

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Easebourne Parish Council held on Wednesday 14th May 2014

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

AGM Business

14/15

1 Election of chairman: Mr A Revill was **proposed by Dr Guyatt, seconded by Mr Heustice. All in favour.**

2 Election of Vice-Chairman: **Mr Revill proposed** that this position be left vacant for the current year as it is not a statutory requirement to have a Vice-chairman. **Seconded by Mr Heustice and all in favour.**

3 To appoint members to serve on the following panels:

Planning: Mrs Macdonald-Lawson, Mr Pack, Dr Goodall and Mr Galego

Playing Field: Mr Taylor and Mr Pack

Burial Ground: Dr Guyatt Mrs Macdonald-Lawson and Mr Galego

Footpaths: Mr Revill and Mr Martin

Finance/grants: Mr Revill, Mr Heustice, Mr Martin, Mrs Grantham and Mr Taylor

Wheelbarrow Castle Field Steering Group: Mr Revill, Mrs Macdonald-Lawson, Mr Thomas, Mrs Grantham and Mr Taylor

4 Dates and times of meetings for the coming year: 9th July, 10th September and 12th November 2014 at 7.30pm. 14th January and 11th March 2015 at 7.30pm. Annual Village Meeting 8th April 2015 at 7pm and AGM 20th May 2015 at 7pm

Council Business

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

5 Apologies for Absence: Mr A Thomas

6 Declaration of Interest: none

7 The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2014 were accepted as a true record. **Proposed by Mr Pack, seconded by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson, all in favour**

8 Report from County Councillor: Mr Brown not in attendance. No report

9 Report from District Councillor: Mrs Hamilton spoke of a possible electoral boundary review in order to cut costs. This would not take place until after the 2015 election to be ready for the 2019 election. The new Grange Centre is proving very popular. CDC organised football and rugby for young people will be available during the May half-term break. Weight loss workshops are being held at the Grange. CDC involved in Flood Risk Management investigation for Easebourne.

10 Finance: The following payments (cheque numbers 100-) were noted

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 264 | Setfords, searches for playing field lease | 500.00 |
| 265 | B Wegg, bus shelter clearance | 20.00 |
| 266 | St Mary's Church, postage for United | 6.50 |
| 267 | R Wallis, burial ground maintenance 01.01.14 to 31.03.14 | 900.00 |
| 268 | Cowdray Estate, playground rent 25.03.14 to 28.09.14 | 87.50 |
| 269 | SSALC,LCR magazine annual subscription | 17.00 |
| 270 | A Revill, Chairman's honorarium for 01.10.13 to 31.03.14 | 50.00 |
| 271 | C Allan, Clerk's salary for 01.01.14 to 31.03.14 | 1050.00 |
| 271 | C Allan, Clerk's expenses for 01.01.14 to 31.03.14 | 89.87 |
| 272 | Petty cash | 45.28 |
| 273 | SSALC, subscription for year from 01.04.14 | 503.51 |
| 274 | R S Hall & Co, Internal audit of accounts & payroll for year to 31.03.14 | 300.00 |
| 275 | Grasstex, grass cutting burial ground and Wheelbarrow Castle Field | 1072.80 |

b) The internal check of accounts for April 2014, by Mrs Grantham, was noted

c) Receipt of the Precept for 01.04.14 to 30.09.14 in the sum of £11,000.00 was noted

d) Receipt of VAT refund for 01.10.13 to 31.03.14 in the sum of £490.29 was noted

e) Statement of Accounts for year ended 31.03.14. Acceptance **proposed by Dr Guyatt seconded by Mr Martin, all in favour.**

f) Payment of an Honorarium to the Chairman in the sum of £100 pa was **proposed by Mr Heustice, seconded by Mr Martin, all in favour.**

g) The re-appointment of R S Hall & Co as internal auditor for 2014/2015 was **proposed by Mr Revill, seconded by Mr Heustice, all in favour.**

h) The Clerk left the room during salary discussion. It was **proposed by Mr Taylor** and **seconded by Dr Goodall** to increase the Clerk's salary to £4500 pa. **All in favour.**

11 Planning:

| The following planning decisions were noted | | EPC | CDC/SDNPA |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 14/00243/HOUS | 15 Vanzell Road, rear extension | No Obj | Approved |
| 14/00642/TCA | Lowerfield House, Easebourne Street, fell willow tree | No Obj | No obj |
| 14/00721/TCA | Old Smugglers, Henley, 2 trees height reduction | No obj | No obj |
| 14/00056/HOUS | 32 Lutener Road, side and rear extensions | Application withdrawn | |
| 14/01086/FUL | Backshalls Garage, change of use to car wash | Application withdrawn | |

12 Reports from the Panels

a) Playground: Now getting busier. No problems. ROSPA inspection due in June.

b) Burial Ground: Complaints received about the standard of grass cutting by the new contractor. **Proposed by Mr Heustice** and **seconded by Mrs Grantham** that the Clerk should write to contractor expressing concern. **All in favour.** Rev'd Welsman to be contacted to discuss the standard the church expects from the maintenance contractor and to arrange a site visit. Dangerous leaning headstone to be reported to the church. Damaged gate still not replaced.

c) Footpaths: Mr D Macdonald-Lawson to help with checking the footpath network. Next SDNPA inspection due in August.

d) Grants: Application from Madhurst, dealt with before September meeting as event occurs in August. A grant of £250 was **proposed by Dr Guyatt**, **seconded by Mrs Macdonald-Lawson**, **Majority in favour.**

13 WSCC Highways: In the absence of Mr Thomas a list of his comments was read out by Mr Revill. (copy appended to the Minutes – Councillors received copies on 12th March 2014). Concern was expressed about the length of the grass on verges and it was suggested that more cutting was required. Mr Revill explained that this should be addressed by the WSCC Active Communities initiative but so far nothing positive has happened. There were differing opinions between the Councillors on the issue of cutting versus retaining longer grass for ecological reasons. The Clerk to write to Darren Rolfe to ask about the possibility of additional cuts and to express thanks for his involvement in the Spring Clean Day. Mr

Heustice asked if any progress had been made on getting the 30mph speed limit on the A272 extended to include the Golf Club entrance. Despite correspondence of over 1 year ago, nothing has happened. The Golf Club Manager is to keep a log of “near misses”. Clerk to contact Fiona Baker.

14 Flooding/silting update: the situation on Dodsley Lane is being addressed by WSCC with jet cleaning of all gullies/manholes/pipes etc. but it will take a while to do the complete system. The BT pole that was damaging the system has been removed. At the CDC meeting with Parishes on 1st May 2014, it was announced that CDC will be co-operating with WSCC on a flooding review at 3 sites in the district, including Easebourne.

15 Wheelbarrow Castle Field: the lease from WSCC is still under discussion as there are certain clauses unacceptable to the Parish Council. A meeting between parties is to be arranged. The field is looking good following 3 grass cuts so far this year. The Steering Group to meet again in June.

16 Data Protection: In order to retain parishioners’ details in connection with Wheelbarrow Castle Field it is necessary for the Parish Council to Register under the Data Protection Act. Registration was **proposed by Mr Revill, seconded by Mr Martin, all in favour.**

17 Spring Clean Assessment: although enthusiastically led by Darren Rolfe (WSCC) and following his presentation at the Annual Village Meeting, there was a very disappointing turnout of volunteers. However, a considerable amount of litter was collected. It was discussed as to the worth of delivering leaflets to every household in the future. A suggestion was made that events such as the Village Meeting and the Spring Clean could benefit from advertising boards beside the main roads. To be considered for next year together with discussion about the day/time of the event.

18 King Edward VII: Mr Heustice reported on the lack of action to provide passing places on Kings Drive and improvements to the junction with the A286. He has been in touch with WSCC and City & Country who both blame each other for the delay. Shortly, Kings Drive will have to accommodate very large lorries delivering construction materials.

19 Telephone Box, Dodsley Lane: the suggestion by Mr Galego that a defibrillator be installed in the disused phone box was discussed. Mr Galego reported that, with the approval of the Ambulance Service, the British Heart Foundation would be willing to sponsor the equipment. The Parish Council would have to contribute £400 and a box to house it would cost a further £400. The Ambulance Service would organise training sessions if required. Decision postponed for further discussion at the July meeting.

20 Late Correspondence : Dr Guyatt reported that the WSCC Purple Bus would not be visiting as Easebourne did not meet the necessary criteria.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Next Parish Council meeting will be held on 9th July 2014 at 7.30pm.

