

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Old Meeting House on Tuesday, 23rd^h November 2010 at 8pm.

Present B.D. Cohen in the Chair, Mrs M. Bolton, Mrs B. Brittain, Mrs E.L. Pruen, Mrs C.M. Robinson, Mrs Y. Sen, R. Burman, A.T. Jones, D.W. McBeth and the Clerk Mrs M. Holman.

Apologies B.J. Clutterbuck (personal), A. H. Knowles (personal)

235. Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held in the Old Meeting House on 9th November 2010, having been circulated were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
236. Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting held on 9th November having been circulated were moved by Mrs Y Sen, seconded and agreed as a correct record, adopted by the Council and signed by the Chairman.
237. Minutes of the Burial Ground Committee Meeting held on 9th November having been circulated were moved by Mrs Y Sen, seconded and agreed as a correct record, adopted by the Council and signed by the Chairman..
238. Minutes of the Lighting Committee Meeting held on 9th November having been circulated were moved by Mrs Y Sen, seconded and agreed as a correct record, adopted by the Council and signed by the Chairman.
239. Matters arising from Minutes dated 12th, 26th October and 9th November.
240. Minute 159 New Scout Lease It was noted that further information was awaited from the Scout Group.
241. Minute 191 Affordable Housing Survey
B.D. Cohen and R. Burman declared personal interests regarding the site under discussion.
Report on progress made by AIRS .In view of the information received that proved it was in the public domain, it was agreed that the item would no longer be considered confidential business. Mrs Bolton reported that Tom Warder had been asked to approach the owners of three sites. He had set up a meeting with the agent of the owner of a parcel of land near to Beards Place for 6th December. It transpired that the Agent or the owner had been in contact with LDC and a Housing Association possibly with a view of providing an exception site. The Housing Association involved was not on LDC's preferred list.. Tom Warder had asked if the Council would agree to the meeting with Leighton Rowe and if Saxon Weald Housing Association which was on the approved list could be involved to give a better idea of what was suitable. This was agreed but it was also agreed to ask if one or two members of the sub group could also attend as the Council was on the periphery at this exploratory stage.
242. Minute 203 Site meeting with E.S.C.C. It was reported that
- i Verge at lodge Hill Lane Further details were still awaited.
 - iii Bench at Fieldway Estimates were being sought for its repair
 - ix Keymer Road The E.S.C.C. Maintenance Team was going to have another look at the section of the pavement near the boundary with W.S.C.C.
243. Minute 205 Lewes District Plastic bag free R. Burman reported that he was going a meeting with Mike Dodds on 8th December. The question was also raised about the use of black bags in dustbins, it was understood that this may no longer be a requirement. The Clerk agreed to find out more information.
244. Minute 206 Westmeston Jubilee Pathway It was noted that details had been received and considered at the budget meeting.
245. Minute 207 West Sussex Fire and Rescue Consultation It was noted that Keymer Fire Station was to be closed.
246. Minute 208 South Downs National Park Consultation 16th July to 15th October. It was noted that the result of the Consultation was awaited.
247. Minute 211 Grounds Committee Minute 5 Dangerous Bridge from Old Archery Field to Burial Ground It was noted that a reply was awaited from the Monday Group.

- 248 Minute 212 Grounds Committee Minute 6 Interest on the 106 money from LDC Further information re seats etc was available and would be discussed at a Ground Committee Meeting. It was suggested that one of the seats should have a canopy over it to protect users from the sun.
- 249 Minute 213 Minute 1 of the Grounds Committee Rugby Club It was noted that emails had been sent to the National RFU and also to the Sussex RFU but no reply received. A letter has been sent to the Sussex Development Officer but no reply received to date. A further email attaching a copy of the letter had been sent that morning and an acknowledgement received. It was agreed to discuss the matter at the next Grounds Committee meeting.
- 250 Minute 214 E.S.C.C. strengthening local relationships It was noted that E.S.C.C. had replied as follows - *I wonder if I could please ask you to rearrange this, for two reasons; firstly, our offices are closed over Christmas until 4 January and it is likely any urgent matters will need attention (for the same reason I keep Mondays clear). Secondly, the SLR meetings are held during the working day, I am sorry if I didn't make this clear in my correspondence. We usually allow two hours between 9-1 and 2-4.* It was agreed to suggest Thursday 13th January at 10am.
- 251 Minute 215 Farmers Market. It was noted that no further information had been received.
- 252 Minute 219 LDC Future of Housing in the Lewes District. Meeting 10th November, 9.30am to 4pm. There was no report.
- 253 Minute 221 Village of Ditchling Football Club. The Pavilion Club did not respond to my email but did to Tom Jones. Mick Stratford had asked to be kept up to date re the Rugby Club' position re the main pitch as the football club's proposed to have two teams in the future plus a junior section will depend on the availability of two pitches. It was agreed that this would be discussed further by the Grounds Committee.
- 254 Minute 222 SALC AGM 3rd November at 2pm – Ardingly Show Ground. It was noted that D. Macbeth's' report had been circulated.
- 255 LW/10/1358/NP 17A South Street
 Planning Application - Partial demolition, refurbishment and erection of a 2 storey extension to an existing dwelling at 17a South Street and erection of a single storey dwelling. Also selective demolition, refurbishment/reinstatement and additions, including new-build car-port, to common parts between the proposed developments for Margaret Elizabeth Cook Trust
 It was agreed to object to the application on the following grounds -The proposal by virtue of its height bulk and proposed materials, would adversely affect the historic character of the Listed Building and Conservation Area within the National Park. The design including cladding, guttering etc were out of keeping with the surrounding area. The proposed entrance from South Street would be visually intrusive and detract from the existing rural, character of the Conservation Area. The rural feel of the approach to Ditchling from Clayton Road and Beacon Road will be diminished. This will also reduce the sense of openness which makes a substantial contribution to the setting of the Village. The loss of the existing arch would be detrimental to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The Council queried the greenhouses as shown on the Plans.
- 256 LW/10/1359/NP 17A South Street
 Listed Building Application - Partial demolition, refurbishment and erection of a 2 storey new-build extension to an existing dwelling at 17a South Street and erection of a single storey dwelling. Also selective demolition, refurbishment/reinstatement and additions, including new-build car-port, to common parts between the proposed developments for Margaret Elizabeth Cook Trust
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- 257 3812 (10/108) Gorricks, 59 East End Lane
Pollard to last pollarding points 6 x Horse Chestnut trees.
No objections.
- 258 3812 (10/114) Downsland Court, East End Lane
Fell to ground level Bay, Portuguese Laurel, Lawson Cypress, Ash and Silver Birch Trees.
No objections
- 259 LW/10/1366 61 North End
No objections.
- 260 LW/10/1417/NP Passways 55 North End
Planning Application - Demolish existing garage and replace with single storey extension with pitched roof and installation of pitched roof to dwelling to provide additional rooms for Mr B Dollings
B.D. Cohen declared a personal interest.
No objections.
261. Finance matters
- a) Checklist for Audit and Insurance The file with the reconciliations and reports for the month of October had been circulated. 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 were approved for payment and signed by the Chairman and R Burman. The invoices etc having first been scrutinised by one of the Financial Controllers.
- c) Precept Precept was agreed and the document signed by the Chairman and RFO as follows.
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| General | £29,036 |
| Grounds | £18,695 |
| Burial | £ 5,828 |
| Lighting | £15,300 |
| | £68,859 Precept |
- 262 War Memorial It was noted that the Scouts had cleaned the War Memorial with the help Tony Matthews who provided the water, brushes etc free of charge. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to both parties. A request for the names to be re-cut or marked in some way had also been received This was requested in 1995 but the Council was advised to leave it as it was a Gill Memorial and Joseph Cribb cut the lettering It was agreed to discuss this at the Grounds Committee Meeting.
- 263 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment It was noted that this had now been published by LDC which had identified two sites in Ditchling. The proposals for the surrounding parishes would impact on Ditchling. This would be discussed at the Wivelsfield meeting on 25th. This would be discussed again at the next main meeting.
- 264 Lewes Parking Review Invitation to Briefing Copies of the relevant email had been circulated and were noted.
- 265 East Sussex Rural forum – 6th December. An invitation had been received to attend the Forum which was being held at Uckfield Civic Centre from 10am to 12.30pm. No action was taken.
- 266 LDC Rural Settlement Study. Please see email. Councillors were asked to read the document and send the Clerk any particular aspects they would like discussed at the next main meeting.
- 267 Reports by Representatives. No written reports received.
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.
268. LDC Planning User Group –D. McBeth – nothing to report.

269 County Council Report – Mrs Meg Stroude- No report

270. District Council Report- A.T. Jones gave a brief report.

271 Matters raised by Councillors for exchange of Information only.

R. Burman – control of allocation of affordable housing –full details were on the website.

R. Burman reminded Councillors of an event to raise money for the Friends of Ditchling.

D McBeth brought to the Council's attention the question of solar panels on roofs in Conservation Areas.

Chairman _____ 14th December