

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Old Meeting House on Tuesday 28th January 2014 at 8pm.

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

Apologies Mrs N. Banfield (work),

Resignation Prior to the meeting a letter of resignation had been received from Roy Burman, Mrs Yvonne Sen had also resigned earlier, the Council agreed to appoint D. McBeth as Acting Chairman for the meeting.

234. Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 7th January having been circulated, were taken as read, agreed as a correct record and signed by the Acting Chairman

235. Minute 210 Sport England It was reported that topographical investigation had begun and that the agronomist would be on site the next day regarding the feasibility report.

236. Minute 219 Spatham Lane & Speeding. There was no further information to report.

237 Minute 220 Neighbourhood Plan Copies of the poster and flyers had been circulated and would be made available after 6th February.

238 Minute 221 18 South Street No further details received to date.

239 Minute 222 Suggested additional Car Park in Keymer Road It was noted that formal contact had been made with the owner of the land regarding the possible terms of a lease and conditions. Details of a TRO had been obtained from E.S.C.C. and LDC had been asked about constructing a car park on leased land. Responses were awaited.

240. Minute 225 Bollards Photos had been taken and sent to E.S.C.C. A response was awaited.

241 Minute 227 Parish Councillors Code of Conduct and decision making protocol. The new Standing Orders etc had been circulated in hard copy for detailed consideration on 11th February.

242 Minute 228 Ditchling Common Country Park An informal meeting was 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.

243. Minute 230 Ash Tree in Recreation Ground Following the discovery of fungi growing around the base of the Ash Tree a sample had been sent to Daniel Wynn the Tree Officer at LDC; it appeared to be *Pholiota squarrosa* which caused the demise of the twin Ash beside it. Suitably qualified arboriculturists were being asked to quote to carry out an inspection using a Silbert Decay drill to find out the extent of the internal damage.

244 SDNP/14/00037/HOUS Team: LDCNTH Case Officer: Miss Michelle Gardiner (Lewes DC)
Applicant: Mr & Mrs S Hedger Grace
Proposal: Erection of detached garage together with bike and log store
Location: 4 Shirleys, Ditchling, Hassocks, East Sussex, BN6 8UD
It was agreed to object to the application on the grounds that it would be overdevelopment of the site.

245. SDNP/14/00110/FUL : LDCNTH Case Officer: Ms Samantha Prior (Lewes DC)
Applicant: Mrs P Church
Proposal: Change of use from retail (A1) to residential (A3)
Location: 35 High Street, Ditchling, East Sussex, BN6 8SY
It was agreed to object to the application on the grounds that there was a need to retain retail units in the High Street.

246. SDNP/14/00289/TCA 86 East End Lane
2 x Hornbeam - Reduce to previous pruning points
Multiple Thuja - Reduce in height approx. 2 metres and trim canopy
1 x Pear - Reduce in height approx. 2 metres and trim canopy
1 x Cypress - Crown clean
1 x Ash - Crown thin by 10-15%
1 x Ash (in neighbouring property) - Reduce to pollard of approx. 2 metres
Conifer screen (neighbouring property) - Cut back as close to boundary as possible
No comment.

247. Finance matters
- a) Checklist for Audit and Insurance Details 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, were approved for payment and the cheques signed by D. McBeth and Mrs B. Brittain.
 - c) Quarterly Statement had been circulated and was noted.
 - d) Deed of Exclusive Right of Burial No 488 was signed.
- 248 Website – It has been suggested that a cheaper provider might be considered, but as all the work was done for the Clerk, it was agreed to keep the same supplier.
- 249 Community Orchard Details of this new project had been circulated, it was noted that the meeting had well attended and the matter was being progressed.
- 250 Bluebell Stoolball Club It was accepted with regret that the Club had given notice stating that it would not be requiring the Ground next season due to the uncertainty of its availability
- 251 SALC Details had been received that SALC was having a display stand at this year's South of England Show, and had asked for parishes to volunteer to take part. This was noted.
- 252 Tree planting to commemorate First World War Details of a scheme to plant whips to commemorate the event. It was agreed to consider sites.
- 253 East Sussex Planning Event .26 February 2014 - Uckfield Civic Centre it was noted that a place had been booked for Mark Madden cost £24.
- 254 Quotations were being sought for the following
Ash Tree in Recreation Ground to take measurement electronically to find out the damage done by the fungus
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.
- 255 There was a casual vacancy following the resignation of Mrs Yvonne Sen. This was noted
256. Fly problem in Ditchling 2012 & 2013 It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Clerk contacted the Environmental Health Officer at LDC and asked for a copy of the Entomologists report following the investigation into this problem which was undertaken in the second half of 2013."
257. Lewes District Council Report. A.T. Jones gave a short report.
258. Written reports by representatives No written reports received.
 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.

Chairman 11th February 2014