**BECKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**
**Minutes of the Parish Council Annual meeting held at Beckley Village Centre**
**on WEDNESDAY 9 MAY 2018 at 7.00pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Christopher Broadbent (CB) Chairman, Mrs Lauren Dobson (LD), Mrs Sue Evans (SE) Mrs Tina Langmead (TL), Mrs Deborah Ongley (DEO) Vice Chair, Mrs Rebecca Parsons (RP) and Mike Rowe (MRO).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs V Ades (Clerk) and RDC Councillors Ian Jenkins (IJ) and Martin Mooney (MM) (*arrived 7.20pm)* and two members of the public *(plus two arrived at 7.20pm)*

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1. **Election of a chairman for the ensuing year and to receive his/her declaration of acceptance of office**. Cllr Broadbent addressed the meeting and announced his decision to retire as Chairman and Councillor of the PC. He said his decision was based on his increasing work commitments. He said during the last 3 years when the new committee was formed the PC has made tremendous strides forward and created a very approachable parish council. He thanked everyone for their hard work and said he felt he was leaving behind a very dedicated and active team. Members thanked him for all his hard work. DEO took the chair and asked for a successor. **LD volunteered and this was proposed by MRO and seconded by SE – carried**. **LD signed the form of declaration and acceptance.** LD took the chair and praised Mr Broadbent for his pragmatism and thanked him for his service over the last 7 years and as Chairman over the last 3 years. IJ thanked Mr Broadbent for his time and dedication to PC work and praised him and the PC for making the PC friendly and approachable committee.

2. **Election of a vice-chairman for the ensuing year and to receive his/her declaration of acceptance of office. DEO offered to continue as Vice Chair and this was proposed by TL and seconded by RP – carried. DEO signed the form of declaration and acceptance.**

3. **Apologies for absence** received from County Cllr Ms Angharad Davies.

4. **Declarations of interest** whether personal or personal/pecuniary in accordance with the current Code of Conduct regarding matters on the agenda. Members are reminded that they should review their current declared interests displayed on Rother District Council's website and let the Parish Clerk know if there are any changes to what has been declared. **None declared.**

5. **Appointment of Council Representatives** and any other Executive or Advisory Committee that the Council agrees should be constituted for the coming year. The following were **approved:-**

   a Planning Committee – MRO and LD would assist in emergencies.
   b Parish Hall representative – LD.
   c Social Secretary – DEO / RP.
   d Playground and tennis court inspections – RP.
   e Tree Warden – Bill Bullocke.

*7.20pm MM and 2 members of the public arrived.*

6. **Membership and representation of External Bodies** by inviting nominations from councillors and voting by a show of hands. **The following were approved:-**
   a. National Association of Local councils and Sussex Association of Local Councils. (Membership £340.00pa) MRO/DEO.
   b. Rother Association of Local Councils. (Membership £20.00pa) MRO.
   c. Local Council Review (£17.00 – Membership only).

7. **Insurance June 2018-19** – Zurich Insurance – approve provider and consider cost currently £301.10, but increase TBA to cover new play equipment. The Clerk said to cover the new play equipment, IT equipment and any legal liability in relation to the new GDPR would be an additional £353.15 = £654.25 – **approved**.

8. **Agree and adopt the following policies/documents.** All approved, agreed and adopted.
   a. Complaints Policy
   b. Disciplinary Policy
   c. Grievance Policy
   d. GDPA Risk Assessment
   e. Contact Consent form
   f. Data Protection Policy
   g. Email and Internet Usage Policy
   h. Email disclaimers

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i. General Privacy notice
j. Retention of Documents Policy
k. Financial Regulations Policy
l. Standing Orders
m. Assets Register

9. **Agree a schedule to review policy documents**. Except for important changes policies would be looked at bi-annually. The Clerk said **Standing Orders** should be updated and she would attend. **Clerk.**

10. **Agree a schedule for meeting dates in the forthcoming year.** Due to changes in work commitments for some members the PC agreed the most suitable meeting day for everybody was Monday. IJ said this may not fit in with RDC's occasional Monday meetings when district councillors should attend. The Clerk said she would check with RDC and other PC's to try to arrange Monday meetings, but on a different week from the 2nd week in the month. June's meeting may have to remain on 13th June – TBA. **Clerk.**

## 7.30pm commencement of the monthly PC meeting

11. **Public Questions – to** allow questions (10 minutes) from members of the public following which they may leave the meeting if they wish, but must remain silent if they stay. A further period of public question time is allowed at the end of the meeting. **Names of those speaking will be recorded and reported in the minutes. None.**

12. **Reports from County, District and Parish Councillors.**
**AED's report had been circulated and is attached.**
**MM** said RDC's community fund closes on 5 July. Already it has given to Beckley and Peasmarsh PC's and the wider area and money has been reserved for the Cadet Corps.
**IJ** asked about progress on the new play area. Planning for Budden's Green has gone to the Inspector who will contact all those who raised objections. Staff reviews at 2% are under way, with consideration for higher increases for lower paid staff. He said the village sign looked good and gave his good wishes to our new Chairman.
**MR** reported following recent road repairs signs had been left at Whitebread Lane. **Clerk.**
**RP** reported the old play equipment which will remain has been painted and looks good. TL said more painting is to be done.
**DEO** reported many potholes had been repaired, but more were waiting to be done.

13. **To consider and approve** the signing by the Chairman of the minutes of the PC meeting of 11.4.18. Approved and signed by LD.

14. **PLANNING** – **to consider any planning applications** received from RDC and any other planning matters.
**RR/2018/727/P(D) Hobbs Farm, Hobbs Lane.** Conversion of redundant agricultural building to holiday accommodation. **RR/2018/1039/L(D) Hobbs Farm, Hobbs Lane**. Works required in connection with the conversion of redundant agricultural building to holiday accommodation. The two applications were considered together. Members suggested a condition to be put on the buildings that they could not be sold separately.
***7.46- 7.47. LD allowed a member of the public to speak. She said the two building were owned by the same person.***
**Members voted 6:0 in support** of the applications**.**
**RR/2018/1056/P DEL High Tor, Whitebread Lane**. Ground floor infill extension to the front elevation. **Members voted 6:0 in support.**
**RR/2018/1062/P DEL Coach House - Land adjacent to, Main Street**, Beckley. Proposed new dwelling with off-street parking. Some members felt this was an over-build for the size of the land and the infill would cause the adjacent property to lose its attraction. There were concerns about parking as it appeared cars would have to reverse in or out of the property as there did not appear to be sufficient turning space within. Additionally there were bus stops on each side of Main Street immediately outside of the property. Members **voted 4:2 against support.**
**PERMISSIONS GRANTED:**
**RR/2018/515/P Swallowtail Hill Farm.** Camping facilities including new solar panels and cabin, replacement of loo and cabins with replacement combined loo/shower cabins, two new clamping units.

***8.20 – DEO left the meeting.***

15. **Matters arising:-**
i. **Playground equipment and funding** – team report**.** CB, TL and LD have painted some of the equipment which will remain. Cost of special paint is £103.95. Jewsons has been approached for Community Funding for building materials. Grateful thanks went to Robin Evans and Christopher Broadbent who have sourced a lot of free materials to build the path across the field to the play area, but road stone and binding material

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will have to be paid for. Eibe should start erecting the new equipment next week and the official opening date will be 30 June 2018, but the path and fencing will not be ready. MRO asked for details of the stage payments to Eibe, TL and clerk said they had not received these. To date only £45 has been raised from the sale of raffle tickets.

ii. **RoSPA –** agree cost to carry out Post Installation Inspection on new equipment £395. **Members resolved to have this inspection carried out.** RoSPA will advise their date.

16. **Footpath from Main Street to play area on the Jubilee Field** – quotes £9K - £11,300. With many free materials offered members resolved to accept a quote to install the path from P J Nolan for £5000 labour plus £1000 machinery hire and £660 for road stone. Binding gravel will also be required at an additional cost**.**

17. **Parish Assembly – Wednesday 16 May 2018 - 7.30-9.30pm in the Village Hall**. MR will arrange for wine and soft drinks, RP will arrange sausages and rolls and hot drinks will be supplied by various means.

18. **Banking –** MRO to advise on latest developments. Due to bank branches closing, the PC will remain with NatWest for the time being and the Clerk will arrange for paperwork to have LD added and Mr Broadbent removed as signatories. **Clerk.**

19. **Damage to tennis court fence** – quote from Trevor May Contractors Ltd, Ashford, £625 to repair damaged fence and support post. His report was considered that complete perimeter fence is in a very bad state of repair and approx. cost to replace would be £5/£6000. Replacement of the whole fence could not be considered at present and a repair would have to be carried out, but before proceeding the Clerk will talk with the insurance company. A rickety bench should be removed from the court and replaced with one off the field - SE would ask her husband to attend. RP will check the condition of all benches **Clerk/SE/RP.**

20. **Verti draining Jubilee Field** – aeration maintenance. Judge & Son quoted £475. Maintenance should be carried out annually, but due to current high expenses it was resolved to defer this for consideration later in the year.

21. **RDC dog waste bin collection –** 6 bins £870.48 pa**. -** information only.

22. **Speed watch** –April results. A police speed check van had attended and would return at a later date.

23. **Accounts** for approval *(VAT, if applicable, shown for items exceeding £100).*

| Recipient | VAT £ | Total £ | Recipient | VAT £ | Total £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BVH - Committee Room | | 12.00 | SALC LCR magazine subscription | | 17.00 |
| Mrs M Lenton bin emptying | | 35.00 | ESALC/NALC subscription | | 340.00 |
| Admin costs | | 650.00 | Zurich Insurance **£301 or TBA** to include new play equipment Item 7 refers | | £654.25 |
| GDPA registration | | 40.00 | | | |

Payment to Zurich Insurance was amended to £654.25 then the accounts were agreed for payment.
Bank balances 4 May 2018 - Current Account £85.206.18. Reserve Account £599.34.

24. **Date of next meeting – 13 June 2018 commencing 7.30pm – to be confirmed.**

25. **Matters** for consideration as an agenda item for the next meeting.

26. **Public questions -** not to exceed 15 minutes.

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## ESCC Report for Parish Councils May 2018 Angharad Davies

There is an updated Highway Steward map showing the electoral divisions for East Sussex but our Highway Steward arrangements remain the same with Isla Dacey as our Highway Steward. She has been very busy recently as the potholes have increased since the freeze, preceded and followed by, very wet weather. Highways CH2m have increased the numbers of two-man gangs from12 to 23, with dedicated gangs dealing with Category 1 potholes so that other teams can carry out their daily work schedules. Temporary repairs are being done to make roads safe but the contractor will return later to finish the repairs. Central government have made an extra £100m available, on top of the previous £75m, which has meant £1,177,912m for East Sussex. Our Highways Liaison Officer, Danielle Georgeson, can be reached by email or by Highways Hotline 0345 0712715

ESCC is responsible for : potholes, drainage, street lighting, grass cutting, overgrown hedges, trees, weeds and wildlife verges, gritting and grit bins, road markings and lines, footways, cycle paths.

Customer Contact Centre 0345 6080193 customer@eastsussexhighways.com

Businesses which are helping to boost the career prospects of young people in East Sussex have been recognised at a ceremony at County Hall in April. The event celebrated the role of the first 27 companies to be accredited under the "Industry Champions" scheme. Businesses represent their industry to young people in schools and colleges and are awarded a certificate or badge if they deliver activities at least 3 times per year. This includes talks, presentations or workshops, mentoring, careers fairs, or offering work experience or apprenticeship schemes. This is part of "Skills East Sussex" which is the council's strategy to improve young peoples' career prospects in the county. Other "Skills East Sussex" initiatives have included appointing Enterprise Advisers from local businesses to work with individual schools, and the Open Doors project , which sees students visiting businesses to learn more about the world of work.

The " Better Business for All" event was held in April to enable businesses to learn more about complying with the law, and health and safety rules. The event included talks on cyber security, new data protection regulations, Trading Standards, and the emergency services and Government bodies provided information and help with compliance.

A cash boost has been provided to improve air quality. Schools and businesses in the most polluted parts of Sussex will get help to improve air quality with a cash boost of £100m.The Sussex Air Quality Partnership has received this money from the Government's Air Quality Fund. Support will include encouraging more walking and cycling to work and school, helping pay for less polluting boilers, and vehicles, and campaigns urging drivers not to leave their engines running while stationary.

25 businesses and 25 schools will be involved in : Chichester, Horsham, Shoreham, Brighton & Hove, Crawley, Hassocks, Worthing, Lewes and Newhaven---these being the most air polluted areas in Sussex. Any schools or businesses in these areas are asked to contact Andy Arnold andy.arnold@eastsussex.gov.uk or calling 01273 481606

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