

**Minutes of the Council meeting held at the Memorial Hall  
on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: D Pankhurst (Chairman) (DP), H Pankhurst (HP), P Lamont (PL), C Pollington (CP), T Hogan (TH), R Hollman (RH)

**Also present:** District Councillors I Jenkins and M Mooney, C Hellen (Clerk) and 8 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** County Councillor A Davies, M Coleman, D Watts, G Sanderson
2. **Disclosure of interests under the Council's Code of Conduct:** C Pollington declared an interest in Item 5.9.
3. **The minutes of the Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017** were unanimously agreed with one amendment.
- Q1. **Members of the Public in Attendance** wished to raise concerns under **Agenda Items 5.1 and 5.9** and these items were taken next.

**Recreation Ground:** Local fundraising has raised £2,000 towards new equipment for the Recreation Ground and the Cock Inn will run a fundraising pub quiz on 7<sup>th</sup> April. The fundraising team were congratulated on their achievement and thanked for their efforts. The Parish Council and Recreation Ground Committee are now considering replacing both the Play Space and introducing adult exercise equipment to the Recreation Ground and will need three quotes to consider the cost involved. It was agreed to involve young mothers in the choice of equipment for the Play Space to meet their children's needs. The Parish Council is willing to provide financial support and would like to realise this project by the spring of 2018. Quotes to be obtained in the next 4 to 6 weeks (RH to do). Funding might also be sought from Rother Community Funding, Active Rother, Little Cheney Wind Farm, the Jempson's Foundation and Sports England and via a collecting box at Jempson's and a letter to residents asking for donations.

- Q2 **Site Allocations:** Huw Merriman, MP, has agreed to attend a meeting arranged by residents on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017 to discuss the Site Allocations. IJ and MM apologised for being unable to attend the last Parish Council meeting. The consultation period closed on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017 and Rother District Council was now considering the comments that had been received and a decision might be taken by September 2017. Residents understood the need for more housing but felt that the preferred site had access issues and the village does not have the infrastructure or facilities to meet the needs of additional housing. IJ explained that members of the community were invited by RDC to submit their land for development several years ago and the money gained will be used by RDC for community housing. However, not all sites offered to RDC have proved suitable for development. IJ and MM confirmed that they are happy to represent residents' views to Cabinet or the Scrutiny Committee and encouraged residents to contact them. Owners of land who wish to sell to the developer recognised that the issue was contentious but by selling their land hoped to provide opportunities for younger people to be able to afford to buy property and stay in the village.

4. **District & County Councillor Reports** IJ reported that representatives from Amicus Horizon had attended RDC's Scrutiny Committee and were expected to provide a statement on Amicus Horizon's plans across the Rother district. A consultation on parking in Rye was planned because parking was no longer being enforced by the police and this would enable recommendations to be made to ESCC on the issue. Rother Transport Action Group had discussed the ongoing problems with Southern Rail. MM reported that RDC's budget and figures for 2017/18 had been released and the precept would follow shortly.

AD was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report on 8/3/17, which is attached to the minutes.

**5. Community Matters and Issues**

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- 5.1 Recreation Ground** RH reported that the grass had been cut at the Recreation Ground.
- 5.2 Youth Sports Provision Subsidy** RH reported that the Recreation Ground Committee would not charge the Parish Council for the use of the ground for the half-term football sessions. The sessions had been very popular and Easter sessions were planned for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would subsidise the cost of Peasmarsh children attending the football sessions and this amounted to £90.00 for the February half-term sessions.
- 5.3 VAS and traffic calming** IJ reported that he had written to Brian Banks and Michael Higgs to express his dissatisfaction at the increased cost of the 30mph VAS from £6,000 to £9,618.45. IJ was also prepared to contact Karl Taylor at ESCC if no satisfactory explanation was received. IJ was thanked for his help in this matter. RH reported that repairs to the 40mph VAS sign had been assigned to a specialist repair company to obtain costings and it was anticipated that the repairs would now take place. CH reported that residents had reported the matter on the East Sussex Highways website owing to safety concerns. TH reported that the missing school sign had not been replaced by East Sussex Highways – CH to investigate.
- 5.4 The Maltings** PL reported that Westridge Construction had completed the demolition of the Maltings site and a concrete crusher was due on the site on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Westridge Construction had expressed an interest in contacting Peasmarsh Primary School to invite school parties to the site to explain the dangers of construction sites. The contractors had managed the demolition responsibly and had minimised disruption to residents as far as possible.
- 5.5 Bus Services and Bus Bill** A resident had provided comprehensive figures on the use of the 313 bus service and these demonstrated a healthy demand for the bus service. It was hoped that this might illustrate the need for investment in the bus service as it was not sustainable for the Parish Councils to pay for additional services, which were clearly in demand from the public.
- 5.6 Village Sign** CP reported that three blacksmiths had been approached for quotations for the village sign. JHW Engineering and Black Forge had responded, Michael Hart had not replied. CP had made site visits to both blacksmiths. Black Forge had provided a detailed quote amounting to £6,900 excluding VAT and JHW Engineering had provided a very informative quote amounting to £4,235 and was not VAT registered. JHW Engineering had shown a keen interest in the School design and offered a 25 year guarantee on the work. CP recommended that JHW Engineering be commissioned to undertake the work and TH proposed and RH seconded this recommendation which was unanimously agreed. CH to write to JHW Engineering offering the commission of the village sign, request his confirmation to undertake the project and ask whether a deposit was required before work commenced. CH to also write to Black Forge.
- 5.7 BT Internet coverage in Peasmarsh** BT have installed a new cabinet in Peasmarsh for the roll out of fibre broadband. ESCC & BT are now assessing the remaining hard to reach areas in the county for broadband. CH to contact Katy Thomas at ESCC for an update on the cabinet installation.
- 5.8 Flooding on Main Street (Tanyard Field)** TH reported ES Highways had cleared the drain which had become blocked by tree roots and had investigated damage to the drain with a camera. The drain will now have to be excavated to rectify the damage but no timescale has been given.
- 5.9 Development and Site Allocations Local Plan (see Q.1 above)** The Parish Council had submitted its response to RDC on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017.
- 5.10 Oast Cottage Planning Decision** No reply had been received to the Parish Council's letter or to that sent by a resident concerning what RDC intends to do to enforce the owner to renovate Oast Cottage, Main Street. MM to ask Councillor Kentfield to reply as soon as possible.
- 5.11 Dog Waste bins and signs** CH had received 6 signs from RDC regarding the disposal of dog waste and TH and MC agreed to erect the signs at locations around the village.
- 5.12 Layby extension at Brickfields** An estimate for a feasibility study for the layby extension had been received from James Hore and amounted to £1,400. As the cost of extending the layby was likely to be substantial and would only benefit a few residents, it was agreed to postpone this proposal and contact Amicus Horizon to ask them to reconsider allowing private residents from Brickfields to rent parking spaces and garages. CH to do.
- 5.13 Annual Parish Meeting** It was agreed that this would take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017. CH to approach East Sussex Archaeology to give a talk on the archaeology of Peasmarsh.

## 6. Reports and other items

**6.1 Confirmation of Financial Regulations** Deferred to the April meeting.

**6.2 Speedwatch Report** New sessions were planned from the end of March.

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**6.3 Clerk's Report** Noted.

**6.4 Memorial Hall** HP reported that Sussex Coast College had provided an afternoon tea for residents, the Murder Mystery night had been well attended and the archive and nostalgia exhibition had been well supported and attended by Peasmarsh Primary School pupils.

**6.5 Allotments** The tenant had moved his tractor from plot 3 and had offered to restore the boundary fence. CH would be issuing annual rent notices to tenants for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

**6.6 Repairs and Maintenance Reports** None.

**6.7 ESCC Highways Reports** TH reported a loose manhole cover in Main Street on the Rye bound carriageway - CH to report to East Sussex Highways. CH reported that East Sussex Highways had confirmed that pruning of the hedge on the School Lane side of Cherry Tree Cottage was imperative.

**6.8 Police Report** Noted.

**6.9 Footpaths Reports:** None.

**6.10 School Crossing** HP reported that she had confirmed with Peasmarsh Primary School, that owing to its status as an Academy, the School had money in its own budget allotted for the school crossing and the historic payment by the Parish Council related to the School's pre-Academy status. The Parish Council had maintained an allocation in the budget for the school crossing up to 2016/17 until the School's status was confirmed in this matter but would not do so from 2017/18.

## 7. Financial Matters

**7.1 Reports** The monthly statement of receipts and payments, and budget comparison and bank reconciliation were unanimously agreed: proposed by CP and seconded TH.

**7.2 Payments** The following payments were unanimously approved, proposed CP; seconded TH

7.2.1 Clerk's February pay and expenses: £415.49

7.2.2 D Pankhurst - Expenses attending RTAG meeting 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017: £16.65

7.2.3 SSALC 2017 Spring Conference, P Lamont attending: £48.00

7.2.4 Bourne Sports Associates, February half term sports sessions: £90.00

**7.3 Receipts** None.

## 8. Correspondence

**8.1** ESCC Budget Communications to Parish Councils (13/02/17) was noted.

**8.2** Parliamentary Boundary Review South East Region Consultation Responses (03/03/17) was noted.

## 9. Planning Matters

**9.1 Applications: The following applications were considered:**

Reference	Location	Proposal	Closing date for comments
<a href="#">RR/2017/439/P</a>	Sharvels Farm House, Flackley Ash, Peasmarsh TN31 6YG	Timber framed conservatory (revised design following refusal of RR/2016/2377/P). <b>The Parish Council had no comment to make on this application.</b>	21/03/2017
<a href="#">RR/2017/440/L</a>	Sharvels Farm House, Flackley Ash, Peasmarsh TN31 6YG	Timber framed conservatory (revised design). <b>The Parish Council had no comment to make on this application.</b>	21/03/2017
<a href="#">RR/2016/2201/P</a>	Jempsons Jet Garage, Main Street, Peasmarsh TN31 6YD	Installation of ATM pod. Two anti ram raid bollards installed on concrete base. (Retrospective) <b>The Parish Council had no comment to make on this application.</b>	29/03/2017
<a href="#">RR/2017/270/P</a>	Oast Cottage, Barnets Hill, Peasmarsh TN31 6YJ	Erection of building and glazed link to be used as a holiday let unit and self-contained residential annexe. <b>The Parish Council had no comment to make on this application.</b>	29/03/2017

## 9.2 Decisions:

Reference	Location	Proposal	Status
<a href="#">RR/2016/1485/P</a>	Meadow Croft, School Lane, Peasmarsh TN31 6UN	Rear single storey extension and roof alterations including rear dormer.	APPROVED CONDITIONAL

**9.3 Planning Appeals: None**

**10. Dates of forthcoming meetings:** 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017, Parish Council Meeting, Memorial Hall from 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

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