

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7th DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr C.Beglan, Cllr L. Britt (Chairman), Cllr T. Cook, Cllr N. Cooper, Cllr J. Davies, Cllr N. Dore`, Cllr R. Milner-Gulland, Cllr M Shaw, Cllr M. Turley, Cllr D. Wilkins, Clerk Mrs L Quirk, District Cllr C. Mason, 2 Members of the Public

The Chairman informed members and the public that there would be a public adjournment after the minutes of the last meeting had been approved, to allow Mrs Wilmshurst to speak.

142. **Apologies and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies - Cllr K. Ballard, County Cllr F. Wilkinson.

143. **Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2009 were approved and signed.

Public adjournment

The Chairman closed the meeting to allow a member of the public to speak. Mrs Wilmshurst informed members that she had for some time been collecting bits of information from areas such as the church, WI, the school, 1st & 2nd War, Parish Council etc, which she would now like to get scanned and formed into a Scrap book. She added that 10 years ago the Parish Council agreed to fund the formation of a collection of photos for the parish, that she collated, which had been a tremendous success and of great interest. The main problem is funding and setting it all up in the form of a scrap book as there are in excess of 100 pages. The items need presenting, with typing/ writing which has become faded over the years needing redoing. She has a rough estimate of £1,000 and passed around an example that had been put together by a local company. Once the items have been scanned she said it could then be put onto the PC's and perhaps the Storrington Museum websites aswell. The idea is to publish it in a book, copies can be done for £6.41 per colour booklet, which could be available for parishioners etc. She asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to fund this. After further discussion the Chairman said that she thought that the next step was to get some form of costings together for the project and asked what other member thought. Members generally thought this was a good idea, and that there should be a strong possibility of grants being available. It was agreed to approach Howard Collins at HDC to establish what sort of grants may be available. Mrs Wilmshurst said she had hoped that it might be completed in time to launch it at the Art Festival in June. Cllr Dore` proposed & Cllr Wilkins seconded that the Parish Council support the idea, and pursue the possibility of funding via grants. There being no further questions from the public, the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

144. **Matters arising**

122. Twinning-approach received from Saint Pierre d'Autils -Cllr Cook will also make enquiries with Storrington PC re twinning, to find out their experiences. *Cllr Cook has sent 2 emails to Saint d'Autils asking for more details, without a response, it was therefore suggested that no further action be taken on this at the present time.*
- 134.2 Washington roundabout- It was agreed because of the time constraints involved the Chairman would be delegated the power to make a decision on the scheme on behalf of the Parish Council and also would raise the points and the issue of the amended plan not being what had been agreed. (Agenda under planning)

135. Newsletter - Copy to be to the Clerk within the next 2 weeks. Clerk will obtain the most cost effective printing. Newsletter has been printed by HDC. The distribution of the newsletter was discussed and agreed, Clerk to post to Glaseby Lane and the top end of The Bostal.
- 138.3 Cllr Wilkins asked what was happening with the clearance with the ditches in Newhouse Lane, County Cllr Wilkinson will follow up. Cllr Wilkins will forward on a map he has to Cllr Wilkinson. *Some parts have now been cleared, WSCC has written to the landowner.*
- 138.4 Cllr Ballard asked if the Acorn scheme had yet responded, Clerk to follow up. Ongoing.
- 138.5 Cllr Ballard reported that the lights were still on in the garage in the evenings, Clerk has reported this on several occasions to Enforcement. Enforcement have responded that the illuminated Kia sign inside the garage requires Planning permission.
- 138.6 The Chairman reported that the footpath from The Street to the Frankland Mead was covered in leaves again, Clerk to report. *Footpath has now been swept.*
- 140.1 Cllr Dore asked if there were any more Washington Walk leaflets. Cllr Davies has run out, Clerk to have 250 printed. *Cllr Dore` was given a supply of leaflets.*

145. **Finance**

- 145.1 The following cheques were approved:

Mrs S Muddle	
Mrs L. Quirk	
Information Commissioner - Data Protection.	£ 35.00
Public Works Loan Account	£1,995.50
BT phone bill- cost of calls £185.67, rental £53.59,	
Payment charges £9.00, VAT £36.63=	£ 289.89
SLCC annual subscription	£ 135.00
CPRE subscriptions	£ 29.00
S Pierce – 5 x cuts 1 st extension graveyard	£ 475.00

- 145.2 Estimate bus shelter

John Pullen has suggested replacing the glass with louvers panels, he has given an estimate for 2 panels @ 4ft x 3ft 8ins to fit, made of matching hard wood £400 + fitting which he said would not be very much, the cost could be reduced by using soft wood.

Cllr Shaw reported that Mr Pullen suggested he do a sample for members to look at, it was agreed that Cllrs would view to see if it was suitable. Cllr Shaw will take photos of the glass prior it its removal, Clerk will then follow up the possibility of an insurance claim.

146. **Planning**

- 146.1 Applications to be discussed:

DC/09/2148 - Merrywood Lodge Merrywood Lane- Fell 1x Oak (T1) tree- (the application had still not been received from HDC, a request has been made)

- 146.2 Decisions

Application Number: DC/09/1671- Application Permitted

Site: Chardons Badgers Holt Storrington Pulborough West Sussex RH20 3ET

Description: Erection of a conservatory overlooking the front and rear

Date of Decision: 12/11/2009

Application Number:DC/09/1719-Application Permitted

Site: Hilltop Bracken Lane Storrington Pulborough West Sussex RH20 3HR

Description: Proposed 2-storey extension to form living rooms, study and day room/kitchen with bedrooms and bathrooms

Date of Decision: 17/11/2009

Application Number: DC/09/1849 - Application Permitted

Site: Street Cottage The Street Washington Pulborough West Sussex RH20 4AS

Description: Fell 1 x Conifer tree (Works to Trees in a Conservation Area)

Date of Decision: 20/11/2009

Application Number: DC/09/1912 - Application Permitted

Site: Peppers, The Street Washington Pulborough West Sussex RH20 4AS

Description: Fell 1 x Hazel (T2), 1 x Holly (T4) within (T3), 1x Yew (T5) and surgery to 1 x Holly (T1), Cherry Plum (T3), 1 x Hawthorn (T6), 1 x Silver Birch (T7), and Liquidambar sp (T8) trees (Conservation Area Consent)

Date of Decision: 26/11/2009

146.3 Email from Will Jones HDC

Thank you for your comments in regard to the above application dated 3rd November 2009.

I have taken note of your overall 'no objection', which concurs with my own view, and thereby I have written to the notifier advising that the works may proceed.

However, I noted your two comments in regard to the Cherry plum (T3) and the yew (T5), and for my consideration on this replicate below the relevant part of my delegated assessment sheet:

The Parish Council note that the Cherry plum (T3) should be given minimal re-shaping; this is what has been specified. It also enquires as to whether the twin-stemmed yew tree (T5) could not have one of its stems removed other than being felled completely. However, inspection reveals that the bifurcation in this tree is very close to ground level, the stems being co-dominant, the two parts of the crown being entirely intertwined and coalesced. It is thereby considered that the tree is particularly ill-suited to this suggestion. Furthermore, it is noted that the tree is sited as little as 300mm from the head of the impressive and highly attractive Sussex flint wall running parallel to The Street. It is hard to see how this tree would not, if retained, eventually cause some damage to this wall thereby resulting in its necessary removal to abate the nuisance caused.

It is therefore assessed that these works are justified, and will not adversely affect the character and amenities of the Conservation Area, notwithstanding the complete removal of the yew. The serving of a Tree Preservation Order is considered inappropriate and unnecessary. I trust this is self-explanatory. While writing, perhaps I could just remind you that while such assessments and suggestions for alternative works are of interest, you will be aware that the Conservation Area regulations do not allow me to permit works subject to condition, as is possible in the case of an application for works to TPO trees. So even if the suggestions in this case had of been entirely appropriate, I could not have enforced them anyway. Correct me if I'm wrong, but haven't we discussed this at length previously?! Any advice I can provide on this legal technicality - just ask.

146.4 EN Complaints

EN/09/0659 - 20/11/2009 - Unauthorised excavation of land at front of property - Woodlands, Bracken Lane - Pending Consideration

EN/09/0673 - Toll House Kia, London Road, Washington-

Class I, Schedule 1 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement)

Regulations 2007 states that an advertisement displayed inside a building, subject to certain conditions, is exempt from the need for advertisement consent. However, one of the conditions of this exemption is that the advertisement is not illuminated, which the Kia

Sign appears to breach. Therefore, I am of the opinion that advertisement consent is required for this sign. I have contacted the owner and occupier today to request that an application is submitted, or that the illumination is removed from the sign, within the next 21 days.

EN/09/0636 - Erection of Shed in field - Land to the Rear of Properties on the Northwest Side of Badgers Holt - Pending Consideration

146.5 Lamorna

Further to your email below concerning Lamorna, Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act provides a Local Planning Authority to take steps requiring land to be cleaned up when its condition adversely affects the amenity of the area. Based upon what I saw on the site when I last visited, together with fact that it is tucked back from the road, and the fact that it is barely visible from adjoining residential properties, I do not consider it expedient to pursue action against the landowner under these powers. These powers are aimed at sites which are visible to members of the public which are considered to be untidy or in need of repair, and thus affecting the amenities of the area, for instance front gardens, tatty shopfronts, listed buildings, etc.

146.6 Other

Flooding & Drainage review

A Working Group has been set up at Horsham District Council, as part of the Scrutiny and Overview process, to review flooding and drainage issues in the Horsham District.

The Chairman of the Group has asked whether any parish councils have had flooding in their area, or have put in place preventative measures if a flood did occur.

The Working Group has already identified areas of concern regarding, urbanisation in the countryside, a decline in traditional rural infrastructure, unclear responsibility for flooding/drainage and possible planning issues.

The Working Group would like to hear if you have any experiences, thoughts or suggestions that might assist their review.

Please submit any comments to scrutiny@horsham.gov.uk and these will be reviewed by the Members, and you may be invited to attend to talk to the Group about your experience.

Washington Cottages Blocked drains, Opposite William Barton Court, Hampers Lane A283 to Barns Farm lane, flooding. School Hill, The Holt, The Pike all drainage.

Members to email the Clerk with any other problem areas.

146.7 Building Control Guide

HDC have produced a New Guide to Building control which can be downloaded. The Guide to Building Control can be downloaded from

http://www.horsham.gov.uk/council_services/council_services_2184.asp

146.8 Signs, Sandhill Lane

Signs are again being displayed, action to be discussed. WSCC have been informed.

146.9 Laybrook Brickworks

WSCC letter notification that a new application has been validated & registered, following the withdrawal of the previous application. Previous representation will be carried forward to this application, but further comments can still be submitted following the amendments, which are detailed in Schedule 1, attached to the letter.

146.10 Roundabout Sponsorship

The Chairman reported that a further meeting is to be held on Thursday 10th December to include the MD from Shoots. Also that Ben Rainbow Ecology Officer with WSCC had become involved and was to attend the meeting, he is also concerned about the proposals, and has said that Washington is one of 3 roundabouts that has ecological value.

146.11 East Clayton Farm- Lighting in the car park still a problem, and visibility splays appear not to have been moved. Reported to HDC & WSCC.

146.12 Woodlands, Bracken Lane- The email received from HCRA was read out. Enforcement are investigating, but concern was expressed about the fact that work still appeared to be continuing. District Cllr Mason said problems such as this are being investigated with a group from HDC who are looking into flooding and drainage problems. Clerk to ask Enforcement for an update.

147. Nominations for the National Park Authority

I am writing on behalf of Bramber Parish Council when this subject was discussed at length at the last meeting. Councillors felt that it would be a good idea if the councils of Bramber, Steyning, Upper Beeding, Washington and Wiston pooled resources by holding a brief meeting with the idea of selecting two people to attend the hustings in the new year who would be able to represent all five parishes and, after listening to all the candidates, recommend to the councillors of each parish who they felt would be most suitable to represent West Sussex on this National Park Authority.

I would be grateful if you would pass this idea on to your respective councils and let me know if they feel this would be an acceptable way forward. I very much look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Anne Hyde, Clerk to Bramber Parish Council

The email received from Bramber was discussed; members decided that they would rather wait at present to see who is put forward.

148. Correspondence

1. HDC Park & Ride Christmas timetable
2. Countryside Voice- CPRE magazine.
3. Compass Buss services West Sussex
4. South Downs Campaign notification that it will be holding a combined Annual & Special General Meeting on Tuesday 2nd February 2010 at 2.00pm at the Minerva Chichester, to wind up its operation. This will be followed by a celebration, (with speakers) of the Campaigns achievements etc. At 6.00pm there will be a champagne reception (cost £20 per head). Places are to be limited in the 1st instance to 1 person per member of the organisation. There are limited places available to be booked by 18th December 2009. Theatre.
5. Laybrook Brickworks - WSCC letter notification that a new application has been validated & registered, following the withdrawal of the previous application. Agenda item
6. CPRE Fieldwork
7. Christmas card from the Purple bus team

149. Reports and Recommendations from Committees

Cllr Davies reported on the meeting Cllrs Cooper and Cook had with WSCC regarding the A24 Bridge. It appears that the width of the roadway and paths is a consideration he needs to look at to see if this negates the need to extend the parapet, he has agreed to fill in the bottom 2 feet, so that the traffic cannot be view by the horses. There was also some suggestion that the existing struts and side beams may not be strong enough to add

extension onto, Cllr Cooper has suggested that these be added to the inner side of the bridge, either side of the carriageway. Agreed to follow the meeting up with a letter, outlining the meeting, asking who has the legal liability in the case of an accident, and stressing that this is a South Downs link.

150. **Local Issues including Maintenance**

- 150.1 Email from resident Sue Stuart Scott who has asked that these issues 1-3 be raised: The footpaths are now OK but very wet. In October they came to cut down!! No need! Next year it MUST be done in the summer from May to Sept, when you cant walk safely along all the footpaths round the village without protective clothing!
- 150.2. Rubbish. We know you pay Sue Muddle to collect but she never does in Sandhill Lane. Bill does it at least once a week because of the rubbish dropped by the drivers from the Kia garage! The Chairman added that the litter warden is not able to collect all of the litter, it was agreed that Mrs Stuart-Scott would be thanked for her husbands efforts, and asked to inform the Clerk if there was a lot of rubbish/litter and HDC would be asked to do a litter pick.
- 150.3 On that note we were told ,among all the other lies, that workers from the garage would park over there, but we have 10 or more daily as do the slots by the allotments. Suggest that Mrs Stuart-Scott speak to WSCC regarding the parking.
- 150.4 A report has been received that vehicles are being dumped on land adjacent to 2 Bohemia Cottages. Agreed to write to the occupier of 2 to see if they have any information.
- 150.5. New notice board- Mr Pullen was to install this on Wednesday 2nd December but was stopped by local resident, who claims the land belongs to him. WSCC Highways have given permission for the noticeboard to be sighted there, but Clerk will now ask Highways to investigate the residents claim.

151. **Meetings Attended**

Cllr Milner-Gulland reported on the South Downs Campaign meeting he had attended the SDC is now being wound up and a South Downs Network will be formed to “keep an eye” on what the new National Parks Authority is doing. On 2nd February SDC will be wound up and the successor body formed.

Cllr Cooper reported that he and Cllr Cook had looked at Beggars Lane and considered that something needed to be done, there is a lot of water run off from The Street. The suggested perhaps steps to one side. Local resident Mr Lower is checking his deeds to see if he owns that part of the land. It was agreed that the Chairman would check out where the telegraph poles were in relation to the land as it was thought that EDF may use this as access.

152. **Any Other Urgent Business**

District Cllr Mason informed members that the 3 Councillors had supported the parishes views on the application for shoots signage at the recent HDC committee, but had lost in the vote. The Chairman thanked him for his support.

153. **Date and Time of next meeting**

Dates and times of next meeting - Monday 4th January 2010.
Finance & Planning Committee 14th December 2009

Meeting finished at 9.20pm.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date 4th January 2010