

Minutes: Monday 13th June 2016 the Winchelsea New Hall, 7:15 pm

Present: Councillors: Ms J Austen, R Davis, J Horsman, Mrs C Merricks, A Moore, Mrs J Stanford, S Tollett, P Turner (Chairman,) S Turner and N Warren.

In attendance: A Evett (Clerk) and J Cannings (Deputy Clerk) East Sussex County Councillor (ESCC) Keith Glazier, Rother District Councillor (RDC) Mrs S Hart.

16/113 Item 1 Welcome to the meeting by the chairman. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Cllr Horsman said a few words about the news of the sad death of former councillor Mrs Francis Bates who contributed greatly to the work of the council and will be sadly missed.

16/114 Item 2 Comments or questions from members of the public. Mrs Caroline Wylson of the Rye Harbour Sailing Club spoke in support of their grant application. Mr David Smedley of Winchelsea asked where Cllr Mrs Hollands was and what arrangements she has put in place for the Winchelsea ward. The Chairman explained that the wards were there primarily for administration purposes and that any councillor could represent any resident in the parish and that there were four parish councillors who were Winchelsea residents. Mrs Mears of Winchelsea asked to be informed who they were, which the Chairman duly did. Mr Mears of Winchelsea responded to a comment made by the Chairman about the difficulties associated with the Rye electoral arrangements with their ward arrangements, expressing an opposing opinion that it was in any way difficult. Mrs Mears stated that the council was undemocratic and asked for a democratic council.

16/115 Item 3 Reports from County & District Councillors. ESCC Cllr Glazier talked about the possible withdrawal of free bus passes to primary age children in Rye Harbour. He urged residents to contact him so that he can pass their concerns on to the officers. In response to a question from Cllr Warren he said that he would be protesting about the matter and had already met with the ESCC assistant director on site to express his concerns. He reported that grass cutting was being done and that the verges and pavements should be left in a reasonable condition. Cllr Turner passed on his thanks for the grass cutting in Winchelsea and pointed out that the area in front of Greyfriars Flat had been missed and that Spring Steps needed attention. He also asked for an update on the property. The Chairman raised the matter of parking in Harbour Road (correspondence received) and queried why Mill Lane in Winchelsea had to be closed for a connection to the gas main to be made.

RDC Cllr Mrs Hart expressed her support for the Rye Harbour Sailing Club grant application. She highlighted the RDC grants for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations and updated on major road works. She updated council on the Romney Marsh Partnership Cultural Event on 7th to 17th July and advertised that Rother Voluntary Action is supporting groups to recruit volunteers. Cllr Mrs Stanford thanked her for attending the recent Rye Harbour surgery and Cllr Mrs Merricks queried the availability of redundant donation boxes from RDC.

16/116 Item 4 Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Hollands, Mrs Lyward and RDC Cllr Osborne.

16/117 Item 5 Disclosures of Interests. There were none.

16/118 Item 6 The minutes of the 9th May 2016 were approved and signed.

Matters requiring a decision by the Council.

16/119 Item 7 Minutes of the Open Spaces Working Group (OSWG) meeting of 23rd May 2016 and recommendations. It was resolved to approve all recommendations. Cllr Warren advised that play equipment installation was progressing in Winchelsea Beach and Rye Harbour and that the Council was working with Historic England and installation will not be starting on the 21st June in Winchelsea as stated in the minutes.

16/120 Item 8 Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings of 9th and 23rd May 2016 and recommendation. It was resolved to approve the recommendation not to refer anonymous complaints to RDC Enforcement.

16/121 Item 9 grant application from Rye Harbour Sailing Club. It was resolved to award a grant of £250 and that the club can apply again later in the year. It was further resolved to develop a grants policy and that no further grants will be considered until the October meeting unless they are time critical.

16/122 Item 10 Financial Matters.

Resolved:

- a. Receipts and payments report for May 2016
- b. Items of payment for June 2016. A list of payments was tabled totalling £11,460.29 represented by bank transfers T/194 to T212 sequentially totalling £7,273.58, plus 1 direct debit of £57.71, a standing order of £230.00 and cheques numbers 3184 to 3189 sequentially totalling £3,899.
- c. Salary award noted
- d. Rye Harbour cost centres and viring of funds, noted.

16/123 Item 11 Report from the Internal Auditor – received and noted with thanks to the officers.

16/124 Item 12 Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2106. It was resolved to approve the Annual Return and authorise the Chairman and Clerk/RFO to sign.

16/125 Item 13 New Winchelsea Bus Shelter. The report was noted and a decision was deferred pending a report from a sub-group made up of Cllrs Mrs Lyward and Stanford, and Sutton on the specification and size of the shelter.

16/126 Item 14 Rye Harbour Car Park and Public Conveniences. It was resolved to:

- a. Accept the current RDC cleaning contract at a unit price of £2,469.71 until the end of the financial year funded from cc 2415
- b. Purchase the DB14 donation boxes (x2) at a cost of £1,370 including delivery but excluding VAT plus up to £350 for installation funded from cc 2415. Wording of the sign – councillors to make suggestions to the working group
- c. Collection and banking of donation – decision postponed, to be brought back to a future meeting

16/127 Item 15 Street name. The name of Beach Walk proposed by the developer was rejected. The clerk was asked to query why a street name was necessary for a single dwelling at Lansdowne, Dogs Hill Road.

Matters for information or noting.

16/128 Item 16 Programme of works - noted.

16/129 Item 17 Insurance for Rye Harbour Car Park and Public Conveniences – noted.

16/130 Item 18 Noted:

Letter of thanks from Rother Rural Trust dated 13th May 2016 for the Council's donation

Email from Mr Howland about Harbour Road – raised with the ESCC Leader at the beginning of the meeting- clerk to send a copy

Letter from Mr Haines about an abandoned vehicle in Icklesham

16/131 Item 19 Reports from Councillors attending events. Cllr Mrs Stanford reported on a meeting at Broomhill Sands, Camber and the new £30m sea defences.

16/132 Item 20 Future meetings or events – the Chairman will be attending a meeting with the Police in Battle on 20th July 2016.

16/133 Item 21 Date and venue for next meeting. The date of the next full council meeting is confirmed as Monday 11th July 2016 the Winchelsea Beach Community Hall commencing at 7:15pm.

Meeting closed.