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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 26th March 2019 at 7.30 pm

Present: G. Hill (Chairman), G. Sallows (Vice Chair), R. Allen, G. Hussey, C. Forrest, V. Saunders, R. Gatt and D. Lawton
L. Bannister (Clerk)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Bender, Vance-Webb, and Sheridan.

WSSC Cllr. Kitchen also gave her apologies.

2 Declarations of Interest

None.

3 Minutes of previous Meeting

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Hill.

4 Open Forum

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to speak.

No members of the public were present.

The meeting was resumed.

Cllr. Lawton arrived

5 Planning

DC/19/0527 The Old Rectory, High Street

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

'Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application.'

MO/2019/0369 Riverdale Paddocks

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

'Rusper Parish Council objects to this application as it negatively impacts on the dark skies around Rusper (please see below Rusper Parish Council's Dark Skies Policy). Rusper Parish Council also has concerns about overdevelopment of this site.'

DC/19/0324 Winterfold Farm, Wimland Road

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

'Rusper Parish Council objects to this application as the size of the development is unsuitable and unnecessary for the area, and represents an over-development of the site. Onsite accommodation is not suitable in this rural area.'

DC/19/0095 Little Clovers Farm, Crawley Road

It was RESOLVED not to comment on this application.

Applications received since publication of the Agenda

DC/19/0584 Thatched Barn Cottage, Normans, East Street

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

'Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application.'

Report on Rusper Road developments

Cllr. Bender did not attend the meeting but updated via email that there was a check at the Martin Grant site to see if fire engines could get in, and they had difficulty manoeuvring.

6 Planning updates

There is a site on Faygate Lane by Durrants Village has had extensive clearing done. Colgate Parish Council has advised that they are aware and in touch with the landowner. They expect a planning application to come forward.

The following planning applications were permitted:

- DC/18/2419 56 Peverel Road
- DC/19/0049 Trisolde, Ashmore Lane

7 Reports from other authorities

Cllr. Kitchen did not attend the meeting.

8 Vehicle Activated Signs

WSCC Highways have updated their quote to provide the street furniture for the sign as follows:

£117 per ground socket per site
£60 delivery
£300 traffic management total
£100 pole

Total cost = £1639

It was RESOLVED to agree this.

The Clerk will ask Legal & General if they would sponsor this.

The agreed sites are as follows:

- 1-Newdigate Road around Ghyll Manor
- 2-Lambs Green/East Street where they meet
- 3-Horsham Road outside Gardeners Green
- 4-Rusper Road by Ifield
- 5-Lambs Green, by the pub
- 6-Faygate Lane by the junction of Lambs Green
- 7-Hurst Hill

9 Meeting with Rusper Primary School

Cllrs. Hill, Sallows, Bender and the Clerk met with the Headteacher and two Governors of Rusper Primary School. They have concerns about the future of the school, and also the Village Hall roof.

WSCC has said that they will not support an expansion of the school as there is an over-provision of primary school places in the county.

10 Funding for No Incinerator 4 Horsham

This is a campaign group working to try to stop the incinerator being built. They are trying to raise £50,000 to pay for expert reports and a barrister.

Council was prepared to make a pledge of £2,000, but on the advice of the Clerk, will adjourn this decision until after the Elections when the new council is in place.

11 Car park sign

This needs replacing. The Clerk will get some quotes.

12 Earthquakes

It was noted that the amount of earthquakes has risen recently. It was proposed to write to the local MP with Council's concerns and to ask for some action to be taken. This was agreed. This letter will be circulated to neighbouring parishes.

13 Tree Inspections/maintenance

The Clerk suggested that a policy is put in place to ensure that the trees are checked regularly. Cllr. Vance-Webb will be asked if she would be willing to check the trees at the playground and sports field.

14 Operation Watershed

Cllr. Hussey and the Clerk met at Rusper Road by Sandalwood with the Operation Watershed team and the landowner of the fields behind Sandalwood. The landowner has agreed to clear the ditches running through the fields. Operation Watershed will put together a quote if there is any further work needed for the roadside drainage system.

The work at Hillybarn will be booked in soon.

Highways are putting together a plan for Rusper Road by Stumbleholme. This is happening in three phases:

1 – Highways will do further investigation of the drainage network to understand the full problem, and while they are there will clear any vegetation that they can.

2 – A contractor will put together a quote for ditch clearance to alleviate the amount of water on the road before the full works can be done.

3 – Highways will put together a full program of works.

There is more work to be done on Wimland Road around Baldhorns.

15 Councillor Elections 2019

The Clerk reminded Members to complete their nomination forms and deliver them to HDC.

The amount of seats on the council was discussed and the Clerk will look into the possibility of increasing this.

16 Annual Parish Meeting

This will start at 7.30 in the large hall. Refreshments will be served. The format will be as follows:

Chairman's speech

Village Hall Committee

Headteacher

Questions for Cllr. Kitchen

Neighbourhood Plan presentation

Council meeting

17 Recreation Ground

A meeting has been arranged with the landlord's lifetime attorney.

18 Neighbourhood Plan update

Cllr. Sallows updated that the Focus Group reports are progressing. They are working towards a timescale to have the plan submitted by the end of summer. The consultant came to the last meeting.

19 Report from Representatives

Cllr. Allen has been appointed as the chairman of the Village Hall Committee. They need to put together a fund raising committee for the roof work that is needed.

Cllr. Hussey reported that the finger post at the bottom of Hillybarn has now been completed. There is one more at Lambs Green to be done.

Cllr. Gatt attended the last HALC meeting. A road safety sergeant attended and explained how their campaigns work.

Cllr. Lawton reported that Gatwick will be doing some work on airspace modernisation, and a consultation on this will be open soon. There will be a meeting of ICAN on 24th April at 8pm in Cophorne which is open to Members. There is one more GATCOM meeting in April that Cllr. Lawton hopes to attend. Thanks were offered to Cllr. Lawton for his work on the Gatwick Airport committees.

Cllr. Sheridan did not attend the meeting but reported by email that the neighbours to the dog walking field have written a formal letter of complaint to HDC asking for detailed explanations for their failings. Depending on the response received, the neighbours are considering legal action against HDC.

Cllr. Sheridan suggested Sunday 8th June for the litter clean up day. This was agreed.

An introductory meeting was held with Legal & General regarding the Land North of Horsham development.

20 Clerk's report

There is a wobbly post by The Star. Cllr. Forrest will arrange for this to be fixed.

A complaint has been received about the hedges opposite The Star. Cllr. Hill will find out who is responsible for these.

The Clerk has looked into training for the litter warden, and has spoken to HDC about this. They send out a safe working method to their wardens and ask them to sign it.

The next North Horsham liaison meeting will be on 30th May at 11.30.

The Police has confirmed that they are not able to provide speed enforcement on Rusper Road, but suggested that residents put together a Community Speedwatch team. The Police would be happy to advise on this. Cllr. Gatt added that the Police said that they can offer speed signs. The Clerk will look into this.

Neighbourhood Plan information will be laid out on Mayday for people to see.

There is no update yet on the purchase of Gardeners Green.

21 Parish News

It was agreed to include the date for the parish litter collection.

22 Finances

Reconciled accounts & bank statements

It was RESOLVED to agree these and they were duly signed by Cllr. Hussey.

Direct Debits/Standing Orders

The following payments were agreed:-

Payee	Reason	Amount	Due
HDC	Dog bins	22.44	Monthly
HDC	Car park rates	130.00	Monthly, for 10 months out of 12
EDF	Street lights	Circa £85	Monthly
Lloyds	Bank fees	£10-£15	Monthly
I&I Internet Ltd	Email & website	95.11	Monthly
BT	Broadband	39.96	Monthly
BT	Phone line	29.30	Monthly
ICO	Data protection subscription	35.00	Annually

Invoices to pay

It was RESOLVED to pay the following:

Salary for Clerk (March) – £572.48

Litter warden salary and expenses – £83.20 + £23.48 expenses = £106.68 total

HDC Mayday road closure - £100

Cllr. Hussey expenses - £6.60

Surveillance cameras - £180

Street lights maintenance - £301.22

WSALC subscriptions - £490.83

Sussex Land Services – grass cutting for 2018 - £3813.60

JK Engineering for finger post - £2,310

All of these payments will be sent via bank transfer.

23 Other business

None.

24 Date of Next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on 30th April 2019 after the Annual Parish Meeting. The next Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting will be held on 23rd April 2019 at 8 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

LEANNE BANNISTER
CLERK