

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Old Meeting House on Tuesday 25th February 2014 at 8pm.

Present D. Mc Beth in the Chair, Mrs M Bolton, Mrs B. Brittain, D. Carpenter, A.T. Jones, M. Madden, P.M. Smith, and the Clerk Mrs Mary Holman.

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

267. Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 11th February having been circulated, were taken as read, agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

268. Minutes of the Grounds Committee held on 12th February, moved by P.M. Smith, seconded and agreed that the Minutes be adopted by the Council.

269. Minute 236 Spatham Lane & Speeding. Tom Jones reported about a meeting he had attended “ The Ditchling/Westmeston area speed survey. The speed surveys have been undertaken and speed restriction proposals (which are close to the top of the ESCC priority list) have been consulted upon with Sussex Police. The Police have raised concerns about how enforceable the proposed speed restriction would be and that the location does not have the physical characteristics to encourage drivers to slow down. As such there could be significant costs involved with making physical changes to reduce speeds. This is ongoing work for ESCC. They are putting it through the National Speed Limit Appraisal process and will then re-consult Sussex Police. It was agreed that ESCC would keep Cllr Jones and Cllr Shepherd informed as this progresses.” This was noted.

270. Minute 237 Neighbourhood Plan It was noted that copies of the poster and flyers had been circulated, the new website had a great deal of information re the proposed plan, who was involved and notes of meetings. <http://www.beaconvillagesplan.co.uk/> The Strategic Environmental Assessment aspect of the proposals was discussed regarding the financial aspect. It was noted that a great deal of the information was already available from District Council, National Park etc. without involving further expenditure.

271. Minute 238 18 South Street Email received and circulated re the historic record of Planning Enforcement cases opened for 16/18 South Street, Ditchling: It was agreed to take no further action.

272. Minute 239 Suggested additional Car Park in Keymer Road Reply awaited re the formal contact being made with the owner of the land regarding the possible terms of a lease and conditions.

273. Minute 225 Bollards Photos had been taken and sent to E.S.C.C. a response had been received stating that they would replace bollards with the Victory design as and when they needed replacing. This was noted.

274. Minute 242 Ditchling Common Country Park An informal meeting was still to be arranged with Andy Mitchell from E.S.C.C. together with D. McBeth, Mrs M. Banfield and the Clerk. Suggested dates were awaited.

275. Minute 243 Ash Tree in Recreation Ground The two consultant firms for the south east had been contacted regarding a safety inspection and advice re the future of the infected tree, Their estimates had been circulated. It was agreed to accept the quotation for the sum of £420 from Tamla trees.

276. Minute 252 Tree planting to commemorate First World War The Clerk was asked to find out more details and draw up a plan for three willow trees in the Burial Ground Drive up by the bridge.

277. Minute 253 East Sussex Planning Event .26 February 2014 - Uckfield Civic Centre It was noted that Mark Madden would be attending.

278. Minute 254 Quotations were being sought for the following Responses awaited.

Yellow self closing gate on southern fence of children's Play area – this may need to be renewed.

Replacement of fence on both sides of the Burial Ground entrance from Lewes Road. This has rotted and been damaged by the wind.

279. Minute 256 Fly problem in Ditchling 2012 & 2013 The report had been received and circulated, it was agreed to invite the Senior Environmental Health Officer to speak at the APM., Mike Felton would be asked to collate the information from fly papers etc, It was agreed to pay £1,000 towards cost of 500 Red Box Traps which would be distributed via the Office.

280. Minute 263 New Standing Orders This matter had been deferred until 8th April.

- 281 Grounds Committee Meeting Minute Update re possible match funding, The Phillipson Ditchling Trust had unofficially stated that it would be prepared to grant £50,000 subject to the agronomist's report.
- 282 Planning applications
 Case No: SDNP/14/00697/FUL Pippins, Farm Lane, Ditchling
 Team: LDCNTH Case Officer: Mr Andrew Hill (Lewes DC)
 Applicant: Mr & Mrs Hemsley
 Proposal: Erection of a detached dwelling (demolition of existing dwelling) and retention of land as residential cartilage
 It was agreed to object to the proposal on the grounds that the erection of the dwelling on the proposed area of land would be overdevelopment of the site due to its massing, it should not be a two storey dwelling as the other properties on that side of the Lane are single storey.
- 283 Finance matters
 a) Checklist for Audit and Insurance Details to be laid on the table, having been scrutinised by the Financial Controller.
 b) Accounts for payment. The list had been circulated prior to the meeting, the invoices and cheques having first had been scrutinised by the Financial controller. The invoices were approved and the cheques signed.
- 284 War Memorial Floodlighting Tom Jones on behalf of the RBL had informed the Council that it looked as if it may have to go under the road to replace the old electrical cable. It was hoped the costs could be met from the RBL Funding legacy. This was noted.
- 285 Campaigning Groups – Parish Councils Interests/Members Interests
 The question has been posed "Can Parish Councils and/or Councillors belong to Campaigning Groups?" The papers had been circulated and the contents noted.
286. Proposed changes to Dumbrells Court Road, Ditchling Details had been circulated, it was agreed to support the changes.
- 287 Consultation on the Fire Authority's Review of Service Provision in East Sussex and The City of Brighton & Hove Full details were circulated on 17/02/14 and were noted.
- 288 Lewes District Council Allocation Policy – Consultation Full details of this were circulated on 13/02/14 It was agreed to support the changes.
- 289 Ditchling Parish Council and the Ditchling Fair 2014. It was suggested that the Council might like to have a Stall promoting itself and the Neighbourhood Plan. This was to be considered.
- 290 In the light of Cllr Jones information about a possible allocation of £300,000 for "Ditchling traffic". It was suggested that ESCC's SLR discussions were re-instated. This was deferred
- 291 Meetings. It had been proposed that DPC meetings should start at 19.30 instead of 20.00. It was agreed to leave it at 20.00 for the time being.
- 292 Litter bin replacement. It was agreed to defer the matter as the proposer was not present.
293. Lewes District Council Report. A.T. Jones gave a short report.
294. Written reports by representatives No written reports received to date.
 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.
295. Matters raised by Councillors for exchange of information only P. Smith did not consider that there was sufficient reasons given for the approval of SDNP/14/00110/FUL

Chairman

25th March 2014