

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE SKITTLE ALLEY THE FOUNTAIN INN ON THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 8.00 PM.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Cllr Griffiths (Chairman),  
Cllrs Jesse, Powel, Hammond, Fischel, Stevens and Hedley  
There was 1 members of the public present  
In attendance the Clerk.

**1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rogers and Cockman (District) and Barling (County)

**2. Declaration of Members Interest**

There were no declarations of interest from Councillors

**3 Approve the Minutes of the Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes be approved as a true record of the Meeting and they were signed by the Chairman.

**4 Outstanding Actions**

Awaiting a response from Cali at WSCC concerning a meeting with an engineer to look at the Church Lane flooding.

**5 Recreation Ground Matters**

The bank balance at HSBC as at 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014 was £4,994.62

Incomes received

Football Club	£110.00	Deposit
Ashurst PC	£1500.00	Grant

The following Expenditures were Authorised

Sussex Land Services	£ 289.80	October grass cutting
EDF	£ 35.00	Electricity for John Eaton Hut

The bottom hinge of the gate post has been damaged. Councillor Griffiths to inspect and repair if possible.

A tree audit is to be carried out on the recreation ground trees asap.

Awaiting a reply from the football club concerning a joint project for the John Eaton Hut.

HDC play inspection has highlighted loose eye bolts, plastic caps missing and rough bottoms on posts.

The second instalment for the Cricket club rent has been sent, this is later than normal as it should have been sent in October.

**6 Planning Matters.**

**DC/14/2596 – Gratwicks House, Church Lane -** Proposed single storey extension to form new shower room and rear access to modern section of property  
(FullApplication)

**No Objection**

**DC/14/2597 – Gratwicks House, Church Lane -** Proposed single storey extension to form new Shower room and rear access to modern section of property (Listed Building Consent)

**No Objection**

**7 Late planning applications**

None for this meeting

**8 Planning Decisions from HDC**

There is no update on Sopers Farm. The Officer dealing with the case is Helen Low. There is a new person in the planning department dealing with all queries from parishes concerning applications. She would like an email informing her of the Council's queries concerning Sopers Farm application.

**9 Financial Matters.**

The bank balance at Lloyds TSB as at 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014 was £6,925.81

Incomes received

None

The following Expenditures were Authorised

Horsham Matters	£210.23	Youth Provision
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**10 Precept for 2015/16**

An update to the draft precept has been circulated to all councillors.

It was agreed at a recent SAYS meeting the cost does not need to be increased this year as there is surplus in the SAYS account to cover the increase from Horsham Matters. There has been a 2.2% salary increase awarded to public sector workers which has been added to the Clerks salary figure. £100 has been added to the grants budge head to increase the swimming pool grant to Steyning. There is £1000.00 included for the Neighbourhood plan. The precept for 2015/16 was agreed at £9,850, an increase of £750 from last year. A typical band D property will be paying £66.41 Parish Tax Base

**11. Update on Youth Provision.**

A pool table purchase has been agreed, it is hoped that a WSCC Grant will fund this at a cost of £696.

Volunteer helpers are still needed to help Emma with all the different activities that are being held for the youth.

It was noted that Emma is doing a great job.

**12 Neighbourhood Plan**

**Steering Group**

The Steering group meeting has met 3 times since the last report. There are now 11 members on the Steering Committee - Steyning have filled their quota and Ashurst is one local resident short. It has been busy with i) Preparing and distributing the Public Survey (See below.) ii) Setting up the focus groups (See below)

**Public Survey**

Since the last update, a substantial amount of time and effort has been spent on preparing the public

survey. In its final form there were 36 questions which were tied into the topics to be covered by the six focus groups.

The questionnaires have now been distributed to all households in the 4 parishes. 115 have been delivered in Ashurst.

The Steering Group is hoping for a response rate in excess of 30%. Once questionnaires have been returned, our consultants AirS will be analysing the responses.

### **Focus Groups**

Six Focus groups have been set up, namely –

- i) Economic/Business
- ii) Transport and accessibility
- iii) Community
- iv) Environment
- v) Heritage/Local knowledge
- vi) Housing

There is good representation on all focus groups with a total of 61 residents having signed up to date. Ashurst is well represented with at least a dozen people spread across the groups.

All the focus groups have met at least once. They have looked at their scope and the working parameters. Importantly, they have been involved with helping set the questions for the public survey.

While waiting for the findings of the Public Survey, the focus groups will be engaging with the relevant Local Stakeholders.

Councillor Fischel and Bob Harari were thanked for the work they have done on the plan so far.

### **13. Correspondence**

West Sussex County Council have sent information on a public consultation, Care, Support and You, which runs until 11 February.

Your London Airport Gatwick have asked if Ashurst Parish Council wish to be part of their engagement with Town and Parish Councils programme.

West Sussex County Council have informed of work planned at Gratwicks House, Church Lane. This was circulated to all councillors.

Tim Boxall has informed that a work programme is in place for 3 gullies outside Peppers/Wellens Farm in Horsham Road. The pot holes are also in a works programme.

An end of year report from Louise Goldsmith at WSCC was circulated to all councillors.

Clerks and Councillors Direct news letter received.

A request for information on the recreation ground and premises has been received. Clerk to reply.

It was suggested that the Recreation Ground Trust look into the Land Registry of the Ground.

Information from WSCC rights of Way that the Footbridge at Eatons is closed due to works being carried out has been received. Possibly will be closed for up to 6 months. The Chairman to email that it is an important bridge and is used regularly.

### **14. Reports from Other Committee**

Councillor Stevens informed that the progress on the Village Hall is continuing. The sewage system to now installed, the plumbers have put the toilets in. The kitchen has been installed, it is hoped the electricity will be installed in the next week or so and painting is planned for 4 weeks time. Worktops will be fitted at the end of January, the oak floor is due to be laid in February and the ash faced doors are also due to be fitted in February. There is still no planned opening day.

### **15 Reports from District and County Councillors**

There were no reports

### **16 Questions from the floor.**

There is still a lot of surface water running down Wappingthorn Hill causing ice and there have been several accidents. Clerk to inform Tim Boxall.

**17 Information Items**

None for this meeting

**18. Date of the next Meeting**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 8.00pm

At the Skittle Alley, Fountain Inn

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.