

## HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the **Harting Community Hall, Pease Croft, South Harting** on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Mr Shaxson (Chairman and District Councillor), Mrs Bramley, Mr Healey, Dr Bowman, Mrs Gammon, Mrs Dawson and Mr Bonner.

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

There was 1 member of the public in attendance

**147. Apologies for absence:** Mr Johnson-Hill, Mr Stuttaford and Mr Powys Maurice.

**148. Declarations of interest:** None.

**149. Minutes from Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

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

**150. Questions from the Public**

- Item 7 of the agenda “Traffic Issues” mentions the possibility of setting up a Working Group. Has the Council considered who might be on the group from outside of the Council?

*The Chairman responded to say this would be discussed as part of that agenda item later in the meeting.*

**151. Matters of Urgent Public Importance**

The Chairman confirmed that 14 days had passed since the resignation of Mr Barnard and there had not been a call for an election. Therefore, a councillor can be co-opted. Information will be included in the Harting Parish News calling for a new councillor, any asking anyone who expresses an interest to give a short resume in writing by 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in order for the applicants to be considered at the January meeting.

**152. Reports from County and District Councillors**

Dr O’Kelly, the County Councillor reported she had attended the Health and Adult Social Care Project on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017

The new funding formula for schools has been announced and it appears that schools with under 150 pupils may struggle financially under the new scheme. This issue is also exacerbated locally with the proposed expansion of Easebourne Primary School, the combined effect is of immediate concern to Stedham and Rogate schools. Dr O’Kelly has been in contact with the Harting School head teacher about these changes. Unfortunately, parish councils have not been included in the consultation.

The Community Green Offer will be highlighted in the Midhurst area for a six month period, and all groups are encouraged to investigate what is on offer.

The situation at The Severals corner in Nyewood was still on going and Dr O'Kelly was awaiting further information from Mike Dare, the WSCC Traffic Officer.

Boxes of de-icing salt are available for vulnerable people this winter, Sue Furlong at WSCC has further information.

The West Sussex Carers Support Group was due to meet in Harting Congregational Hall on 20<sup>th</sup> November from 2 – 3.30pm.

Dr O'Kelly will be holding drop-in sessions at The Grange, Midhurst on 20/11/2017 from 10.30-12.30, and at Rogate Village Shop on 27/11/2017 from 9.30-12.30.

Mr Shaxson, as District Councillor, reported that the scheme to redevelop the Southern Gateway area of Chichester, by the Railway Station and canal basin, has been approved.

Whilst the police have reported they are coping well with the reduction in budgets, there has been a 24.4% increase in rural crime which is concerning.

The examination of the West Sussex Mineral Plan has shown that sites are needing to be found within the South Downs area, this is concerning residents in Midhurst and Minsted.

The next Parish Forum is to be held on 7/12/2017 in Lodsworth, and the topic is planning delivery and enforcement.

Diffusion tubes placed in Rumbolds Hill, Midhurst have shown it to be the most polluted place in the Chichester area.

### **153. Traffic Issues**

Mrs Bramley spoke to the Council about the ongoing concerns of residents about the increasing speed and volume of traffic in South Harting. Although a bid for traffic calming measures had been made to SDNPA for CIL money, it was felt that further action was needed now.

The deadline for making a submission for a WSCC Community Highway Scheme is July 2018.

In order to progress possible solutions to the traffic issues it was suggested that a Working Group should be formed to research possible solutions and sources of funding. The suggested Working Group will be Mrs Bramley (Chair), Mr Shaxson, Dr O'Kelly, Mr Tony Bayley and Mr Leslie James.

*The following recommendation was agreed:*

*that a working group should be formed to consist of representatives from the Parish Council as well as other interested individuals, with a brief to research possible traffic calming measures, costs and sources of funding and to bring proposals to the Parish Council.*

**154. SDNPA Pre-Submission Consultation**

Dr Bowman reported on the progress of the Council response to the SDNPA Pre-Submission Consultation, and thanked the members that had responded. The Working Group had collated the responses from the members and from the information gathered from the Parish Meeting.

The key thrusts for the comments are on the Elsted Road and the New Lane sites, and the SD25 policy. A strong statement will be made about the changes as they were made without consultation. It would appear that the allocations are not landscape led, as suggested by SDNPA.

The Council comments were in a reasonably advanced draft format, and would be forwarded to the members when they are complete.

Dr Bowman noted that there were huge problems when cutting and pasting to the SDNPA on-line submission forms. This means that comments may have to be submitted by email.

The chairman thanked Dr Bowman for the considerable amount of work and time she has given to the consultation.

*The following proposal was agreed:*

*To note the report of the Working Group tasked with producing an overall response on behalf of HPC to the SDNPA Pre-Submission Local Plan*

**155. Tree Survey Update**

**Update on the PJC Tree Survey Report for South Gardens and the Warren**

The clerk reported that PJC was due to revisit the Warren and South Gardens during the week ending 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to finalise the tree survey.

The felling licence for The Warren was expected to be issued shortly, and Natural England have been contacted with regard to the Management Statement and tree works on the SSSI site.

**Horse Chestnut Trees**

Mr Whitby, the CDC tree officer, had visited South Gardens to inspect the Horse Chestnut Tree (T1) following safety concerns raised by the arborists employed to carry out remedial work. Mr Whitby confirmed the tree was in a dangerous condition and should be felled. However, he also confirmed that the neighbouring Horse Chestnut Tree (T2) was also in a dangerous condition and should be felled. The members noted that, although it was sad to lose the trees, public safety was of paramount importance, given that the trees are adjacent to a busy play area. Mr Whitby had stated that two trees should be replanted as replacements, within the current planting season, and had provided a list of species of trees to be planted. Mrs Gammon informed the meeting there were a number of local people willing to monitor and water the new trees once planted.

**Second survey**

The second "leaf off" survey is set to take place in the New Year.

### **Other Matters**

Petersfield Forge will visit South Gardens to take a look at the damaged metal bench and advise whether it can be repaired.

The Chairman informed the members that two very large beech trees, on a neighbour's land, are due to be felled shortly. Their location means they will be felled across the public footpaths, owned by the Council, and then cut to allow access through. The timber will be removed by the landowner when the weather conditions allow.

*The following recommendation was agreed:*

*To note the report*

### **156. POSAC Update**

The Chairman gave a verbal update following the recent POSAC meeting and noted that further ideas had been raised regarding the ponds in South Gardens, and more specialised advice was to be sought. Local farmers were also going to be approached with regard to the spoil from the ponds.

Progress had been made with the sign for the entrance of South Gardens.

The play area annual risk assessment had been received and considered, and the company Kompan who installed the equipment have been asked to visit the site.

*The following recommendation was agreed:*

*To note report*

### **157. Furze Meadow Play Area, Nyewood**

The anticipated correspondence had not been received, so this item was deferred to the December meeting.

### **158. Finance**

#### **158.1.** It was agreed that the following payments should be made:

Trish Walker	Clerk & RFO Salary	Undisclosed
M H Kennedy & Sons Ltd	Grass cutting	158.40

#### **158.2.** There following receipts were noted;

£604.00      VAT Refund

**159. Cheque signatories**

It was agreed that Dr Bowman and Mrs Bramley should become cheque signatories following the resignation of Mr Barnard.

**160. Bank reconciliation for November 2017**

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.

**161. To note the bank balance as of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 - £81,676.04**

Noted

**162. To note the budget statement for October 2017**

Noted

**163. Planning**

The minutes of the Planning committee held on 26th October 2017 were noted.

**164. POSAC**

The minutes of POSAC held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were noted

**165. Correspondence**

None

**166. Clerk's report**

Noted

**167. Items for future meetings**

- Fingerposts – January 2018
- Furze Meadow
- Risk assessments
- Budget 2018
- South Gardens sign
- Winter Maintenance Plan

**168. Date of next meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

