

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Parish Council** held on 10th September 2019
at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Attendees: Parish Councillors Ian Weir (Chair), Jane Baker, Bill Hatton, Leslie Campbell, Alex Simmonds, Kate Bailey, Frances Gaudencio, Sue Hatton, Frank Rylance, Bob Brewer and Nick Owens.

Parish Clerk: Ian Cumberworth

Visiting Member(s): none

MINUTES

PC19/75 APOLOGIES

Cllrs Peter Gibbons, Georgia Cheshire

Absent without apologies: Cllr David Hammond

PC19/76 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Disclosure by Councillors of personal interests in matters on the agenda, and whether the Councillor regards their interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.

None

PC19/77 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9th July 2019 and the Extraordinary meeting held on the 14th August 2019 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

PC19/78 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one Member of the public present who observed proceedings but did not wish to speak.

PC19/79 MINUTES

To accept the following Minutes.

To agree the minutes of the Planning Committee 22nd July 2019 and 12th August 2019 and to note the minutes of Planning Committee 2nd September 2019.

To note the minutes of Policy Resources & Communications Committee 16th July 2019 and the Grounds and Environment Committee 25th July 2019.

PC19/80 FINANCE

The Finance report and payments totalling £39,473.29 for the period ending 30th June 2019 were approved together with the payments totalling £98,507.79 for the period ending 31st July 2019.

PC19/81 Reports

- 81.1 District Councillors reports: - Cllr Sue Hatton (SH) informed members that a number of District and Parish Councillors were present at the Friars Oak enquiry earlier in the day which is expected to conclude tomorrow (11th September 2019).

SH advised members that she will be attending the MSDC Scrutiny Committee meeting on the 11th September where members will consider the proposed Site selections which currently includes Friars Oaks fields. The proposed sites across the district can be viewed on MSDC's website. Once the report has passed through Scrutiny Committee it will then be considered by Full Council and then go forward for a 6 week public consultation.

SH indicated that although only one site has been identified specifically within the parish however two others are near the boundary near Folders Lane one of which is likely to be accessed via Ockley Lane.

Parish Councillor Nick Owens raised concerns over the access onto Ockley Lane as it currently has a width restriction for traffic of 6ft 6 ins, which is equivalent to 2m, this lane as is presently built and designated, is not suitable for construction traffic: the road already has buses of 2.4m in width running along it, and its understood that construction lorries and other traffic often exceeds 2m, some vehicles being 2.5m in width. He felt it was questionable whether this road was suitable. The same concern would also apply to the Strategic site where access will also be onto Ockley Lane to mitigate this risk, of any development on this lane Cllr Owens indicated that consideration should be given to upgrading and widening the lane to remove the access limitation. Cllr Sue Hatton indicated that she would be happy to raise those concerns in relation to Ockley Lane when those sites affected are considered by MSDC Scrutiny Committee on the 11th September.

- 81.2 County Councillor – no report submitted

- 81.3 Rail matters – IC advised members that a press release was issued regarding the ongoing level of service being provided by Govia Thameslink which appeared in a number of publications and was covered by BBC South TV and the Chair was interviewed on BBC Radio Sussex.

It was confirmed that the issue in the press statement issued did cover the point that Govia Thameslink did not appear to be complying with the requirement to publish train performance data in the new format, however the press outlets did not indicate any interest in covering this element.

In July there were 293 trains in total cancelled of which 222 never ran or passed through Hassocks while the remaining 71 trains scheduled to stop at Hassocks but failed to do so.

In August there were 246 trains in total cancelled of which 178 never ran or passed through Hassocks while the remaining 68 trains scheduled to stop at Hassocks but failed to do so.

After taking into account engineering works etc. from the 1st January to 31st August 2019 this equates to an average of 7.26 trains cancelled per day.

81.4 Youth Initiatives- nothing to report.

81.5 Police matters – Clerk informed members that there are a number of initiatives that are in progress but there was nothing to report back on at this point. Members went on to briefly discuss powers the police have available to them to tackle various crimes.

81.6 Report from Councillors on meetings of outside bodies where the Council is represented - None

PC19/82 CHAIRMANS REPORT – The Chair informed members that it had been a busy summer period.

On the 11th July he attended the MSALC AGM where he raised the issue regarding Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions. MSALC agreed to take this matter up with Mid Sussex District Council on behalf of all Parishes within the district.

13th July was the ‘official’ opening of the Skate Park. It has been really encouraging to see how popular the facility has proved with the community.

25th July I attended and spoke on behalf of the Parish Council at the 3rd Friars Oak appeal.

5th September attended an inter-parish meeting with Cllr Sue Hatton and the Clerk regarding the potential development of the Mayfield town near Henfield. This forum has been established to enable representations to be made in co-ordinated manner against the potential development.

7th September attended Downsfest which appeared to be a success.

Today 10th September attended the planning enquiry on Friars Oak field.

& finally WSCC are to recommend approval to the CLC in November the proposed Phase 2 Parking scheme for Hassocks. We have had to withdraw some of the 1 hour restriction sites to enable it to progress however it is hoped the remainder of the scheme will be implemented in the not too distant future.

PC19/83 CLERK’S REPORT –

83.1 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP –** Members were invited to consider Cllr Rylance to be appointed to sit on the Policy Resources & Communications Committee and the Grounds & Environment Committee. Members **RESOLVED** to approve Cllr Rylance to the said Committees.

83.2 GRANTS

Members were informed that the Council had received ten applications for grant funding through the Council's funding scheme. All applications met the qualification criteria. Members were requested to review each application in turn and determine whether they resolved to award the grant funding requested. The Councils 2019/20 grant budget was £2,750 therefore insufficient funds were available to meet the total value sought via the applications. The Council carefully considered each of the following grants taking into account the purpose of the funding request and the level of support being sought together with the content set out within the respective submissions:

The following grant requests were considered for **2019/20**

1	Hassocks Guide Hall	£ 400.00
RESOLVED – to award Hassocks Guide Hall £400.00		
2	Hurstpierpoint Players	£ 1,000.00
RESOLVED - to award Hurstpierpoint Players £400.00		
3	St Catherines Hospice	£300.00
RESOLVED - to award St Catherines Hospice £300.00		
4	Hassocks Christmas Day Lunch Committee	£200.00
RESOLVED - to award Hassocks Christmas Day Lunch Committee £200.00		
5	Victim Support	£200.00
RESOLVED – to award Victim Support £200.00		
6	St Peter & St James Hospice	£250.00
RESOLVED – to award St Peter & St James Hospice £250.00		
7	Jack & Jill Playgroup	£ 100.00
RESOLVED – to award Jack & Jill Playgroup £100.00		
8	Parkfield Equine Solutions	£ 500.00
RESOLVED – to award Parkfield Equine Solutions £250.00		
9	Fauna & Flora Group	£300.00
RESOLVED- to award Fauna & Flora Group £300.00		
10	Hassocks Community Runners	£ 340.00
RESOLVED to award Hassocks Community Runners £340.00.		

Overall members determined to award £2,740 of the budget, members also discussed the option of reviewing the grants scheme to allow submission twice during the year and to potentially review the conditions attached to this funding. Members were in favour of this option and requested the Clerk to develop a scheme and bring this back for consideration at a future meeting with a view to introducing in 2020/21.

Members also requested that the Clerk seeks clarification from some of the applicants regarding the outcomes to be achieved from their proposals.

83.3 Annual Return 2018/19

The Clerk informed Members that the Council had just received the External Auditor Report and Certificate for 2018/19. The pleasing news is that the accounts have been signed off with no issues raised. The Council has therefore published its Notice of Conclusion of Annual Audit notifying residents that the Annual Return is available for inspection. Members wished to place on record their thanks to the office team for all their work in relation to the financial governance of the authority.

83.4 PROW Footpath 11c – Members were advised since the matter was considered by Grounds & Environment Committee on 27th June where approved the works to be undertaken WSCC have requested that the Parish manage the works in the first instance and manage the permissions. The cost of the works in the sum of £1,500 (net) will be reimbursed by WSCC via section 106 contributions held by them. Members were requested to approve this approach.

Members **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the proposed approach

PC19/84 URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN for noting and/or inclusion on a future agenda.

There were none.

PC19/85 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the date of the next Council meeting is **Tuesday 8th October 2019 at 7.30pm.**