

## Minutes: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 the Winchelsea Beach Community Hall, 7:15 pm

**Present:** Councillors: R Davis, J Horsman, T Moore, S Tollett, P Turner (in the Chair), S Turner, H Sutton and N Warren.

**In attendance:** J Cannings (Deputy Clerk.)

**16/036 Item 1 Welcome to the meeting by the Chairman.** The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.15pm.

**16/037 Item 2 Questions from the public.** There were no members of the public present.

**16/038 Item 3 Reports from County & District Councillors.** There were no councillors present. The Chairman read out from an East Sussex County publication which set out the Council's ambitions and what it plans to achieve by 2018. Four priority outcomes are: Driving economic growth; keeping vulnerable people safe; Helping people help themselves and making better use of resources. Cllr. Mrs Hart had sent a report which was circulated to members. Topics covered included the outcome of a recent meeting called by Amber Rudd and held on March 4<sup>th</sup> regarding sewerage flooding at Winchelsea Beach.

**16/039 Item 4 Apologies for absence.** Apologies had been received from County Councillor Keith Glazier, District Councillors Mrs Sally-Ann Hart and Paul Osborne, Councillors Ms Austen, Mrs Lyward, Mrs Merricks and Mrs Stanford.

**16/040 Item 5 Disclosures of Interests.** Cllr Warren declared a personal interest in item 12.

**16/041 Item 6 It was resolved** to approve the signing by the Chairman of the minutes of the Council meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

### **Matters Requiring a Decision by the Council.**

#### **16/042 Item 7 Financial Matters**

##### **Resolved:**

- a. Receipts and payments report to end February 2016. **Noted.**
- b. To approve items for payment in March 2016. A list of payments was tabled totalling £4,023.15 represented by bank transfers T/150 to T/162 sequentially totalling £3,062.25 plus 3 direct debits totalling £152.08, a debit card payment of £146.82, a standing order of £230.00 and cheque number 3178 for £432.00. February receipts totalled £43.14. It was noted that cheque 3177 issued in February had been cancelled and re-issued with cheque 3178 to include the VAT due.

**16/043 Item 8** To note the resignation of Cllr Pope – noted. Recommendation that the seat be declared vacant and that the Clerk be instructed to inform the District Council of the casual vacancy. **Resolved.**

**16/044 Item 9** Recommended: That the Clerk authorises the 2016 annual specialist play equipment inspection by Wicksteed Playscapes of its 6 playgrounds at a cost of £45+VAT per play area, plus detailed analysis of risk at a cost of £15+VAT per play area. Total £360.00 to be funded from 2211 Inspection Fee in the 2016/17 budget. **Resolved.** Additionally, it was proposed that a disability access audit is also carried out at a cost of £28 per play area. **Resolved.**

**16/045 Item 10** Recommended: the Council authorises the annual parish-wide risk assessment by Council's Health & Safety Consultant at a cost of £685+VAT. To be funded from 2213 Risk Assessment. **Resolved.**

**16/046 Item 11** Recommended: that the Council proceeds with Cllr Mrs Lyward's budget item of the purchase and installation of a dog bin in Winchelsea Beach on the verge in Sea Road, next to the pedestrian gate and fingerpost to the footpath along the Military Canal. Cost of bin £209.19 (ex VAT) + £50 installation. Total £259+VAT to be funded from 2206 dog bins. Members were advised that a licence from ESCC had been issued. **Resolved.**

Cllr Warren repeated his personal interest

**16/047 Item 12** Recommended: that permission is granted to Icklesham Trusts Committee for the use of Icklesham Recreation Ground all day on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August to hold its annual Summer Fete and Flower Show. **Resolved.**

#### **16/048 Item 13 Recommendations of the OSWG at their meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016:**

- i) Allotment No. 9 Rye Harbour site. The usable part of the plot to be divided into two starter plots and let out under a 12 month tenancy, the rent to be calculated pro rata. **Resolved.**
- ii) Allotment No. 1 Pear Tree Marsh. A review to decide the way forward for this plot to take place after the height of the hedge at the front of the site has been reduced. **Referred to Working Group to review.**
- iii) Pear Tree Marsh. Proposed works to trees on the site are put on hold pending the results of the Council's 2016 tree survey. Permission would also need to be obtained from RDC. **Resolved.**

**16/048 Item 14 Clean for The Queen.**

- i) Registration has taken place. Noted.
- ii) Two clean-ups currently organised in the parish by Cllr. Tollett who has taken a lead on this initiative (12<sup>th</sup> March at W.B. and 19<sup>th</sup> March at R.H.). Cllr. Tollett reported on the event on the 12<sup>th</sup> March. 12 people litter picked in Harbour Field, collecting 11 sacks of rubbish. **Resolved:** letters to go to the Environment Agency and Winchelsea PCC regarding the bank at the sea end of the field and the remains of the old church respectively - both of which are overgrown. A date of 16<sup>th</sup> April was set for a clean up on Icklesham Recreation Ground. Cllr. S Turner would advise a date for Winchelsea.
- iii) Lighting the beacon in Winchelsea. Contact has been made with the organiser advising the Council's wish to take part. Awaiting a reply. The event will take place at 7.30pm on 21<sup>st</sup> April, preceded by beverages in the New Hall and a brief Church service. Noted.

**16/049 Item 15 Staffing Matters.** Taken under Standing Order 11a at the end of the meeting.

Matters for information of noting

**16/050 Item 16 Programme of Works for February.** Various matters were raised or updates given.

Cllr. Warren referred to the good news that the application for a Community Grant for new play equipment had been granted. Cllr Moore advised that the Emergency Plan had not advanced due to the current staffing situation. Cllr S Turner reported that he had not been invited to the Speedwatch Group Gateway meeting. It was suggested that the Group be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr S Tollett advised that the resident involved with the Energy Strategy was moving away so the initiative not likely to proceed. The item would be kept on the list for another month. Cllr S Tollett asked about the RH Car Park & Toilets lease. This would be on the April agenda. Cllr P Turner asked the Deputy Clerk to advise RDC that the Council wished to sign under its seal and that documents, including the condition report, are received 2 weeks before the April meeting.

**16/051 Item 17 Affordable Housing.** The meeting scheduled for Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March with RDC officers and Tom Warder from AiRS and Cllrs. Warren, P Turner, S Turner, Horsman and Tollett was noted.

**16/052 Item 18 Report back from Planning Committee.** Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016 noted..

**16/053 Item 19 Correspondence.**

- a) Letter from Hedleys Solicitors notifying hourly rate increase. Noted.

**16/054 Item 20 Reports of Councillors and Officers on Outside Bodies and Attending Events.**

- a) The Chairman reported on his attendance, in the Clerk's absence, at a multi-agency W.B. flooding meeting called by Amber Rudd. A good summary of the meeting had been given in Cllr. Mrs Hart's report, previously tabled. Cllr Mrs Hart had forwarded an email from RDC concerning tinkering, asking the PC to advise preferred times. It was agreed that times should not be constrained as the need was governed by circumstances on the ground and sensitive to outside events beyond anyone's control. It was hoped that Southern Water would attend the APM.
- b) The Chairman reported on his attendance at a very informative Neighbourhood Planning Seminar in East Grinstead. Two speakers from central government presented and speakers from two parish councils with neighbourhood plans outlined their experiences.
- c) SALC HR Training Day. This had been attended by Cllrs P Turner, Tollett and Mrs Merricks.

**16/055 Item 21 Future meetings or events.**

The Chairman would be attending forthcoming meetings of RALC and Rye Partnership.

**16/056 Item 22 Date and venue for next meeting.** This was confirmed as Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at the Icklesham Memorial Hall, commencing at 7.15pm. Councillors were reminded that the Annual Parish Meeting is being held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at the New Hall, Winchelsea.