

Minutes of a meeting of Cocking Parish Council held in the Garden Room, The Rectory, Mill Lane, Cocking on Monday 12th March 2007 at 6.30 pm

Present: Miss F Russell (Chairman), Mrs B Birch, Mrs G Buchanan, Mrs J Kay, Mr B Kemp, Mr A Marks and Mr P O'Neill

Also Present: District Councillor Mr J Cherry

In attendance: Mrs Gwen Miles, Parish Council Clerk

1. Apologies: County Councillor Lt Col Tex Pemberton

2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th February 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th February 2007 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

Application to upgrade Restricted Byway 952 to a Byway Open to All Traffic in the Parishes of Cocking, Heyshott and Graffham

The application had been rejected by WSCC

Highways

AM reported that he had been contacted by the Highways Department concerning flooding which occurs across the roadway at the top of Cocking Hill adjacent to the South Downs Way. The potholes in Mill Lane had been repaired.

Local Development Framework

It was noted that the Council had not responded to the questionnaire relating to the draft LDF, as after further consideration it was realized that comments were only sought on the actual contents of the document and representations about Cocking not being included would not be appropriate. It was agreed that the Council's support for affordable housing in the Parish was a separate issue and it was decided that they needed to spend time formulating their views before speaking again to CDC.

Children's Playground

The Clerk confirmed that a cheque for £1422.93 had been issued to Wicksteed Leisure for carrying out works to the vandalized play equipment. A copy of the invoice had been sent to Allianz Cornhill to reclaim the cost of the works (less excess) under the Council's insurance policy.

Bus Shelter

The Clerk said that she had spoken to Ms Kate Langmead and Ms Langmead had agreed to meet FR and another member of the Council on site to discuss

whether it was feasible to have a bus shelter situated adjacent to the lay-by located opposite the Mouse House in the village.

4. District Councillor's Report

Mr J Cherry announced that a decision on whether to introduce car parking charges for using the car parks in Midhurst had been deferred until 2009 due to the withdrawal of the Midhurst Traffic Warden. Mr Cherry confirmed that he would be standing again for the District Council in May.

5. Date of next meeting

Due to the second Monday of the month falling on Easter Monday it was agreed to hold the April meeting on Monday 16th April.

6. County Councillor's Report

Lt Col Tex Pemberton had submitted a written report. The key points included:

- Works Programme – The road fault and subsidence adjacent to Carters Cottage has been listed for action and prioritized in the county wide scheme of works
- A whole new way to contact your local police – Sussex Police has issued new guidance on making contact with the police.
- County Local Committee – Date of next meeting is on the 22nd May the venue is to be determined but possibly Duncton Village Hall.

7. Highways

The Clerk informed members that as part of WSCC speed management programme they are to install an additional vehicle actuated sign on the A286 Cocking Hill 75 metres north of the 30 mph speed limit signs – indicating 30 mile per hour.

8. Planning

The Council considered the following applications:

CK/07/00487/FUL & CK/07/00494/LBC

3 Old School, Mill Lane, Cocking – Change of use of No 3 back to 2 No semi detached cottages

No objection

CK/07/00279/TCA

The Barn, Cocking, GU29 OHG – Notification of intention to fell 2 No Cherry trees

No objection

9. Sports Field

It was reported that the wooden seat normally situated outside the pavilion had been moved adjacent to the old railway and had a tar paling around the seat. BK said that he would arrange for the seat to be moved back to its original position.

Membership of the Sports Field and Pavilion Management Committee – It was confirmed that there are a total of six places on the committee, three for parish councillors, currently BK, P O’N and J.K and three for local residents, Canon Rev Colin Bradley and Mr J Mableson, at the present time there is one vacancy.

10. Community Centre Project

FR said the community centre project will only succeed if partners can be found to work with us. A meeting is to take place on the 22nd March with parties who have expressed an interest in the scheme and hopefully a decision would be made to take the project forward. It was agreed to put aside an additional £1000 to fund further research by Pavilion Fundraising Associates Limited to find partners and grant opportunities for the project.

It was agreed that it must be made clear to the village that for the community project to proceed we need to find partners to ensure that the entire barn would need to be utilized. It was announced that the quiz night to raise funds for the project had made £535.27.

11. Finances

The following payments were agreed.

Upkeep of church yard - £100
Mrs G Miles – Holiday pay - £147.59
Inland Revenue – Mrs G Miles – PAYE - £34.50
Pavilion Fundraising Associates Ltd - £542

The Clerk reported that Lloyds TSB has lost the Council’s application to open up a Treasurers Account, it was agreed not to proceed until after the May Parish Council elections.

12. Correspondence

Items of correspondence was noted
Parish Council Elections 3rd May - Nomination forms to serve on the Parish Council were available from the Parish Clerk

P'ON reported on the County Local Committee meeting held at Midhurst Grammar School on the 6th March.

13. Date of Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting should take place on Thursday 17th or 24th May, the Clerk would check with Mrs D Griffiths on the availability of the church. It was agreed to provide refreshments

14. Spring Clean Day

It was agreed that the Spring Clean Day would take place on Sunday 15th April and that residents would be asked to assemble in the Blue Bell car park at 1030 hrs.

15. A.O.B.

Members were asked to submit any items for the newsletter to GB.
P O'N informed the Council that he had written to Mr Wallace concerning fallen timber at Bumblekyte.

Meeting closed at 8.03 pm

Chairman _____