

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held in the Old Meeting House on Tuesday 22nd May 2012.

Present R. Burman in the Chair, Mrs C.M. Robinson, Mrs Y Sen, D. Carpenter, A.T. Jones, A.H. Knowles, D.W. McBeth, P.M. Smith, and the Clerk Mrs Mary Holman.

Apologies Mrs B. Brittain (hospital), Mrs M. Bolton (away)

1. Election of Chairman for 2012/2013 and Declaration of Acceptance of Office. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that R. Burman be re-elected Chairman.
2. Election of Vice Chairman for 2012/2013 It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mrs Y Sen be re-elected Vice Chairman.
3. Burial Committee Mrs Belinda Brittain, Tom Jones, Phil Smith. .
Grounds Committee Mrs. Margaret Bolton, Mrs Catharine Robinson, Don McBeth.
Lighting Committee Mrs Belinda Brittain, Ashley H. Knowles, Tom Jones, Darren Carpenter. .
Footpaths Committee, Ashley H. Knowles, Mrs Catharine Robinson, Don McBeth, Darren Carpenter, Mrs Margaret Bolton.
Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council were ex officio on all Committees.
It was noted that The Burial and Grounds Committees needed more members to work efficiently.
3. Appointment of representatives the following appointments were made to serve for 2012/13, Representatives were expected to make written reports of the meetings they attended on behalf of the Council.
Village Hall Management Committee – This was to be filled.
Ditchling Pavilion Club-Mrs C. M. Robinson.
The Ditchling Society –R Burman
Ditchling Village Association – Mrs C.M. Robinson
Lewes District Association of Local Councils (two representatives) – D. Mc Beth and P. Smith.
4. Authorised signatures. General account cheques any two to sign when authorized by the Council - Mrs Belinda Brittain, Roy Burman, Don McBeth, Darren Carpenter, Ashley H. Knowles and Tom Jones. National Savings a/c Ashley Knowles, Don McBeth, any two to sign.
5. Appointment of two financial controllers for 2012/2013 It was agreed to re-appoint Mrs Y Sen and Mrs M. Bolton.
6. Review and confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks and asset register The Insurance schedule was being updated.
7. Review of Financial Risk Assessment. This was noted and agreed
8. Subscriptions. It was noted that the following subs were paid in 2012/2013, it was agreed to continue to subscribe to the following.
Sub to NALC £89.53, SALC - £465.75, LDALPC £30.00, Society of Local Council Clerks £140.00, Clerks & Councils Direct £24.00, Open Space Society £40.00
9. Deeds etc The copy Deeds to be laid on the table the originals were with Gates & Co Solicitors. It was noted that the Chairman also had a sealed copy.
10. Confirmation of appointment of Trustee to Oldland Mill Trust Roger Broadbent's appointment was confirmed.
11. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24th April having been circulated were taken as read, agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
12. Minute 293 Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee William Burkitt and the local Chairman of RICS Matrix attended the meeting and were very helpful. It was noted that all was now in hand to light the Beacon on 4th June at 10pm.
13. Minute 294 E.S.C. C. Strengthening Local Relationships An email had been sent to the Leader as requested but no reply received to date.
14. Minute 307b) Requests for enforcement Response received that the owner has been asked to submit a retrospective

application for the shed.

15. Minute 307 c) Suggestion to plant a Jubilee Oak cost £100. It was agreed to order an oak tree and plaque, it was suggested that it should be sited between the tennis court and the play area in the Recreation Ground. This was agreed.
16. Minute 307 d) Affordable Housing Group The lead Councillor Mrs Margaret Bolton had not been able to convene a meeting this month but hoped to do so in July.
17. Case No: SDNP/12/00314/HOUS Comments by: 21 May 2012
Team: LDCNTH Case Officer: Mr Andrew Hill
Applicant: Mr & Mrs B Tyrer
Proposal: Extension to existing garage, replacement porch and new first floor juliet balcony doors, gardener's store and replacement pool house, new front driveway and tennis court with 3.6m high fence
Location: Ladylane, Lodge Hill Lane, Ditchling, Hassocks, East Sussex, BN6 8SR
NB. The Parish Council has obtained an extension to submit its comments to 23rd May
No objections
18. Case No: SDNP/12/00211/FUL Comments by: 29 May 2012
Team: LDCNTH Case Officer: Miss Amanda Collison
Applicant: Mr Martin Wilkins
Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension linked to existing conservatory
Location: Three Beams, Lodge Hill Lane, Ditchling, Hassocks, East Sussex, BN6 8SP
It was agreed to comment that clarification was needed as to the impact in the neighbouring property at Court Cottage which has had a similar application approved but which is not yet built.
19. Case No: SDNP/12/00388/FUL Comments by: 29 May 2012
Team: LDCNTH Case Officer: Mr Peter Young
Applicant: Mr & Mrs M Curzon
Proposal: Demolition of storage barn and replacement with timber frame stable and garage block
Location: Beards Place, 103 Lewes Road, Ditchling, Hassocks, East Sussex, BN6 8TZ
No objections.
20. 12/01532/OUT Location: Land East Of Kings Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex,
Desc: Outline application for 480 dwellings, new access from Kings Way, neighbourhood centre, high quality and accessible informal open space including a new park, landscape buffer and pedestrian/cycle green routes and ancillary works.
It was agreed to object to the outline application on the ground that it will have an adverse impact on the traffic driving south and will exacerbate the ongoing traffic problems in Ditchling. There is also a great deal of concern on the adverse impact it will have on the East Sussex Country Park which appears to be included in this application.
21. Finance matters
a) Checklist for Audit and Insurance The file with the reconciliations and reports for the month of April was laid on the table, having first been scrutinised by one of the financial controllers.
b) Accounts for payment The accounts for payment and receipts had been circulated prior to the meeting, having first been scrutinised by one of the financial controllers. The accounts were agreed for payment and the cheques signed by the Chairman and D. McBeth.
c) Financial Statement for 2011/2012 This had been circulated and was noted.
d) Audit Copies of the Consolidated Balance sheet, audit document etc had been circulated, were agreed and signed where appropriate by the Chairman and RFO.
22. Annual Play inspections. A letter had been received from LDC asking if the Council wished to have the inspection carried out cost £62. This was agreed together with an additional life expectancy assessment.

23. Cricket Club Permission had been sought to erect a marquee on Sunday 1st July for a special match between Ditchling Cricket Club and Sussex County Cricket Club. This was agreed.
24. New Standards Regime A letter and possible codes had been received from LDC and had been circulated in hard copy. It was agreed to support the basic principles of the County Council's suggested wording or the Government paper but not the LDC version as it was too verbose.
25. Logo It had been suggested and backed by the Brian Clutterbuck that the Parish Council should adopt the Village Sign as its logo. A sample of the headed notepaper had been circulated. It was agreed to formally ask the DVA if it could be adopted.
26. Lewes District Council Report. A.T. Jones gave a brief report.
27. Matters raised by Council for discussion. D McBeth - LW/12/0246/NP 12 The Dymocks
Planning Application - Erection of two storey rear extension and alterations to existing ground floor extension and addition of dormer window and extended porch at front for Mrs P Ball. The amended Plan was considered by LDC on 16th but the Parish Council was not notified of the changes until it received the Report papers on 12th. Concern was expressed that at the DC Planning Committee the incorrect plan was shown, it was noted that this was being rectified.
28. Development at Farm Lane Concern was expressed that a large section of hedge had been removed which opened up the site, this was contrary to the planning application. It was agreed to refer this to the Enforcement officer.
29. Bollards It was requested that this subject be included on the next main agenda.

Chairman 12th June 2012
