

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the old Meeting House on Tuesday, 21st December 2010 at 8pm.

Present B.D. Cohen in the Chair, Mrs M. Bolton, Mrs B. Brittain, Mrs Y. Sen, B.J. Clutterbuck, A.T. Jones and the Clerk Mrs M. Holman.

Apologies) Mrs C M. Robinson (Unwell), A.H. Knowles (prior engagement)

279. Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Old Meeting House on 14th December 2010, having been circulated, were taken as read, agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman
280. Minutes of the Grounds Committee held on 14th December, moved by B.J. Clutterbuck, agreed as a correct record and adopted by the Council.
281. Minute 240 New Scout Lease It was noted that further information was awaited from the Scout Group re the wording of the new Lease. A letter had been received from the Group re the request by Ditchling Morris to use the HQ on Wednesday evenings on a fortnightly basis from 7.30 to 9pm during the same months as is already agreed for their Thursday meetings. This was agreed.
282. Minute 241 Affordable Housing Survey
It was noted that Tom Warder had sent the following email following the meeting he had been invited to attend "*useful meeting with the landowner and a couple of planning consultants yesterday. Whilst the owner and his associates are clearly looking to achieve a good return on their investment I think they are much clearer now on how this could be achieved in a manner which is appropriate for the village and which is in tune with LDC exception site policy and the level of need identified in the survey. I also stressed the role that has been played to date by the Parish Council / housing sub group and that you are very keen to be involved from here on also. They have agreed to go away, do some number crunching and come back to us with an initial indicative proposal for a scheme; assuming they still think this a viable option for them, and we can take things forward from there; this will no doubt entail a meeting with all parties including yourselves. Saxon Weald was not at the meeting (as I have been away and did not pick up your e-mail until yesterday) but this does not matter.*"
283. Minute 242
i. Verge at Lodge Hill Lane Full details will be received early in the New Year.

iii Bench at Fieldway Estimates were being sought for its repair

ix Keymer Road Although parts of Keymer Road footway has been resurfaced, there are still complaints about the lack of definition of the footway on the end near the Keymer boundary. The question of kerbing or white lines was discussed. This matter would be referred to the E.S.C.C. strengthening local relationships inaugural meeting on 13th January.
284. Minute 243 Lewes District Plastic bag free At the last meeting the question was raised about the use of black bags in dustbins, it was understood that this may no longer be a requirement. It was noted that the following response had been received from LDC "*Thank you for your e mail. I can confirm that waste does still need to be properly contained inside dustbins, either in bin bags or any other type of bag/sack. I hope this clarifies the situation for you.*"
285. Minute 246 South Downs National Park Consultation 16th July to 15th October. It was noted that the result of the Consultation was awaited.
286. Minute 250 E.S.C.C. strengthening local relationships It had been agreed to suggest Thursday 13th January at 10am for the inaugural meeting. Unfortunately their Officers already have a meeting that morning and suggested it could be held in the afternoon at 2pm or 2.30pm . This was agreed, the meeting would start at 2.30pm. Councillors were asked to submit items for discussion.
287. Minute 263 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Reports on meeting received from D. McBeth and the Clerk of Wivelsfield had been circulated for further discussion. It was agreed to support the suggestion that further joint meetings should be held with the neighbouring Councils which would be affected any proposed development in Wivelsfield.

288. Minute 266 LDC Rural Settlement Study. Councillors were asked to read the LDC document and send the Clerk any suggestions for updating it. These would be collated and sent out to the Council by the Clerk for submission prior to the deadline of 21st.
- 289 Finance matters
- a) Checklist for Audit and Insurance The file with the reconciliations and reports for the month of November would be circulated in January. The file having first been scrutinised by one of the Financial Controllers
- b) Accounts for payment The accounts for payment and receipts had been circulated. The accounts were approved for payment and signed by the Chairman and B.J. Clutterbuck. The invoices etc having first been scrutinised by one of the Financial Controllers.
- 290 Reports by Representatives. No written reports received to date.
Village Hall Management Committee -Mrs Belinda Brittain
Ditchling Pavilion Club - Tom Jones
Ditchling Village Association –Mrs Catharine Robinson
The Ditchling Society –R. Burman
Lewes District Association of Local Councils (two representatives) -Brian Clutterbuck and Don McBeth.
291. LDC Planning User Group –D. McBeth – no report.
292. County Council Report – Mrs Meg Stroude – no report.
293. District Council Report- A.T. Jones gave a short report which included finding out the implications of the possible devolution of the Car Park to the Parish Council. As this had not been discussed or suggested by the Parish Council it was agreed to make this an Agenda item for 25th.
294. War Memorial The Clerk reported that a car had badly damaged the fence and gate along the West Street side of the War Memorial. Details of the car had been received and handed to the Police. Estimates would be sought for its repair and also for replacing the whole area of fencing.
295. Proposed development behind 23 & 25 East Gardens The architects would like to talk to the Council informally after a Council Meeting about the proposal. It was agreed that this could take place after the Council Meeting on 25th.

Chairman 25th January 2011