-national-park>. No action was taken
189. Minute 160 SALC & AiRS Joint Conference at the Amex Stadium, Brighton 7th November 9.30am to 5pm it was noted that the feedback had been circulated by email.
190. Minute 161 Tennis Court It was noted that a response was awaited from the Club.
191. SDNP/13/04947/LIS 12 High Street Ditchling Hassocks East Sussex BN6 8TA
Replacement front door and frame, installation of pivoting sash in kitchen window, replacement of existing 'Crittall' style window in first floor front window with a single glazed painted timber window.
No objections providing the Conservation Officer is satisfied that it is in keeping with the Article 4 & Conservation area.
192. SDNP/13/05127/HOUS South Tile Barn Beacon Road Ditchling Hassocks East Sussex BN6 8XB
Erection of a two storey rear extension
No objections.
193. SDNP/13/04816/FUL St Margaret's Church Of England Primary School, Lewes Road

Replacement of old pool house to provide new library and storage building I

No objections.

194 SDNP/13/05492/TCA 59 East End Lane, 6 x Chestnuts - Pollard back to last pollarding points

No objections.

195. Finance matters

a) Checklist for Audit and Insurance Details for October were laid on the table, having been scrutinised by one of the Financial Controllers.

b) Accounts for payment. The list had been circulated prior to the meeting having been scrutinised by one of the Financial Controllers. The accounts were agreed for payment and the cheques signed.

c) Precept for 2014/15 The precept was discussed, it was agreed to increase the General contingency by the difference between the two proposals; this would make the precept the same as last year and would allow for any unforeseen costs. The Precept form was signed by the RFO for the sum of £68,692

	<u>2013/2014</u>	<u>2014/2015</u>
General	£26,647	£27,095
Grounds	20,245	20,195
Burial Ground	5,450	£5,450
Lighting	16,350	£14,200
<u>Precept</u>	£68,692	£66,940

196 Sport England The Council's application had been successful, full details had been circulated, it needed to be accepted by 15th December. The Clerk had made inquiries from Hedley's Solicitors, the legal fees would be about £1,000 and a possible £500 to register the land. It was agreed to send the papers to the Solicitor and raise a number of questions with Sport England.

197 New Dog Fouling stickers available 50 for £15 + VAT. This was agreed.

198 Gate on FP40 had been mentioned after the last meeting. The Monday Group had suggested a stile instead of a new gate. This was agreed.

199 Cycling event 2nd March 2014 A request had been received to use the Car Park at the Rec for this annual event. This was agreed.

200 Bollards emails had been circulated regarding the two sets of bollards at Lewes Road and North End stating that they were both "Victory" bollards, this would be taken further.

201 Matters raised by Councillors

Tom Jones – Update on Lodge Lane and Dumbrells Court Road. New proposals had been suggested to controlling the parking with signs.

202 Roy Burman Enquiry re Twinning with French Village – please see email for details. This was deferred.

203 P. Smith To arrange date and time for a Grounds Committee Meeting. This was arranged for 5th December at 7.30pm.

204 M. Madden Parish Councillors Code of Conduct and decision making protocol. This was deferred for further details.

205. Lewes District Council Report. A.T.Jones gave a brief report.

206. Written reports by representatives No written reports received as such but emails received from The Ditchling Society and circulated for information...

Village Hall Management Committee – Mrs B. Brittain

Ditchling Pavilion Club -Mrs C. M. Robinson.

The Ditchling Society –Mrs Margaret Bolton

Ditchling Village Association – Mrs C.M. Robinson

Lewes District Association of Local Councils (two representatives) – D. Mc Beth and P. Smith.

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Grounds Committee held in the Parish Office on Thursday, 5th December 2013 and update following and informal meeting with the Clubs. Report written by the Grounds Committee Chairman as the Clerk was ill.

Present, Phillip Smith in the Chair, Mrs Y. Sen, R. Burman, D. McBeth, Mrs M. Bolton and the Clerk for the first meeting.

Apologies Mrs C.M. Robinson and Mrs N. Banfield.

1. The Parish Council has been awarded a grant of £50,000 by Sport England to upgrade the main football and rugby pitches at the Ditchling Recreation Ground. The Council has to accept this offer by 15th December or the grant will be lost. Sport England have since agreed to extend this deadline to 18th December.

The Grounds Committee agreed at its meeting on 5th December to recommend to the Council that the award should be accepted as this will enable the rugby and football clubs to avoid the current situation of matches being frequently cancelled because of waterlogged pitches. It will also provide an excellent opportunity for the clubs to increase local sports participation for young people, adults, men and women.

The upgrading works (new drainage, levelling, resurfacing etc) will take 2 years and there would inevitably be some disruption to all agreed to work closely with the Council in delivering the project should the Council decide to go ahead. The sports clubs using the recreation ground and may require use of alternative pitches for some periods. The Council would therefore need to work in very close co-operation with all the clubs to minimise the disruption as well as preserving as far as possible access for the general public. An initial meeting between the Grounds Committee took place on 5th December and a meeting with representatives of the clubs took place on 11th December at which the clubs accepted the award will initially involve employing a solicitor to meet Sport England's legal requirements, a topographical survey and a feasibility study by a turf agronomist. As the works themselves are expected to cost about £120,000, the Council will also need to attract other substantial funds as a matter of urgency from local charities and national sports bodies which it has already approached. If successful in securing these funds, then the Council would be able to appoint a contractor in March/April 2014. At this point, the Council would be fully committed to delivering the project. Under Sport England rules, it would also mean restricting the use of the 2 pitches to football and rugby for the next 25 years achieved through a Deed of Dedication.

The project would be managed by the Council's Grounds Committee who would meet each month to review progress and to maintain liaison with all the clubs.

The Committee's recommendation to the Council is to:

- Accept the Sport England award of £50,000 to upgrade the football and rugby pitches
 - Agree to pay initial legal fees to Hedley's Solicitors of £1,000 plus VAT and local authority search fees and land registry fees of £650 (none of these fees are recoverable from Sport England's grant)
 - Agree to meet the Sport England's costs of a topographical survey of £765 and an agronomist's feasibility study fee of £1,035 (both inclusive of VAT) should the Council decide at a later stage not to proceed with the works e.g. due to insufficient match funding
2. Consideration of Clause 8 of the Rugby Club License. It was agreed that it should be reworded to read "Games will be subject to a pitch inspection the Friday before the match and may be cancelled by the member of the Grounds Committee after consulting with the Groundsman. There will no right of Appeal."

Chairman _____ 17th December 2013