**BECKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the VILLAGE CENTRE**

**7.30PM ON MONDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2018**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs Valerie Ades (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Ms Angharad Davies (AD), District Cllr Martin Mooney (MM) and twelve 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.**

Mr Baverstock asked if the PC was going to make a representation to RDC over the DaSA report. He was advised it would be covered in Agenda item 8.

Cllr Tony Ganley introduced himself and said he would be standing as conservative candidate for the district seat in the local elections. He said he is currently the DC for Sedlescombe and Ewhurst and explained his current role with RDC.

Mr Power reported he had taken up with the Highways Department the matter of vehicles speeding down Hobbs Lane and along with other residents he was requesting a reduction in the current 60mph speed limit down to 20 or 30mph. He will advise the PC further once he receives a reply.

Mr S Bowler reported a good turnout for the 10K race on 4 November with money raised going to local uses. He apologised if any inconvenience had been caused to residents. He said soil deposits in Stoddards Lane were making driving conditions hazardous, and asked about a shed which had been erected on the raised land of Stoddard Cottage. MM would take a look at the road, but said RDC were taking no further action on the shed as it was considered to be a change of use of residential garden to industrial storage. AD would ask the Highways Steward to inspect the road. **MM/AD.**

Mr Thorneycroft asked if there were any plans for residential housing in Horseshoe Lane. MM replied he was not aware of any plans, but if there were it would be included in the DaSA Plan.

**The meeting commenced at 7.42pm.**

1. **Apologies for absence were received from and accepted from Cllr Ian Jenkins.**
2. **Declarations of interest** whether personal or personal/pecuniary in accordance with the current Code of Conduct regarding matters on the agenda. **TL – personal interest in item 6 RR/2018/2598/P D - Oxney View.**
3. **Reports from County, District and Parish Councillors.**

**AD’s report had been circulated. She added The Highways Department is actively seeking people to join them and to complete a survey twice a year to ‘have your say’. Over the last year ESCC has taken on 22 new apprentices, of which 12 are still completing their training and seven are in permanent positions. 4th grass cut in Beckley is on 20 November.**

**MM’s report had been circulated.**

**TL reported various break-in’s to garages and to a car inn Bixley Lane.**

**DEO reported the hedges around the field had been cut, but the hedge at The Pippins is on-going. New residents at Joamar, Main Street are parking vehicles on the footpath. DEO will visit and advise. DEO.**

**SE had concerns about a new app called ‘Next Door’ and wondered if personal details could be compromised. She was informed that many people are using it and it appears to be a good way of being kept informed of what is going on in the village.**

1. **To consider and approve** the signing by the Chairman of the minutes of the PC meeting of 1 October 2018. The minutes were confirmed as correct and signed by LD.
2. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – to consider thosereceived from RDC and any other planning matters.

**RR/2018/2450/P DEL** - **Headwinds, Kings Bank Lane**.  Orangery extension and general alterations. Members considered the application and noted the scale of the alterations with further bedrooms being added in the annexe. However, given that the proposed orangery and other amendments would not have a significant impact on the already substantial property, members unanimously **supported the application 7:0**.

**RR/2017/2886/P DEL - Kingswood, Starvecrow Lane**. Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding and erection of replacement dwelling, together with ancillary outbuilding, improvements to access track, landscaping and woodland management measures.  This application had been unanimously supported by the council in February, since when new plans had been submitted. Members reviewed the revised plans which appeared to move the situation of the new build slightly westward and northward, while changing the shape and layout of the lower ground floor. It was not considered that the changes, though material, significantly changed the merits of the proposal. With **one abstention members supported the application 6:0.**

**RR/2018/2331/P DEL - Six Acres, Stoddards Lane.** Removal of condition 9 imposed on RR/2017/2568/P, requiring 3 roof lights on the south facing side to be obscure glazed and fixed shut.  Members discussed the application and could see no reason for condition 9 to be removed. The roof space had been presented ‘for storage’ and members could see no reason why it would be necessary to replace ‘obscure’ glass with clear glass. It was again observed that the roof space was overlooking its neighbour’s property and clear glass could be considered an invasion of the neighbour’s privacy**. With one abstention members voted 6:0 against the application.**

**RR/2018/2598/P DEL Oxney View, Peasmarsh Road**. Proposed garage (alternative to approved RR/2017/860/P) **TL declared a personal interest.** Members had concerns over the scale of the footprint, the considerable height of the garage and the impact it would have on views from the public footpath. They also had concerns over the proposals for a student’s study above the garage since it could be vulnerable to safety regulations. Members felt there was insufficient information supplied to address this concern and **unanimously voted against the application 6:0.**

**REFUSAL:-**

**RR/2018/1417/P – Kitchenour, Kitchenour Lane.** Change of use and alterations to barn to provide 2No holiday lets and ancillary (annex) and accommodation, garaging and store.

1. **Matters arising:-**
   1. **Playground :-**

i Equipment and funding: Eibe’s final figure for the re-siting of the zip wire cable has been revised and we are awaiting confirmation. Based on the figure being acceptable members resolved to accept the reduced cable length from 30M to 20M.

ii. Path to the play area – update from EE.  Recent discussions have brought to light problems if the PC went along with the installation of a 'porous mesh paver system' path.  It was resolved to return to Bournes for talks about a type 1-2 membrane with a topping of sandy lime mix.  AD will ask ESCC if they can advise.

RDC had requested photos of the new play area. EE would obtain photos taken by a drone. **EE/AD.**

*8.50pm-AD left the meeting.*

1. **DaSA Local Plan –** Discussion. Representation can be made from 26 Oct – 7 Dec. Members discussed briefly the changes to the number of houses on the two sites, Buddens Green 8 down to 6 and the Manroy site 12 up to 14 with 40% overall being affordable. With the short time since receiving the large amount of papers to be read, members wanted more time to peruse them. It was resolved if members felt a meeting was necessary before the next PC meeting 3 December one would be arranged. In the meantime, notices would be placed around the village drawing attention to the document. All representations must be with RDC by 7 December 2018. The documents can be viewed online at [www.rother.gov.uk/dasa](http://www.rother.gov.uk/dasa).

*9.00pm-MM left the meeting.*

1. **Bank reconciliation to 30 June 2018 –** DEO proposed and MRO seconded the figures-carried and signed by LD.
2. **Budget –** considerations forthe 2019/20 budget to be agreed at December 2018 meeting. Following a brief discussion members agreed to bring along their ideas to the December meeting.
3. **Member’s allowances -** do members wish to receive allowances from RDC? Members agreed not to claim.
4. **WW1 Centenary –** agree the assistance the PC can give to support the school’s event **at the Village Hall on Friday 9 November to commemorate the centenary and** what it will pay to cover the cost of a wooden cross for each named serviceman on the War Memorial (38 x £1.50 per cross). **It was resolved to pay £80 to the Royal British Legion** for the wreath and wooden crosses and the Village Hall would invoice the PC for the school’s use of the hall on 9 November.
5. **Discuss requests for donations:-**

**a. Beckley Church** foran increase in the previous £250 towards maintenance costs**. DEO proposed and TL seconded a donation of £350 – carried.**

**b. Beckley Village Hall** for general help towards upkeep. Ms Howse explained the figures and said the hall would have a deficit of £1000. **MRO proposed and SE seconded a donation of £500 – carried.** It was agreed if there was money left in the donation budget at the end of the year a further amount may be donated.

**c.** **Beckley School** to help with cost to recover school log books. **Request withdrawn**.

***Amendment 3.12.18*** *- Members resolved that requests for donations for 2019/20 must be applied for by means of a request form and supplying certain details of the organisation. Requests should be made twice yearly by set dates. TBA.* ***Clerk.***

1. **Mrs Lenton** – resignation from her post and discuss/approve future arrangements. DEO volunteered to empty the bins FOC.
2. **Accounts** for approval *(VAT, if applicable, shown for items exceeding £100).*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recipient** | **VAT £** | **Total £** | **Recipient** | **VAT £** | **Total £** |
| BVH Committee Room Sept |  | 12.00 | IdVerde – Aug maintenance | 35.27 | 211.61 |
| Admin costs |  | 712.40 | Air Ambulance - donation |  | 250.00 |
| Rother Asscn Local Councils - subscription |  | 40.00 | Royal British Legion - wreath |  | 20.00 |

With the Royal British Legion amount of £20 increased to £80 the accounts were proposed by MRO and seconded by SE – carried.

1. **Date of next meeting –** Monday 3 December 2018.
2. **Matters** for consideration as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Restriction of HGV’s using the road from the pub to Horns Cross - SE.

Trees on the Jubilee Field which require attention (DEO will approach Bill Bullock).

**The meeting closed at 9.40pm.**

Account balances at 30 September 2018: Current acc. £31,300.33 Reserve acc £599.47.

**ESCC Report for Parish Councils November 2018**

East Sussex Highways are looking for residents to join their **Highways Customer Panel**. A survey will be sent out twice a year via email requesting views on the service provided so that improvements can be made to the service. Please sign up : <http://eepuri.com/dtHTXr>. More information on the Panel can be found at: <https://www.eastsussexhighways.com/highways-customer-panel> Parish hotline 0345 071 2715 customer[servicemanager@eastsussexhighways.com](mailto:servicemanager@eastsussexhighways.com)

Could you support a young person to become independent? **The Supported Lodgings Team** are looking for residents with space in their home who would be prepared to offer accommodation for a young person aged 16-18 who needs accommodation and the presence of an adult in their lives to help them become independent. We have an increasing number of young people who, for one reason or another, cannot live with their family. As well as having a spare room, providers, who can be couples or single people, need to be resilient and non-judgemental, with time to give to a young person, both emotionally and practically.

More information about training, assessment and rates of pay from: supportedlodgings@eastsussex.gov.uk

**Modern Slavery** is happening in East Sussex and is currently an under reported crime. Crimestoppers Modern Slavery AdVan campaign is appealing for information from local communities. This campaign calls on the public to be more aware of events in their peripheral vision , where, too often, the signs of modern slavery go unrecognised. The national definition of human trafficking or modern slavery encompasses several forms of exploitation with children being forced to commit crimes for large criminal organisations. Last month, the National Crime Agency launched a County Lines Coordination Centre to develop a national intelligence picture of drug-dealing networks. County lines gangs send children from large cities into small towns across county boundaries to exploit new markets and evade police detection.

Please report any concerns to Crimestoppers or directly to Sussex Police.

East Sussex County Council is running a " **become a school governor " campaign**. Being a school governor brings many benefits . As well as contributing to the future of young people locally, volunteers can gain experience of being on a Board, setting strategy and financial planning, and can develop skills to benefit their careers. There is training and support for volunteers.

15% of school governor places are vacant at any one time. The county council is keen to encourage people to apply to be a school governor.

To find out more: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/schoolgovernor

Chrystell Silas from Hastings has been shortlisted by judges in the **Social Worker of the Year Awards** in the category of Mental Health Social Worker of the Year. This ESCC social worker helps service users with mental health issues to move out of institutionalised care to live independently in the community.

**The Duke and Duchess of Sussex,** when they visited the county for the first time in October, discussed the issue of **mental health**. They visited the Joff Centre in Peacehaven where they met 50 young people gathered from youth groups across the county, including the Youth Cabinet. The students described their "Top Ten Tips" for schools around mental health which gives simple ideas of how young people can be supported in schools. A programme of support to schools is underway in East Sussex and includes a recently appointed mental health advisor to schools and colleges, helping staff to develop a "whole school" approach to mental health and emotional wellbeing.

The "Top Ten Tips guide can be downloaded from

<https://czone.eastsussex.gov.ukmedia3505/top-ten-tips-to-support-mental-health.pdf>

Angharad Davies East Sussex County Councillor Northern Rother

**District Councillor Martin Mooney’s Report - RDC - Rother Levels Ward**

**November 2018**

**Community Project Funding Scheme to Open for Applications**

Round 2 of Rother District Council’s Community Grant Scheme will be open for applications from Monday, October 1st until Tuesday, January 15th 2019.

Community groups and organisations can apply for funding, ranging from £500 to £30,000 depending on the size of the project, to provide community facilities, buy equipment or host local events.

In Round 1 of the Scheme a total of £65,831 was given to 10 projects across the district including £29,975 for the creation of a community space in Sidley, Bexhill, £1,000 for the purchase of a reserve launch vehicle for Pett Level Independent Rescue Boat Association and £5,650 for play equipment in Northiam.

Medium and large grants from Round 2 of the Scheme will be considered by a Grants Panel before recommendations are made to Cabinet in March 2019. Small grants (up to £5,000) can be decided by the Panel throughout the year.

**Funding Gap 2020/21**

The Council is actively deploying funds towards generating income to fill the gap occasioned by the withdrawal of Government funding in 2021 estimated to be £1.7m. The alternative would be an unrealistic rise in Council Tax (capped in any case to rises above 2.99%) or the curtailing of some non compulsory services.

**Universal Credit**

As mentioned in my previous reports a revised and more workable system brokered by Rother and neighbouring local authorities comes into force on the 1st April 2019 to replace the present system where small changes in income necessitated a recalculation of the payment made to claimants causing delays and unnecessary hardship to claimants.

**Road Closure**

Please be aware that the following works will be carried out in Dixter Lane outside property no.1, to a distance of 15 metres. Works will take place on 26th November 2018 to 30th November 2018 and are anticipated to take 5 days. The works are to allow Southern Gas Networks to carry out service connection works. The diversion will be Coppers Lane A28 road and vice versa.