

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH 2013
IN THE REFECTORY, EASEBOURNE**

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

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

12/13

87 Apologies for Absence: Mr A Thomas

88 Declaration of Interest Mr D Pack on Agenda item **12/13.95**, King Edward VII Hospital

89 The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2013 were accepted as a true record as **proposed by Mr Taylor, seconded by Dr Goodall with all in favour.** Acceptance of the Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 13th February was **proposed by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson, seconded by Mr Pack. All in favour** by those who attended the meeting.

90 Report from County Councillor: Mr Brown reported that the WSCC element of the Council Tax for 2013/2014 would be frozen. The process for granting TROs (Traffic Regulation Orders) has been streamlined and should take no longer than one year now. Councillors complained about the lack of delivery of salt/grit during the snow in January and also the long delay in filling in potholes, for which Mr Brown apologised. Mr Brown agreed to support a Parish Council proposal for a TRO to extend the 30mph speed limit on the A272 to include the entrance to the Cowdray Golf Club. In addition an extension of the 30mph speed limit, to include all the houses on Hollist Lane, was requested. The A272 extension was **proposed by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson, seconded by Mr Martin, all in favour.** The Hollist Lane extension was **proposed by Mr Pack, seconded by Mr Gowar, all in favour.**

91 Report from District Councillor: Mrs Hamilton reported that the CDC element of the Council Tax would include a small increase for 2013/2014. At the new Grange Centre the steel frame has now been erected, but there is still a parking problem in Midhurst with additional parking at the MRC not being available when required. There will be Rugby in the Community available in Midhurst on 2nd and 3rd April and Football in the Community on 4th and 5th April. The next CDC meeting with Parishes is on 23rd May.

92 Finance:

a) The following payment (cheque number 100-) including VAT was noted
212: Action in Rural Sussex – Village Hall Service subscription £144.00

b) The internal check of accounts for January and February 2013, by Mrs Grantham was noted

c) Receipt of burial fees for 2012 in the sum of £909.00 was noted.

93 Planning:

a) The following planning decisions were noted		EPC	CDC/SDNPA
12/01391/LIS	King Edward VII amendments to 11/03640	Obj	Approved
12/01392/FUL	King Edward VII amendments to 11/03635	Obj	Approved
12/01120/FUL & 12/01121/LIS	25 Easebourne Street 4 off road parking spaces	No Obj	Approved
12/02248/FUL	Lowerfield House, Easebourne Street, demolish and rebuild house	No Obj	Refused
12/2423/HOUS	Uppershaw, King Drive, 2 storey extension	No Obj	Refused
12/0203/HOUS	Chelhurst Cottage, Dodsley Lane, side extension	No Obj	Approved
12/02723/FUL & 12/02984/LIS	Verdley Farm, change of use, barn to staff accommodation		Withdrawn
12/02198/HOUS & 12/02199/LIS	North Mill Cottage, demolish and re-instate boundary wall	No Obj	Approved
12/02919/HOUS	49 Budgenor Lodge, dormer to loft	No Obj	Refused
12/03110/HOUS	Radstock, Dodsley Grove, single storey extension	No Obj	Approved
12/03040/HOUS & 12/3041/LIS	100 The Locks Cottage, Old Buddington Lane, minor external changes and re-configure interior	No Obj	Approved
12/03170/HOUS	Rivermead House, Hollist Lane, side and rear ext	No Obj	Approved

Councillors asked if a report back had been received from CDC Planning Enforcement in connection with infringement of planning permission conditions at Gilhams Garage. No reply so far although several free-standing signs have been removed. Clerk to monitor.

94 Reports from the Panels

a) Playground: 3 swing seats damaged and replacements have been ordered. Security inspection schedule received from ProTec.

b) **Burial Ground** : Entrance gate still damaged – Mr Pack to raise again with PCC. A meeting was held with the Vicar to address the ever increasing charge to the Parish Council of maintaining the burial ground. This was £2000 in 2012/2013. The Vicar has agreed (subject to PCC approval) to make an additional contribution, dependent on the burial receipts income, and the Parish Council will monitor maintenance costs from 1st April 2014.

c) **Footpaths**: Panel members have carried out a check of most of the footpaths and a Ranger did the remainder. Many repairs have been carried out WSCC are continuing this work.

d) **Grants**: A request from Rother Valley Together was considered and it was **proposed by Mr Martin** and **seconded by Mr Gowar** to award a grant of £300. **All in favour**. This completes our grants awarded for 2012/2013.

95 King Edward VII Hospital site – Mr Heustice reported that it has been brought to our attention that the developer, City & Country, will shortly be asking SDNPA to amend the S106 conditions upon which planning permission was granted in 2011. It was **proposed by Mr Revill** and **seconded by Mr Gowar** that we write to SDNPA expressing our concerns at this course of action, especially as no planning application is necessary for this change. A member of the Parish Council to speak at the SDNPA meeting, probably May, when this is discussed. **All in favour**. Mr Pack declared an interest and did not vote.

96 Former Midhurst Rother College – Easebourne site – see attached report from Mr Revill, distributed to all councillors before the meeting. As professional advice will shortly be needed to assist with proposals for the future of the site, including a village hall, it was **proposed by Dr Goodall** and **seconded by Mr Taylor** to make available from the contingency fund for 2013/2014, a maximum of £500 for these services. **All in favour**. Access to the site was discussed and will be put on the Agenda for the forthcoming meeting of the Liaison Group on 2nd April. It was **proposed by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson** and **seconded by Dr Guyatt** to accept the recreation field on a long lease from WSCC, for the purpose of community use, siting of the children's playground and possible erection of a village hall. **All in favour**. Length of lease, probably minimum of 99 years, to be discussed at the Liaison Group meeting on 2nd April.

97 Winter Management Plan – see attached revised plan, distributed to all Councillors. Lack of support in the distribution of grit/salt bags by WSCC was discussed. Bags to be stored at Cowdray Estate yard in the future. Clerk to check why this has not yet happened. Gritting of roads by ACS to be activated by the Parish Council. Councillors to contact the Clerk when their local roads appear in need of treatment and ACS will be informed. Although Mrs Grantham has been unable to contact the Duke of Cumberland it was proposed to purchase a grit bin for Henley, with positioning to be discussed with the pub. **Proposed by Mr Martin**, **seconded by Mr Taylor** and **all in favour**.

98 Flooding Meeting 10th January 2013 – Mr Revill reported that a beneficial meeting had been held, with actions being agreed upon. WSCC to make changes to North Mill Bridge and road level, and these are in hand at the moment. WSCC will also, after Easter, investigate the damaged piping (using a CCTV camera) that takes the River Ez under the A272, under the churchyard and under the

frontage of Priory Orchard. The Cowdray Estate has dug several large catch ponds, to collect the silt and allow cleaner rainwater to flow into the rivers. These seem to be working as witnessed by the amount of silt being trapped and cleared from the ponds.

99 Cowdray Heritage Trust – Dr Guyatt reported on the closure of the Ruins, for all except 28 days a year. Operating financial losses became unsustainable, due to lower than anticipated visitor numbers and further funds could not be raised. The permanent staff have been made redundant. The Ruins have structural problems, and repairs and safety are a priority at the moment. Most of the Trustees have resigned, leaving 3 representatives of the Cowdray Estate, who are managing the site.

100 SDNPA Management Plan – Mr Revill attended a meeting to discuss the SDNPA Draft Management Plan which is out for consultation with Parishes and other key stakeholders. Mr Revill to complete the questionnaire on behalf of the Parish Council. A public consultation will be held in the summer.

101 SID (Speed Indicator Device): Training in the use of the device will be on 18th March. We have the device for 2 weeks and a rota of approved volunteers will use it at the two designated points in the village.

102 Annual Village Spring Clean – 8th April 2013 at 6pm, meeting in the Cowdray Estate office car park.

103 Annual Village Meeting – 10th April 2013 at 7pm, will include a presentation of our plans for the future of the playing field site at Wheelbarrow Castle and proposals for a Village Hall. The public are to be asked for their ideas. Councillors to drop leaflets to the majority of households in the village.

104 Correspondence and notices received: notification of charity clay pigeon shoot on 6th April.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Next Parish Council meeting (AGM) will be held on 8th May 2013 at 7pm.