

## **Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2013**

Present: Mr A Revill (Chairman), Mrs J Macdonald-Lawson (Vice-chair), Mr D Pack, Mr A Thomas, Dr I Goodall, Dr A Guyatt, Mr I Heustice, Mr B Gowar, Mr F Martin, Mrs E Hamilton (CDC) and the Clerk

The first ten minutes were available for the public to express a view or ask questions about any item on the Agenda.

### **13/14**

**21 Apologies for Absence:** Mr M Taylor, Mrs H Grantham and Mr M Brown (WSSC)

**22 Declaration of Interest:** Mr Thomas and Mr Pack on **Agenda item 13/14.34** (King Edward VII) and by Mr Thomas on **Agenda item 13/14.35** (St Cuthmans)

**23 The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2013:** Acceptance as a true record proposed by Dr Guyatt, seconded by Mr Heustice, all in favour.

**24 Councillor Resignation:** Mr B Gowar tendered his resignation after 11 years as a Councillor. He was replaced as a member of the Footpaths Panel by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson and on the Planning Panel by Dr Goodall. Mr Revill thanked him for his dedicated service, said that his expertise would be missed and wished him well for the future.

**25 Report from County Councillor:** no report

**26 WSSC Grass Cutting :** the possibility of taking on responsibility for grass and verge cutting in the parish, from WSSC, was discussed. It was decided that further information was required from WSSC as to the financial implications of this course of action. Also, could this work be undertaken in conjunction with other parishes? Decision deferred to the next meeting, with more financial information to be obtained.

**WSSC Speeding Traffic/Highways Safety:** various complaints about traffic speeding through the village (despite the 30mph limit) have been received. Of particular concern is the danger to pedestrians crossing the road and to traffic turning into Budgenor Lodge on the A286. Outside the 30mph limit concern has been expressed about the speed of vehicles leaving Easebourne on the A272 towards the Cowdray Golf Club. An extension of the 30mph limit has already been requested. Use of speed cameras and flashing warning signs was discussed but the low accident statistics would probably prevent their use. WSSC to be asked to deploy speed loops, cables across the highway to monitor speeds at the above locations. In addition, a request to be made to WSSC to install a pelican crossing point in Wheelbarrow Castle, near the entrance to the newly re-sited Primary School, as the children will have to cross the road to gain access to the school. These children of a younger age than the former pupils at MIS or MRC.

**27 Report from District Councillor:** Mrs Hamilton reported a further cut in government funding for the year 2015/2016 by 8% in real terms. The new Grange Centre will retain its name and will also now include a police presence, as the Midhurst Police Station will be closing. There is a New Homes Bonus which can be bid for to help with community projects (see Agenda item 33). Figures were also provided for housing and job seekers in the Chichester District. At the N W Community Forum Meeting, held on 18th June, parishes

gave as their major concerns - speeding through villages, winter salt delivery muddles, lack of grass verge cutting, potholes on rural roads. Football and Rugby in the Community will be held as follows: Football at Midhurst on 8th & 9th August, Rugby at Fernhurst on 19th & 20th August, Football at Fernhurst on 22nd & 23rd August. The CDC Cabinet has agreed to recommend to the Council that DOM or HOUS planning applications, even when there is an objection by a Parish Council, will be determined by the planning officers. Parish Councils can still ask their District Councillor to use their “red card” to take the application to the Committee. Easebourne Parish Council had objected to this change.

## 28 Finance

a) The following payments were noted. (cheque numbers 100-)

227	SALC, Chairman’s Networking Day	60.00
228	Playsafe Playgrounds, swing repair	62.40
229	Pro-Tec, Playground security checks for year from 01.05.13	60.50
230	M Taylor re 1&1 Internet, Web site fee for year from 30.05.13	47.84
231	R Wallis, Burial Ground maintenance for 01.04.13 to 30.06.13	900.00
232	C.Allen, Clerk's salary for 1.4.13 to 30.6.13	1050.00
232	C.Allen, Clerk's expenses for 1.4.13 to 30.6.13	128.99

b) The internal check of accounts for May and June 2013, by Mr Revill, was noted

c) Income from burial fees has been agreed with St Mary’s Church at a minimum of £1500pa.

All Councillors given copy of Budget/Expenditure for the first quarter to 30.06.13.

## 29 Planning:

The following planning decisions were noted		EPC	SDNP
12/03161/FUL	Verdley Farm, retrospective farm office in barn	No Obj	Withdrawn

12/03235/LIS	Verdley Farm, retrospective farm office in barn	No obj	Withdrawn
13/00578/LDP	Corner Cottage, Vanzell Road, rear extension	No Obj	Refuse
13/00828/FUL	Moor Farm, extend milking parlour	No Obj	Permit
13/00834/FUL	Moor Farm, extend silage clamps	No obj	Permit
13/00832/FUL	Moor Farm, replace storage buildings	No Obj	Permit
13/01094/HOUS	2 Crossways, 1st floor extension and porch	No Obj	Permit
13/015873/TCA	Lowefield House, tree reduction and felling	No Obj	Permit
13/01464/HOUS	Uppershaw, Kings Drive, 2 storey extension	No Obj	Permit
13/00857/FUL	Verdley Farm, barn to holiday lets	Object	Withdrawn
13/00857/FUL	Verdley Farm, barn to holiday lets	Object	Withdrawn

### **30 Reports from the Panels**

**a) Playground:** damaged gate is being repaired/replaced as necessary.

**b) Burial Ground:** in good condition but damaged gate still not replaced. Awaiting attention

by the church.

**c) Footpaths:** letter from Cowdray Golf Club in response to our request for warning sign. They will take no action. All footpaths in very good condition.

**d) Grants:** Request from Madhurst. **Dr Goodall proposed** a grant of £250. **Seconded by Mr Thomas – All in favour.**

**31 Telephone Boxes:** following our report of the condition of the 2 telephone boxes in the parish to BT, the Henley box (with equipment) has been cleaned and repaired. The Dodsley Lane box (without equipment) has been made safe and sealed off. It was agreed to keep the Henley box but with differing views on whether or not to have the Dodsley Lane box removed the decision was deferred. Public opinion on the future of this box will be sought prior to further action.

**32 Bus Shelter:** the shelter on Easebourne Lane, opposite Middleton Lodge, has been partially repaired by a resident who has reported that the roof is leaking and should be re-felted. Because of the condition of many of the bus shelters owned by the Parish Council it was **proposed by Dr Guyatt and seconded by Mr Pack**, that a full survey of the bus shelters and their repair requirements should be undertaken and the cost of repairs ascertained. **All in favour.** The Clerk to undertake this survey.

**33 Village Hall Steering Group:** see [appended report](#) by Mr Revill. Professional advice has been given by AIRS and also architect Valerie Hinde . A meeting has also been held with Phil Ward (WSCC Project Manager) and Arthur Bain (Headteacher, Easebourne Primary School) to discuss the parking and access arrangements at the site. At present there is a barrier across the approach road which would make the recreation area inaccessible out of school hours/terms. This is unacceptable to the Parish Council, especially as the school already has security fencing all around its buildings.

**CDC New Homes Bonus (details appended):** It was **proposed by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson and seconded by Mr Heustice** that we apply for funding in order to move the children's playground to the new site. **All in favour.**

**34 King Edward VII:** Mr Revill attended the SDNPA Planning Committee meeting in June and spoke against the application to amend the conditions of the original S106 agreement. The committee approved the application.

**35 St Cuthmans:** the application for the re-development of St Cuthmans as a boarding school has yet to be heard by the SDNPA. In the meantime, the financial predictions of the application have been called into question. Although this is not our application, because of the proximity of the site to Easebourne, Mr Heustice will keep an eye on progress on behalf of the Parish Council.

**36 Winter Management:** after a site meeting with Fiona Baker and Charlotte Neave (WSCC) our plan was approved and will be submitted with minor alterations.

**37 Flooding –** at a recent site meeting Jonathan Ullmer (WSCC) reported on progress to alleviate flooding under Operation Watershed. Work on the underground culvert at Priory Orchard has been completed by WSCC, although all future maintenance will be the

responsibility of the property owner. The remainder of the underground culvert will be inspected shortly. At North Mill Bridge work is scheduled for week commencing 22nd July (this has been delayed by Goodwood and Gold Cup Polo), to undertake alterations to the drainage and flow of flood water.

A parishioner has asked if the highway surface at the Easebourne Street/Easebourne Lane junction could be planed to divert floodwater away from properties. This request to be passed to WSCC.

**38 Cowdray Heritage Trust:** Dr Guyatt reported that the Ruins were now open at weekends only and were making a profit. There are plans to convert the Granary into an education centre. The damaged tiles have now been replaced.

**39 The Purple Bus:** Dr Guyatt to find out more about the bus in order to decide if we would like it to visit Easebourne

**40 Late Correspondence:** resident of Egmont Road has complained about parents delivering/collecting children from Conifers School, leaving the car park and not obeying the one way system by taking a “short cut” to the main road. Clerk to write to Conifers School.

**The meeting closed at 9.45pm**

**Next Parish Council meeting will be held on 11th September 2013 at 7.30pm.**