

BECKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Beckley Village Centre
on WEDNESDAY 6 AUGUST 2018 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Dobson (LD) Chairman, Mrs Tina Langmead (TL), Mrs Ongley (DEO) Vice Chairman, Mrs Rebecca Parsons (TP) and Mike Rowe (MRO).
IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, County Cllr Ms Angharad Davies, District Cllr Ian Jenkins (IJ) and four members of the public.

1. **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 may be reported in the minutes.** A resident was concerned about the planning application APP/U1430/W/18/3197448 - Land west of Buddens Green which had gone to appeal and he was advised to send his comments to RDC for inclusion with their report to the Planning Inspectorate.
2. **Apologies for absence** were accepted from Cllr Mrs Sue Evans, work commitments.
3. **Declarations of interest** whether personal or personal/pecuniary in accordance with the current Code of Conduct regarding matters on the agenda. LD personal/pecuniary- RR/2018/1796/P-DEL Carpens, Hobbs Lane and DEO personal - RR/2018/1856/L-DEL Chestnuts, Main Street.
4. **Casual Vacancy** – consider all applications received and co-opt by majority vote before the Proper Officer. Members resolved to discuss this item after item 5.
5. **Reports from County, District and Parish Councillors.**

AED's report attached. She added our MP will give some presentations at public meetings on the Chequers proposals at The Baptist Church, Battle Tue 21 Aug and St John's Church, Bexhill Wed 22 Aug both 7-9pm. She added that contrary to some reports over financial troubles at Northamptonshire CC when it was suggested that ESCC was also experiencing similar difficulties, this was not the case and ESCC looking at what its most important central duties were and was handling its cutbacks successfully and would not fail financially.

IJ's report attached.

TL reported there are been break-ins of garages and sheds in the Clay Hill area.

LD reported the hedges at rear of playground had been cut back.

RP reported youths seen throwing rocks at the new play equipment had been caught and police had spoken to them along with their parents.
4. **Casual Vacancy** – consider all applications received and co-opt by majority vote before the Proper Officer. At the July meeting members had considered Mr Edward Erith's and they agreed unanimously (5:0) to co-opt Mr Erith. He accepted the post and was introduced to all present. He signed his Declaration of Interest, which was witnessed by the Clerk.
6. **To consider and approve** the signing by the Chairman of the minutes of the PC meeting of 11 July 2018. Members agreed the Minutes were accurate and they were signed by LD.
7. **Planning – to consider any planning applications** received from RDC and any other planning matters.

RR/2017/2568/P-DEL Six Acres Barn, Stoddards Lane. Remove existing barn structure with residential usage. Build new two storey residential house with two bedrooms and store rooms at first floor. The applicant had submitted revised plans prior to consideration by RDC's Planning committee and these were discussed in detail. One member noted that the revised plans contemplated a second level (this time for storage only) which had been deleted in the previous plans; furthermore a new ground floor area had been added to house a utility room and bathroom, while the amount of fenestration which had the potential to cause light pollution had been increased. Members generally felt that in spite of these changes and the enlarged footprint, the new design was aesthetically more pleasing and four members felt they would support it if a condition was placed on it that the upstairs store rooms could not be used or converted to bedrooms. **(4:1 in support).**

RR/2018/1796/P-DEL Carpens, Hobbs Lane. Conversion of garage to family playroom.
With a declared personal and pecuniary interest LD left the room and DEO stood as Chairman.

Members discussed and **supported the application (4:0). LD returned to the room.**
- 8.24 – AD left the meeting.

RR/2018/1856/L-DEL Chestnuts, Main Street. Paint exterior woodwork and kitchen walls to a different colour. Windows, French doors to kitchen & dining room, porch and side door windows to be changed from current brilliant white to shaded white. Front door, attic door, utility door and shed door and window to be painted Downpipe grey, from current brown stain. Kitchen wall, currently bright white, to be painted shaded white. Members **supported the application 4:0. DEO had declared an interest.**

RR/2018/1885/P DEL 2 Green View, Main Street. Proposed vehicular access and driveway. Members were uncertain how the post outside of the property would impact on vision, but agreed that subject to ESCC Highways approving the access they **supported the application 5:0.**

MRO reported the application Planning Inspectorate APP/U1430/W/18/3197448 - Land west of Buddens Green had gone to appeal. As comments must be submitted by 3 September members agreed MRO should draft a report on the PC's objections and circulate it for approval and the Clerk would send it to PINS. **MRO/Clerk.**

8.24pm *ll and Mr Erith left the meeting.*

8. Matters arising:-

a. Playground :-

- i Equipment and funding – team report. Zip wire from Eibe will arrive w/c 21 August. At 30M long it will be installed 9M out from, and will run parallel with the playground. Eibe is looking at the tennis court fence and surface and will report back.
- ii Agree the cost of and a sign for play area acknowledging sponsors. Of three prices received - £110, £119 and £195 + VAT members felt the quote for £119+ VAT from Design a Sign made from light aluminium would be more robust than the two other quotes for acrylic signs. Clerk will request an official quote. **Clerk.**
- iv Footpath from Main Street to play area on the Jubilee Field – amendment to which contractor will carry out the works and considerations regarding disposal of soil/clay from dig-out. Quotes are being sought for both tarmac and mulch based paths.
- v Jubilee Field sports facilities – ways to improve. Deferred to September. **September.**
- vi Arrangements to cut trees to rear of play area. Will be cut on Saturday, 11 August. **LD.**

b. Agree purchase of a union flag for the village flagpole. It was agreed to purchase an inexpensive flag. **DEO.**

9. **Banking NatWest** – signatories now updated.

10. **Confirm order for wreath for War Memorial** – Sunday 11 November - £20 approx. from Royal British Legion. Agreed and nearer the date it will be decided who will lay the wreath.

11. **Speed watch** – July results. Not carried out.

12. **1066 Coffee & Community project.** Pass details to Miss Howse at the Village Hall. **Clerk.**

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

Recipient	VAT £	Total £	Recipient	VAT £	Total £
BVH Committee Room June		12.00	IdVerde June maintenance	35.27	211.61
Mrs M Lenton bin emptying		45.00	RALC – subscription 2018-19		30.00
Admin costs		872.00			

The Clerk said payment to IdVerde was for June maintenance, not May maintenance. The accounts were then proposed for payment by MRO and seconded by DEO – carried.

Account balances at 3.8.2018. Current £33,636.44. Reserve £599.42.

14. **Date of next meeting** – Monday 3 September 2018.

15. **Matters** for consideration as an agenda item for the next meeting. Public footpath on Jubilee Field.

16. **Public questions** - not to exceed 15 minutes. None.

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Closed session – to review the Clerk's contract of employment and salary. (Deferred from July).

Parish Councils Report July 2018 *(Published 6 August 2018 – also included with July Minutes).*

ES County Councillor Angharad Davies - Northern Rother

East Sussex Highways website has been redesigned. The "report a problem" page will now collect more detailed location information so that the team can deal with problems more efficiently. People can more easily track a problem and gain a result: customerservicemanager@eastsussexhighways.com Member and Parish hotline 0345 0712715
Weed spraying programme is as follows; Beckley 15/07/18, Bodiam 12/08/18, Ewhurst 12/08/18, Northiam 15/07/18, Peasmarsh 30/07/18, Robertsbridge 01/08/18, Rye Foreign 29/07/18,

Please will everyone note that advertising signs, flower planters, boards, chairs and tables at the front of cafes and businesses and on the pavement should all to be licensed with the County Council under the Highways Act. There is a charge. <https://www.eastsussexhighways.com/common-license-questions>.

Volunteers Week ran from 1st to 7th June when volunteers across East Sussex were thanked for their contribution to communities. Around 3 million hours a year are given to providing activities and services. Volunteers are central to charities and voluntary groups of all types. We couldn't survive the present climate without our friends in the voluntary sector. You can find out how to volunteer at www.vces.org.uk

A new free service has been launched by Sussex Air Quality Partnership which sends out warnings by text, voicemail or email when a heat wave or hot weather is forecast. It also sends out warnings for high air pollution levels, and Cold alerts during winter months. The service is aimed at people with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions, vulnerable residents, parents of young children, carers and healthcare professionals. The partnership is hosted by ESCC. If people know about weather conditions in advance, they can make preparations.

Parking payments will be available online soon. From July 2nd all on-street parking permits for Lewes, Hastings and Eastbourne will be applied for through an online system called NSL.Apply. The change follows ESCC decision to award a new parking contract to NSL and therefore parking shops in Lewes and Hastings and the parking information centre in Eastbourne will close. Under the new system, motorists will be able to buy scratch card permits, and pay penalty charge notices at Lewes, Hastings and Eastbourne libraries, but otherwise will no longer need to apply for permits in person or by post.

At Cabinet on 26th June, plans were agreed to remodel social care services for 2018/19. Savings of £10m have to be made in Adult Social Care. This has been reduced to £8.4m by the £1.6m granted in the new year by central government. It was agreed at Cabinet that £1.6m will go towards offsetting the savings in Supporting People Accommodation based housing support services and Supporting People Community based Housing Support Services. This will assist very vulnerable people at risk of homelessness. There will still be a revenue budget of £166.5m for social care in 18/19.

People in East Sussex can get advice on dementia risk as part of free NHS Health Checks, available in GP surgeries and in the community to adults aged 40 to 74. 28% of people are unaware of the risk factors for dementia. There will be advice on keeping mentally and physically active, maintaining social life, and stopping smoking. Data shows that over 90,000 people in East Sussex have had an NHS Health check---we outperform all other authorities in the south east. Dementia is a major concern for people.

Plans to reopen closed libraries as community libraries have been given the go ahead. Libraries at Ore, Pevensey Bay, Polegate and Willingdon are now agreed, and Ringmer and Northiam were agreed previously. These libraries will work using volunteers, and books can be borrowed using the Community Library Card.

A major road resurfacing programme will be carried out across the summer. Surface dressing will be applied to 26 miles of road in Battle, Bexhill, Eastbourne, Falmer, Forest Row, Hartfield, Horam, Rotherfield, Ticehurst and Wadhurst. I have lobbied hard for some roads in our area but it wasn't agreed for 2018. Disappointing!!!!

HOSC (Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee) received further reports on June 28th from ongoing CQC inspections of ESHT which has been in special measures since 2015. Inspections in March showed huge progress at the Conquest and EDGH with some departments now having an outstanding, or at least good, rating. The Trust is working towards an "overall outstanding" rating by 2020. HOSC has been closely monitoring progress and has noted a change in ethos, and staff who actively engage and participate in the work of both hospitals.

A conference on Community Safety was held by partners of the multiagency East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership recently. They discussed methods of tackling organised crime, cyber crime, modern slavery, scams and fraud in East Sussex. Drug dealing across county lines, "cuckooing" all involve young people, some of them trafficked and illegal. 42 different services were represented at the conference including local councils, the emergency services,

the Police, health, education, the voluntary sectors, and the armed forces. Information on the Safer Communities Partnership can be found at : www.safeineastsussex.org.uk

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RDC – August 2018 - District Councillor I Jenkin's report

Waste Collections.

At a recent meeting it was reported that some collections were being hampered in the District by parked vehicles in lanes and narrow roads. It was also noted of a trend relating to a shortage of HGV drivers.

Audit/Accounts.

Rother District Council had their accounts approved by auditors, and accepted by members at a recent meeting. It should be noted that like all authorities Rother will lose its financial support grant given to them by The Government in 2020. On the basis of the accounts Rother is well placed to deal with that situation, but continues to look at ways to bring income to the authority.

House Building.

Our MP has sent a letter to Barratt Homes regarding the large proposed housing development at Bexhill asking why, after 3 Years nothing has taken place?

Local Government Association.

Lord Bassom is heading a working group in The House of Lords regarding coastal towns, my understanding is that he will be looking at employment and all issues related such as transport and housing. My fuller report on this appears in the recent issue of the Rother Bulletin RDC.