

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH JANUARY 2013  
IN THE REFECTORY, EASEBOURNE**

**Present:** Mr A Reville (Vice-Chairman), Dr A Guyatt, Mr B Gowar, Mr A Thomas, Mr F Martin, Dr I Goodall, Mr M Taylor, Mrs H Grantham, Mr M Brown (WSCC), the Clerk and one member 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.

Dr V Mitchell addressed the current flooding issues by quoting from his paper “Easebourne’s Water Supply – Loved and Loathed”. He suggested certain actions to alleviate the situation and these will be presented to the Flooding Meeting on 10th January 2013.

**12/13**

**71 Apologies for Absence:** Mr I Heustice (Chairman), Mrs J Macdonald-Lawson, Mr D Pack, Mrs E Hamilton (CDC)

**72 Declaration of Interest:** none

**73 The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2012:** Acceptance as a true record was **proposed by Dr Guyatt and seconded by Mrs Grantham. All in favour.**

**74 Report from County Councillor:** Mr Brown reported that West Sussex had received 400% more than usual rainfall in June which had exacerbated the current problems. Remedial drainage work in Easebourne to be undertaken by WSCC in the near future. A sum of money has been made available for drainage works. Parish Councils and members of the public to be encouraged to report potholes to WSCC. These will be repaired by sub-contractor Balfour Beatty on a priority basis.

**75 Report from District Councillor:** In her absence Mrs Hamilton’s report was read to the meeting. Closure of the **Grange Centre**, as reported in the local paper, is incorrect. The centre will only close 2 weeks before the new centre opens, to allow for staff transfer and training. **Midhurst car parking** charges will not rise this year but an increase will be imposed from April 2014. **Funding Grants** available, with conditions.

**76 Finance:**

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

207	British Legion, grant for poppy wreath	50.00
208	R Wallis, burial ground maintenance 01.10.12 to 31.12.12	900.00
209	St Mary’s PCC, hire of Refectory 2012	165.00

210	C Allan, Clerk's salary 01.10.12 to 31.12.12	1050.00
210	C Allan, Clerk's expenses 01.10.12 to 31.12.12	80.09
211	Petty cash	46.57

b) The internal check of accounts for November and December 2012, by Mrs Grantham, was noted

c) During discussion of the draft budget Mr Revill pointed out the increasing deficit between the cost of maintenance of the burial ground, paid by the Parish Council, and the burial fees received from the church. This year the deficit will be about £2000. It was proposed to hold a meeting with the Vicar to discuss this situation, which can only worsen in the future.

Acceptance of the draft budget for 2013/2014 and a Precept requirement of £12,500 was **proposed by Mr Taylor, seconded by Mr Gowar with all in favour.**

d) Provision of Grit/salt storage bin for Henley was discussed but certain concerns were raised about location. Mrs Grantham to visit Henley to check, and discuss with the Duke of Cumberland pub. Clerk to find out if permission is required from WSCC to install a bin.

Councillors had all received a copy of the budget/actual expenditure for the period 01.04 12 to 31.12.12

#### **77 Planning:**

a) The following planning decisions were noted		<b>EPC</b>	<b>CDC/SDNPA</b>
12/01089/LIS	102 Locks Cottages, Old Buddington Lane, minor external alterations and re-plan interior	No Obj	Refused
12/01184/FUL	Verdley Farm, temporary staff accommodation	No Obj	Refused
12/02068/HOUS	Old Stables, Bottingdean, garage to accommodation	No Obj	Approved
12/02106/LIS	Orchard Hse, Easebourne St, new windows and doors	No Obj	Approved

12/01787/LIS & 01716/HOUS	Yew Tree Cottage, Henley, 2 storey west end extension	No Obj	Refused
12/02163/HOUS & 02164/LIS	Nobles, Easebourne Street, garden barn to become ancillary accommodation	No Obj	Approved
12/02267/FUL	Workshop, Little Todham, new storage space/parking	No Obj	Approved
12/02268/LIS	Cowdray Ruins, plasterwork repairs to chapel	No Obj	Approved
12/02284/FUL	Northgate, Dodsley Grove, 2 new detached dwellings	Object	Withdrawn
12/02470/HOUS	Netherfield, Hollist Lane, erect garage/outbuilding	No Obj	Approved
12/02230/TPO	Land north of 9 Hurst Park, crown lift 1 willow tree	No Obj	Approved
12/02984/LIS & 02723/FUL	Verdley Farm, change of use barn to staff accommodation	No Obj	Withdrawn

Mr Taylor reported on the excessive number of free-standing signs that have appeared at Gilhams Filling Station, Easebourne Lane, in contravention of Planning Consent EB/08/04191/ADV. Mr Thomas said that these multiple signs restrict sight lines. Clerk to write to Gilhams.

**78 Reports from the Panel:**

- a) Playground: all in order with very little use at the moment
- b) Burial Ground: all in order. Roger Wallis to continue with maintenance – no increase on 2012 charge.
- c) Footpaths: routine inspection due shortly.
- d) Grants: Clerk to send application form to Snack Shack, for consideration in March.

**79 Flooding/Mud in Easebourne** – Councillors updated prior to meeting with authorities on 10th January 2013.

**80 Former Midhurst Rother College – Easebourne site** – use of the playing field as a village recreational area has been agreed in principle with WSCC, subject to a viable business plan. A further meeting of the Parish Council group, followed by an informal Councillors meeting to be held prior to another meeting of the WSCC Liaison Group in February. Clerk to investigate whether planning permission for a new-build village hall and new playground is likely to be approved. These would need to be written into any lease undertaken.

**81 Crime Prevention:** Mr Revill and Mr Heustice had attended a Crime Prevention meeting where one of the topics of discussion was metal theft which is increasing in the area. Members of the public are asked to report any incident they are aware of as soon as it happens. This will enable the police to attend the scene immediately. The Regional Co-ordinator of Neighbourhood Watch has asked if the Parish Council could help her recruit more local co-ordinators. A request will be put in United, subject to speaking to the existing local co-ordinator.

**82 SID (Speed Indicator Device):** it was agreed that use of SID should be undertaken in Mid March. Clerk to liaise with the police and draw up a timetable, with volunteers using the device for about 2 hours at a time. Dr Guyatt offered to store the equipment between usage.

**83 Annual Village Spring Clean** – will be held on Monday 8th April 2013 at 6pm. Clerk to organise litter picking equipment.

**84 Annual Village Meeting** – 10th April 2013 at 7pm. Following the Chairman's annual report a period of discussion about our future aspirations for the MRC Easebourne site will be held. This will be followed by the guest speaker who will again be Heather Ongley, Operations Manager for the Cowdray Heritage Trust. Her talk two years ago was very popular and she will present a different topic this time (title to be advised).

**85 Correspondence and notices received:** all Councillors to receive a copy of the SALC training programme for 2013, and to notify the Clerk of any course they would like to attend.

**The meeting closed at 9.40pm**

**Next Parish Council meeting will be held on 13th March 2013 at 7.30pm.**