

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 12th March 2014**

**Present:** Mr A Revill (Chairman), Mrs J Macdonald-Lawson (Vice-chairman), Mr J Galego, Mrs H Grantham, Mr M Taylor, Mr D Pack, Dr I Goodall, Mr I Heustice, Mr A Thomas, Dr A Guyatt, Mr F Martin, Mrs E Hamilton (CDC), Mr M Brown (WSCC), the Clerk and three members of the public.

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

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council was considering the use of SID (Speed Indicator Device) again. Mr Revill replied that the speed of vehicles through the village is in the process of being checked by the deployment of speed loops. Once this information has been provided by WSCC it will be considered by the Parish Council. Until then there are no plans to use SID again.

The owners of North Mill told the meeting of their experiences during the flooding in January and February. They asked for the support of the Parish Council to pursue drainage improvements in the vicinity of North Mill Bridge. Mr Revill sympathised with their predicament and also gave assurances that the Parish Council are in close contact with both the Cowdray Estate and WSCC Highways to address the situation. **See Agenda item 13/14.100**

**13/14**

**88 Apologies for Absence:** none

**89 Declaration of Interest:** Mr A Thomas **Agenda item 102** and Mr D Pack **Agenda item 104**

**90 The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2014:** acceptance as a true record proposed by Dr Guyatt, seconded by Dr Goodall. **All in favour**

**91 Report from County Councillor:** Mr Brown spoke of the finances of the County Council and the fact that the WSCC share of the Council Tax has been frozen again. More services are to be sub-contracted. Installation of high speed Broadband should be completed by 2015. The funds allocated for "Operation Watershed", following the flooding of 2013, have been used for more major works with some available for smaller, parish led work. Funds will still be available for these smaller projects in the coming year. Mr Brown agreed to support projects that would help to alleviate flooding at North Mill Bridge.

**92 Report from District Councillor:** Mrs Hamilton reported that the District Council share of the Council Tax would rise by £5 a year for a Band D household. The new Grange Centre is now open, with the library moving there next month. Waitrose are submitting a planning application to SDNPA for the site of the old Grange. During the Easter holiday "Sport in the Community" will again be held in Midhurst (contact Ben Polhill on 01243 534857 for further details).

**93 Finance:**

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

259	B Wegg, strim playground	15.00
260	Playsafe Playgrounds, Basket Ball net replacement	30.00
261	R Page, playground fence and gate repairs	132.00
262	St Mary's PCC, hall hire for 2013	206.00
263	Bevis Rowntree, Solicitor's fee for checking Wheelbarrow Castle Field lease	360.00

b) The internal check of accounts for January and February 2014, by Mrs Grantham, was noted

c) Receipt of Burial Fees for 2013, in the agreed sum of £1500, was noted  
All Councillors have received a copy of the Budget/Expenditure for the year to 28.02.14

#### **94 Planning:**

The following planning decisions were noted		<b>EPC</b>	<b>CDC/SDNPA</b>
13/05679/HOUS	Tiki, Upperfield, 2 storey extension	No Obj	Approved
13/05934/HOUS	Ashley, Upperfield, Loft conversion with dormers	No Obj	Approved

The vacancy on the Planning Panel was deferred to the May meeting when all Panel positions are reviewed.

#### **95 Reports from the Panels**

a) Playground: new netball hoop net installed, together with repairs to entrance gate and perimeter fencing.

b) Burial Ground: in good condition, hedge cut and fallen tree removed. More damage to the entrance gate - St Mary's Church to be reminded by Mr Pack and Mr Heustice at next PCC meeting.

c) Footpaths: Routine maintenance carried out by WSCC recently. Next inspection in five months time.

d) Grants: Applications received from Home Start Chichester & District and also Victim Support. After discussion it was felt that neither organisation had a significant local

connection and it was decided not to award grants.

**96 Annual Village Meeting:** to be held on 9th April 2014 with speakers on “Operation Crackdown” and “Volunteering in the Community” to be followed up by the Spring Clean on 12th April 2014. Notices advertising both events to be delivered to all homes by Parish Councillors.

**97 Village Spring Clean** – Saturday 12th April 2014. To be led by Darren Rolfe (WSCC). Meeting at 10am in the car park of the Primary School, Wheelbarrow Castle.

**98 Telephone Box – Dodsley Lane:** now owned by Parish Council and in the process of being painted and renovated. Mr Galego to investigate feasibility of putting a defibrillator into the box and will report at May meeting.

**99 Possible New Bus Shelter:** Preliminary suggestion of replacing bus shelter at Hollist Lane/Dodsley Lane junction. The design used in Milland is inexpensive but Councillors considered it not suitable. Funding for a more appropriate structure will be sought.

**100 Flooding measures** – Meeting was held between Parish Council representatives, Cowdray Estate and WSCC in January, to discuss the implications of the latest flooding. It was agreed that measures taken after 2013 flooding have helped, but further work necessary. The Cowdray Estate has agreed to change its farm management policy for the area above Budgenor Lodge in order to reduce silt run-off. WSCC, in conjunction with the Cowdray Estate, will discuss ideas for diverting some of the water from the river Ez and Easebourne Street away from Easebourne Lane. Repairs to drains on Dodsley Lane have been unsuccessful due to a BT pole damaging a surface water drain. Awaiting BT action to move the pole before further drain repairs can commence.

**101 Wheelbarrow Castle Field** – Lease has been checked by local solicitor and concerns raised are now being followed up with WSCC by Mrs Grantham (Councillor and Solicitor). A survey has been carried out into the possibility of providing pedestrian access to the field from the footpath at Snowhill. Result awaited.

**102 TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) for Lutener Road:** This was approved at the CLC meeting on 21st January 2014 and will be enacted shortly. Concern was expressed about the poor visibility when leaving Lutener Road to access Easebourne Lane, caused by parked cars. Suggestions to help the situation include installing mirrors on a signpost at the petrol station or applying for another TRO for double yellow lines.

**103 Fracking:** Dr Goodall gave a comprehensive report on fracking. Councillors thanked him for giving them a better understanding of the topic, enabling them to assess the implications for Easebourne of the planning application for drilling in Fernhurst. It was **proposed by Dr Guyatt and seconded by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson** not to comment upon this application. **All in favour.**

**104 King Edward VII** – The Liaison Group would be meeting next on 31st March.

**105 Late Correspondence and notices received:** The next CLC meeting will take place on 19th March 2014 at Fernhurst Primary School. Mr Thomas provided a summary of matters being handled by WSCC that will be discussed further at the next meeting. A parishioner had

complained about dog fouling. Mr Revill to respond with details of previous discussions held by the Parish Council on the issue.

**The Meeting closed at 9.30pm**

**The Annual Village Meeting will be held on 9th April 2014 at 7.00pm**

**Next Parish Council meeting (AGM) will be held on 14th May 2014 at 7.00pm.**

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