

HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of Harting Parish Council held in the **Harting Community Hall, Pease Croft, South Harting on Thursday 20th December 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Mr Shaxson (Chair), Mrs Bramley, Dr Bowman, Mr Johnson-Hill, Mr Bonner, Mr Palmer and Mr Stuttaford.

In attendance: Mrs Walker (Parish Clerk)

There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

186 Apologies for absence: Mr Powys Maurice, Mrs Gammon, Mr Healey and Mrs Dawson.

187 Declarations of Interest: Mr Johnson-Hill and Mrs Bramley as Trustees of Harting Community Hall

188 Minutes from the Council Meeting held on 15th November 2018

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

189 Questions from the Public: None

190 Matter of Urgent Public Importance: None

191 Reports from the County and District Councillors

Dr O Kelly (County councillor) provided details about the Frailty hub which is being planned at Midhurst Community Hospital. This project is being led by Midhurst and Loxwood GP's and aims to have all services and therapists operating from the Community Hospital. It is hoped this will prevent unwelcome hospital admissions. A public meeting to discuss this is due to be held on 24th February 2019 from 3-5pm.

WSCC have decided there will be a budget cut of £300k to subsidised bus routes, the bus operators are to be informed of the affected routes in January 2019.

The next local bus steering group is due to meet in Compton on March 12th 2019.

Dr O'Kelly reported that the HASC (Health and Adult Social Care Committee) had recommended that WSCC retain the current funding for Housing related support until April 2020 to give the various services time to remodel, however the Cabinet have decided to proceed with the budget reductions. Dr O'Kelly is leading a cross party call-in of this decision.

The Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee has Velo South as an agenda item at its meeting on 14th January 2019. The public are allowed to attend this meeting, and it will also be webcast.

WSSC are going to pilot a scheme to keep 75% of business rates, the aim will be to use these funds to boost economic development with particular regard to broadband.

WSSC is conducting an online survey to gather residents' thoughts on electric vehicles and charging points.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/news/your-opportunity-to-help-inform-the-county-s-electric-vehicle-strategy/>

Dr O'Kelly will hold a drop-in session in the White Hart pub, South Harting on 24th January 2019 from 10.30-12.30.

Mr Shaxson gave a report as the District Councillor. The Chichester Preferred Option Plan is out for consultation. The impact of this Plan is mostly on the Chichester city due to the large amount of proposed housing. It is intended that the housing developments will provide monies to alleviate the impact of the increased housing on traffic issues, specifically the A27. However, there is no provision for the natural increase of traffic, including that generated by developments outside Chichester District.

Both of the proposals for the A27 have been deemed as "not affordable or workable" by Highways England. Future plans for a bypass are uncertain.

Mr Shaxson noted that a solution to the A27 issues would undoubtedly alleviate the problems associated with traffic volume passing through Harting.

192. Update on the South Downs Local Plan

Mr Shaxson and Dr Bowman had attended the South Downs National Park public examination to speak about the settlement sites SD90 and SD91 (Loppers Ash and opposite Smithfield).

Since the last Council meeting, Position Statements had been submitted to the Inspector in relation to the two sites. Mr Shaxson had spoken against the proposed sites at the hearing, there had also been two other speakers against SD90, and one in favour of SD91.

Concerns about the lack of consultation were raised with the Inspector.

The Position Statements submitted did raise a new issue regarding a land ownership issue in relation to SD91.

The Inspector's decision will now be awaited.

Mr Shaxson specifically thanked Dr Bowman for the considerable amount of work and time that she has given to the Local Plan process over a considerable period of time.

The following recommendation was agreed:

To note the report

193. HABAC Update

The unconfirmed minutes of the HABAC meeting held on 14th November 2018 were noted. It was noted that the Parish News article asking for members of the community to join HABAC had received no response, however, an interest had been declared previously and this will be discussed at the next HABAC meeting.

The Winter Management Plan was considered and with some minor adjustments was agreed.

The development of the Flood Prevention Plan was noted, and it was agreed that issues in North Lane should be included in the final plan.

The following recommendations were agreed:

- i. *that the Council should review and agree the Winter Management Plan (attached) and propose further review in November 2019*
- ii. *to note that a Flood Prevention Plan (attached) is being developed and will be discussed at the next HABAC meeting in January 2019*

194. Footpath Lights

The footpath leading from the Street to the School is lit by a number of bollard lights, the electricity is supplied from the Village Hall. Unfortunately, there has been another spate of vandalism which has required the attention of an electrician. He has confirmed that the life span of the lights is limited due to the gradual damage caused to the underground cables by the continued vandalism. The cost to the Council in the last financial year was £700 for repairs.

It was agreed that an alternative method of lighting the path should be investigated for the footpath which may be less prone to vandalism, and thereby cheaper to maintain.

The following recommendation was agreed:

that the Council agree that HABAC check the viability and cost of alternative lighting, including solar cats eyes, to replace the bollard lights along the footpath leading from the Street to the school.

195. South Gardens Access Road

The Council discussed the previously circulated copies of the archived minutes from 1963 to 2012 relating to the South Gardens access road, and the evidence within showing the works that the Parish Council had carried out on the road.

The recommendation minute 104 from July 2018 was also noted, and the members agreed that Ian Davison should be approached to complete the application to Land Registry to claim ownership by prescription of a non-adopted highway.

The following recommendation was agreed:

To note the report

196. South Gardens play equipment repair and replacement of slide

Following the November meeting further information was requested from Contractor A and Contractor C regarding the quotes for the slide and the work to the Twizzler. Following discussion, the Council agreed to appoint Contractor A to complete the works, less the bench work, as detailed in the quote.

The following recommendations were agreed:

- i. that the Council agree to replace the slide in South Gardens*
- ii. that the Council agrees to carry out repairs less the bench work, as notified in the last inspection, to the play equipment in South Gardens*
- iii. that the Council appoints Contractor A to carry out play equipment repairs and replacement work in South Gardens.*

197. Finance

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

Trish Walker	Clerk & RFO Salary - December	779.52
HMRC	Tax and NI contributions	20.70
Surrey Hills Solicitors	Charges associated with Furze Meadow	82.80
Trish Walker	Clerks expenses	112.65
Harting War Memorial Playing Field	Lengthsman	60.00
Debbie Harknett	HCH Bookkeeping Sept-Nov	50.63

197.2. The following receipts were noted:
£1120.21 Vat refund for period April – September 2018

198. Bank Reconciliation for December 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".

199. To note the bank balance as of 30th November 2018 - £70,438.61

Noted

200. Budget Statement for November 2018

Noted

201. Planning

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16th November 2018 and the unconfirmed minutes from 10th December 2018 were noted.

202. Correspondence

The clerk gave details of an item of correspondence received from a member of public concerning the processes of the Council.

203. Clerk's Report

The clerk's report was noted and the members agreed that Bevis Gladwyn should be thanked for his help in trying to deter the recent theft of timber from The Warren.

204. Items for future meetings

Woodland Trust Ecology report
Working Group for Meeting Room at Harting Community Hall
South Gardens Access Road
Online banking

205. Date of next meeting

17th January 2019 at 7.30pm

206. Land Ownership issue

The Council debated this item and agreed the resolutions detailed in the confidential report dated 20th December 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.