

HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of Harting Parish Council held in the **Harting Community Hall, Pease Croft, South Harting** on **Thursday 19th July 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Mr Shaxson, Mrs Bramley, Mr Healey, Dr Bowman, Mr Bonner, Mrs Dawson, Mr Palmer and Mrs Gammon.

In attendance: Mrs Walker (Parish Clerk) and Dr O’Kelly (County Councillor)

There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

95 Apologies for absence: Mr Powys Maurice and Mr Johnson Hill.

96 Declarations of Interest: None

97 Minutes from the Council Meeting held on 21st June 2018

A correction was made to the paragraph listing those present to alter “Mrs Palmer” to “Mr Palmer”.

The minutes were then approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

98 Questions from the Public

- The details of the new person taking over the allotments was handed to the clerk.
- Who is the lengthsman and what do they do?

The Chairman confirmed the name of the lengthsman and detailed some of the work carried out such as the clearance of pathways, grips and other areas. It was confirmed that the current arrangement is for the War Memorial Playing Field to invoice the Council for the work carried out on behalf of the Parish.

99 Matter of Urgent Public Importance: None

100 Reports from the County and District Councillors

Dr O’Kelly, the County Councillor, reported the concerns raised over the closure of the Bailey Unit at Midhurst Community Hospital. This had been announced in the last two weeks and appears to be as a result of a shortage of local staff. Sussex Community HNS Trust had not discussed this change with several affected groups, and the Health and Adult Social Care Committee at WSCC will be scrutinising this at its September meeting. There are a group of local GP’s who are interested in developing a frailty hub in Midhurst, and Dr O’Kelly is exploring this idea with them.

Rogate and Rake primary schools are informally partnering from September when they will share a head teacher and bursar.

The NW West Sussex bus group had met on 10th July at Rogate Village Hall, and discussed the better promotion of routes 54, 91, 92 and 93 via SDNPA, WSCC and Stagecoach. The initial feedback regarding the new services provided by Stagecoach had been that the buses are more reliable and cleaner.

Dr O'Kelly confirmed she had submitted a motion, about the Velo South event to be held on 23rd September 2018, to be debated at the Full Council, WSCC on Friday 20th July calling to consider cancelling the road closures or failing that to have much shorter rolling closures.

Mr Shaxson gave a report as the District Councillor. The Design and Conservation team at CDC Planning are short staffed, and moves are taken to strengthen and improve the team. This will be important to Harting parish as we are affected by many listed buildings and three conservation areas.

Mr Shaxson is serving on the Constitution and Committee Members Task and Finish Group which is tasked to ensure that CDC will not be faced with unresolved issues regarding the constitution and as a result of the reduction in members. These issues should all be resolved ahead of the elections in May 2019.

Mr Shaxson announced that, after a period of 20 years, he would not be standing for election as District Councillor in the May 2019 election.

101 Velo South

The chairman reported that a letter, expressing concerns about the Velo South event, had been sent to Cllr Louise Goldsmith, the leader of WSCC, as agreed at the last Council meeting in June. The reply received was disappointing and did not address the points that had been raised.

Since the last meeting, many members of the community have met to try and encourage WSCC and CSM Active to lessen the impact of the event.

The Council are still awaiting a response from CSM Active regarding the parking issues that will arise in Harting and Nyewood. It has been asked whether cars might be moved early on 23rd September rather than by midnight the previous evening.

The Chairman asked Dr O'Kelly, as County Councillor, to outline the motion that she was putting to the Full Council meeting of WSCC the following day. This motion was suggesting that, due to the impact of the road closures, the Velo South event should either be cancelled or that the road closures should be dramatically reduced. She felt that WSCC was generally in agreement with Velo South due to the strong economic argument that had been put forward. It is, therefore, important that the Parish Council are able to evaluate the impact on local businesses.

The members thanked Dr O'Kelly for taking the issues forward and agreed it was important to ensure that this did not turn into an annual event.

It was noted that a meeting, hosted by WSCC and attended by SCM Active, was due to take place at Petworth on 26th July 2018. Parishes have been asked to nominate up to 4 members of the parish to attend.

The members agreed that the greatest areas of concern were:

- the nature and lack of consultation surrounding the event
- the length of the road closures.

The following recommendation was agreed:

That the Council noted the report.

102 Furze Meadow Update

It was noted that there was no further information since the last Council meeting. The matter is in the hands of Hyde Housing who were sent the Heads of Terms for agreement in June 2018.

The following recommendation was agreed:

That the Council noted the report.

103 Paperless Planning system

It was noted that, from 1st October 2018, Chichester District Council (CDC) will no longer be providing paper copies of planning applications. This will mean a new way of working for the Planning Committee who will need to view downloaded plans at meetings using a projector and screen. The equipment will need to be reasonably portable as the committee is not always able to meet in the village hall. Consideration will also have to be given to the security of the equipment when it is not in use.

The change to a paperless system is likely to impact on the length of planning meetings and the preparation of the documents to be displayed. Fortunately, the SDNPA have updated the planning website to enable the download of up to 25 files at a time which will save some time.

CDC is holding training sessions in late August/early September to provide advice on the new system of working.

In the meanwhile, the Council will need to prepare for this change by purchasing the equipment necessary to enable the new way of working.

The following recommendation was agreed:

that subject to the investigation of suitable equipment, to agree to purchase a projector and screen at a cost of up to £700.

104 Entrance road to South Gardens

The Chairman reported that the work which the Parish Council has undertaken in South Gardens over the past year has highlighted the vague status of the entrance road located between the B2146 adjacent to the Coach House and the gates into the Council-owned South Gardens. This area was gifted to the Parish Council on 14th April 1937, and the deed

document states that it includes access by this footway 'as far as the donor has power to grant the same'.

For the last 80 years, the Council has enjoyed unrestricted access to South Gardens via this stretch of land, and has maintained the area by improving the drainage and the road surface.

The members felt it was important to address the situation to ensure ongoing access for South Gardens, and this would be done by formalising the adverse possession of the road by claiming Possessory Title to it.

The following recommendations were made:

Gardens.

i) that it is agreed that Harting Parish Council claim Possessory title to the track accessing South

ii) Mr Ian Davison, solicitor, is approached to deal with the legal aspects of the title claim.

It was suggested that (ii) was amended to read "that the Council should seek a fee quote prior to instructing a solicitor to deal with the legal aspects of the claim".

The amendment to (ii) was agreed and the substantive recommendation was then agreed.

The recommendation (i) was also agreed.

Action: clerk to locate invoices and minutes relating to the maintenance works and other relevant details.

105. Finance

105.1. It was agreed that the following payments should be made:

Undisclosed	Clerk & RFO Salary	725.52
M H Kennedy & Sons	Grass Cutting	324.00
West Sussex County Council	Traffic Surveys	930.00
JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog waste bags	101.94

105.2. There were no receipts to note for July.

106. Bank Reconciliation for July 2018

It was noted that the bank reconciliation had been scrutinised and signed by the Chairman of the Finance Committee. The Chairman of the Council then signed the reconciliation in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations".

107. To note the bank balance as of 30th June 2018 - £68,892.36

Noted

108. Budget Statement for June 2018

Noted

109. Planning

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 21st June 2018 were noted.

110. Correspondence

The clerk gave details of 2 items of correspondence:

- i. a letter from Samaritans thanking the Council for the donation.
- ii. an email from a Nyewood resident who is concerned that Rogate Parish Council are not supporting the proposed boundary change.

111. Clerk's Report

It was noted that the GDPR training was due to take place on 7th August, not 7th July as detailed in the clerks report.

112. Items for future meetings

- Terms of reference for the Highways and Footpaths Committee

113. Date of next meeting

20th September 2018 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.