

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Statutory Council Meeting held in the Lower Hall, Ditchling Village Hall, Lewes Road, on Monday 26 February 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs McBeth (Chairman), Jones, Guggenheim, Keeley, Smith, Robinson, Farrands, the Clerk, Mrs. M. Warner & the Deputy Clerk Mr. Derek Blackhall

Public Participation:

One member of the public was present, the member of the public did not wish to speak.

1. Declarations of Interest: None.
2. Apologies for absence. Cllr Leaver, on holiday. Cllr Ingham, on call. Cllr Orme, unavailable. Cllr Madden, unavailable.
3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 February having been circulated, were **agreed** as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman
4. Planning applications
 - 4.1 SDNP/18/00240/FUL. Garden Pride Garden Centre. Change of use of field to overflow carpark. **Objection.** The council is concerned that this site is becoming over- developed; unlimited use of the car park would be visually intrusive and detrimental to the surrounding countryside. It is noted that there is no ecology or habitat report included in the application and so the impact on the flora and fauna of the field cannot be assessed. The Parish Council would request that this application is determined by the planning committee rather than by the planning officer. Cllr Jones abstained.
 - 4.2 LW/18/0089 The Royal Oak Ditchling Road. Variation of Planning Condition - Amendment to approved plans (condition 1) relating to Planning Approval Reference No LW/15/0827 consolidating the changes approved by LW/17/1009 and additionally making minor elevational changes for Gold Property Development Limited. The Parish Council has **no comment** on the elevational changes, but notes that solar panels have been omitted from the drawings and the planning consultant has been unable to confirm whether the solar panels approved re application LW/15/0827 are to be retained. The Parish Council would expect that sustainable features such as solar panels would be retained in the scheme. Cllr Jones abstained.
5. Parish magazine The Deputy clerk reported that if all promised article are delivered by the end of March, there would be sufficient content for issue 3. It was agreed that councillor's photographs could be uploaded to the website with Cllr Leaver, Madden and Farrands to arrange to have photographs taken at a later date.
6. To consider a request from Ditchling Archery Club to use the recreation ground for two Saturdays per month either morning or afternoon from April to September in addition to the current use on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Sundays. Standing order were suspended to allow Peter Humphreys from Ditchling Archery Club to explain the requirement for additional sessions for training. The club has one junior member, becoming a senior member with a place in the England squad and one senior member in the England squad. The club is keen to bring on beginners and help more experienced members to develop their skills. The additional sessions would be used for training only. Health and Safety and insurance arrangements would be as for the current sessions. Standing orders were resumed. It was **agreed** that Ditchling Archery Club would hire the north field on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, all day Sunday and from 10-2 on alternate Saturdays from 1 April to 30 September at an increased hire charge of £750.
7. Proposed new car park- update on S106 legal documentation and lease. The SDNP have advised we are getting to a point now where we may have to return the application to planning committee if an agreement on the lease cannot be secured in the near future. The landowner has been advised that final terms will need to be agreed by 28th February. The landowner has advised that the draft lease is still with her solicitor and so no progress has been made. Cllr Jones will contact the landowner. It was noted that the land opposite the proposed site is owned by the Parish Council, although it is thought that this would not be suitable for use as a car park, this may be an option worth exploring. *(Post meeting update- Cllr Jones was advised by the landowner that she was waiting to hear from her solicitor, meanwhile the deadline has passed and the planning permission will be reviewed).*
8. Neighbourhood Plan – approval of the Referendum version incorporating the recommendations made by the independent examiner and incorporating numerical referencing was **approved** unanimously and would now be passed to the SDNPA

in readiness for the referendum which is expected to be on 19 April. The final plan can be found at <http://www.beaconvillagesplan.co.uk/>.

9. New play equipment and recreation ground master plan. Further information has been sent to Andrew Ramsey and he has said that he will begin work on the masterplan. The clerk will chase.
10. Traffic Meeting feedback including Spatham Lane and quiet lanes. Meeting notes have been circulated. It was noted that quiet lanes are usually C roads or unclassified roads with light traffic. It was noted that quiet lanes in other areas had not always been successful once implemented. It was recognised that the highway authority was not receptive to the idea of quiet lanes and the council would require a traffic consultant to strengthen its position. A list of traffic consultants to be prepared.
11. To consider the quotation from the existing grounds contractors. It was noted that there was no increase to the prior year prices. It was **agreed** that Barcombe Landscapes be retained as the main contractors for maintaining the Council's property. It was noted that there are brambles around the village green, and although this area was not the responsibility of the council it could assist in enhancing the area, once the weather improves.
12. To receive the recommendations in respect of the GDPR the General Data Protection Regulations and consider the impact on the Parish Council. It was noted that the Council needs to be ready for this new law which applies from 25 May. A draft privacy notice, draft email footer note and draft Document Retention Scheme had been circulated. There were no comments on the papers.
13. Finance matters
 - a) The bank reconciliation for January was **agreed**
 - b) Payments totalling £12,984.05 were **approved**

It was noted that the Co-operative Bank have been provided with the details requested for non-signatories with one exception, and that the community account would be closed on 20th April, if the information requested is not provided.

14. Correspondence. There were no priority items.
15. Written & verbal reports by representatives.
 - a. Village Hall Management Committee –
 - b. Ditchling Pavilion Club – notes of a meeting with Sean Guiery had been circulated. Further details of a proposed patio area to the north of the pavilion are awaited.
 - c. Ditchling Village Association – Mrs C.M. Robinson-the newcomers meeting will be held on 17th March. The Village Fayre will take place on 16 June. The Vera Lynn tree planting will take place on 20 March.
 - d. Lewes District Association of Local Councils (two representatives) – Cllrs Mc Beth and Madden- nothing to report.

Activity at Macs Farm was reported. A new pedestrian entrance to the development in South Street was noted.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Ditchling Parish Council
Expenditure Feb 2018

Date	Ref	Value (incl vat)
13/02/2018	Lock Assist	£124.80
13/02/2018	Able group -window repair	133.2
21/02/2018	Parish Online	£106.80
13/06/2612	Ditchling PCC	£400.00
23/02/2018	Viking	£95.04
25/01/2018	SSALC	£57.60
20/02/2018	Woodley-Burial ground	£1,610.00
26/02/2018	Mileage expenses	£21.60
26/02/2018	One Drive	£1.99
21/08/2017	Salaries	£2,256.38
14/02/2018	LDC	£6,910.85
06/02/2018	JRB-dog poo bags	£170.40
20/01/2018	Fasthosts	£14.39
09/02/2018	Easycopiers	£162.00
01/02/2018	Hall hire	£32.00
09/02/2018	Aspect Ecology -burial ground	£852.00
30/11/2017	Website, monthly maintenance	£35.00
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		£12,984.05