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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 29th October 2024 at 7.00pm. This meeting was held at Rusper Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M Cooke (Chair), G Hussey (Vice Chair), G Sallows, F Maitland-Smith, S White, M Fenton, D Matthews, R Gatt, M Fillmore and County Councillor Katie Nagle.

Also present: There were 5 members of the public.

Meeting commenced 1900hrs

170-24 **Apologies**

It was resolved to accept apologies in advance of the meeting from Cllr G Fleming, District Councillor Liz Kitchen and District Councillor Tony Hogben.

171-24 **Declaration of Interests**

Members were reminded to make any declarations of a personal and/or pecuniary interest that they may have in relation to items on the agenda. None from Councillors. Noted MOP Sally Pavey is Chair of GAGNE but represents Warnham Parish Council.

172-24 **Climate Crisis**

The Council **acknowledged** that there is currently a climate crisis, and to ensure that all decisions made within meeting have consideration to this.

173-24 **Minutes of previous meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 24th September 2024. The Chair signed the minutes.

174-24 **Open Forum**

Council were reminded that the SWOI AGM and public meeting is on 7th November at Ifield Community Centre – Peter Lamb MP will be present.

MOP said that villagers were touched by the condolences for Chas Forrest. Noted that the playground was installed by Mr Forrest when he was a Parish Councillor. Bus Shelters were organised 12 years ago and cost about £12,000. Bus stops at Gardeners Green and The Star need some maintenance. Chat Room in the playground roof needs repairing. The greatest asset is the village shop and it is under sustained attack MOP asked Council to consider putting a camera up outside the shop or perhaps some money towards their defences. Noted that the Gatwick community trust information was passed to the owners of the shop for them to claim some grant money.

Cllr Sally Pavey – Chairman Warnham Parish Council, a copy of a power point presentation was presented to the Council regarding the consultation of the modernisation of airspace, ACOG for mapping and the emphasis was for the new tracking to include alternative routes as part of the consultation. Parish Councils are making a combined effort to ensure that all options are offered as part of the consultation. MOP added that as a resident there is would be an increase of 10db more

noise over Rusper and it will be even more intolerable than previously in 2014. Local parishes need to put up resistance for Gatwick's latest proposal and to respect locals' representations.

175-24 Planning

"In the event that the officers are minded to propose the acceptance of this application, Rusper Parish Council would ask for it to go to full committee and that the Parish Council is allowed to speak to their objections at the meeting."

i) DC/24/0874 - The Lamb Inn Lambs Green Rusper West Sussex (AMENDED DESCRIPTION)

It was noted that the extension at the back of the pub building is significantly larger than what was originally proposed. General street scene does not have much of an impact. Noted the sheds at back are for cycles and bins but there are no heights or descriptions in the documentation. It was **agreed** that it needs to go to committee so Parish Council can present their objection to the application which include the scale of the proposed development and the lack of consideration to the listed building behind which are important considerations to impact the decision.

It was **RESOLVED** to object to the application as the extension is substantially larger than the previous application and as it is in a sensitive location, due to the listed building behind, the Council defer to the Listed Buildings department. Further objection to the application is that there is no public transport available on this route. The Council notes that there are bike racks and bin storage included in the car parking area but can see no details such as height and materials of these two storage units.

ii) MO/2024/1535 - Pinewood Park, Capel Road, Rusper, Horsham, Surrey, RH12 4PZ

The application was submitted via Mole Valley as Rusper Parish Council were named consultees. The site is next to a current gypsy traveller site. Noted that a representation will be sent to Mole Valley District Council. Noted traffic in unsuitable lanes, extra school children, location away from any built area, no public transport, road is not even classified as a B road, no water and sewage provision (although this is not a planning provision). Noted new LP adopted in October and there are travellers sites within the plan and this location is not one of them. Unsuitable site away from any built area, no bus services, poor lanes, there are unlawful homes on the existing neighbouring sites creating a higher density. The council objects to any further destruction of the ancient woodland on site. Unanimous.

It was **RESOLVED** object to the application as it is an unsuitable site away from any built area, no bus services, poor lanes in a remote location, all access to services will be via car. Water neutrality is not met and as Rusper Parish Council is a consultee this should be adhered to as the assumption is that the water is taken from Southern Water Authority. There are already unlawful homes on the site and therefore this application is of a higher density than the plans show. The Parish Council further objects to any interference with the ancient woodland on the site.

176-24 Reports from other Authorities

County Councillor Katie Nagle – noted the issue with collection of school children has been resolved by the resident and the school transport service. Noted that the County Councillor will help the Council with a speed reduction and VAS applications.

Report via Clerk from DC Tony Hogben – noted that the Sunday parking prices are going up by 294% in town centre which made national news. Capital is costing more than the 10.5 million allocated so most likely to be scaled back. Mowbray are starting to test boreholes.

177-24 **Rusper Sports Club Management**

- i) Draft sub lease to Rusper Sports Club Management. A draft underlease was distributed to the Council in advance of the meeting. Community Interest is a recommendation. Cost of the rent for the sports club and how that is managed between the 2. Noted that there has always been 2 members of the Parish Council, sports club has terms, bank, insurance and has had that system for a long time.
- ii) **Legal costs for sub lease.** It was **proposed** a sub lease should be written to make the sports club as a corporation and then ask Surrey Hills Solicitors to finalise the wording of the lease. It was proposed that Cllr Fillmore go to a committee to talk about the lease and what will be in place. It was proposed that the EMR legal support out of the EMR. Carry to next meeting.

177-24 **GATWICK**

- i) It was **RESOLVED** to **note** the Gatwick report which is also available on the Council website. .
- ii) It was **proposed** that a joint response with Slinfold Parish Council to support the powerpoint presentation given should be written. The vote unanimous. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr M Fillmore will write a response to the presentation given on behalf of the Council.
- iii) Noted the update from Cllr M Fillmore on the DCO which has been moved to January.

178-24 **Playground Inspection Report**

Cllr Hussey noted that the rope section of the slide had been repaired. The chat room sides were repaired and the roof now needs maintenance. It is expected that the cost will be £200 to repair the roof, wood to be delivered to Cllr Sallows home. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will issue payment for the maintenance of the playground materials as required.

179-24 **Fingerposts**

It was noted the survey of the posts and the work required before budgeting the maintenance of the posts. Survey received from Cllr Fenton and Cllr Fleming and a MOP also provided an update. Clerk to reissue the report at the next meeting.

180-24 **Bus Shelter**

It was noted that the survey received from Cllr Fenton. Carry to next meeting.

181-24 **20mph Speed reduction**

Cllr White met with WSCC George Fort on the day of the meeting. The 20mph was discussed together with the next steps. Carried to next meeting.

182-24 **Village Sign outside Bohunt School staff entrance**

Cllr R Gatt reported that the new Rusper sign licence has been processed and get on with it. Clerk to raise an invoice. Carried to next meeting.

183-24 **Streetlights**

A model contract from Streetlights Ltd was distributed in advance of the meeting. The Clerk recommended that the Council should renew the maintenance contract for streetlights to avoid any missed maintenance issues. Clerk to request a quotation for a maintenance contract from Streetlights Ltd. Carried to next meeting.

184-24 **WSCC Highways Consultation**

It was **agreed** that the response from the Chair would be submitted with the additions to comments that as HDC Planning seem to want to build, local communities as a priority is useless for Rusper. Missing integrated travel policy with rail and buses and everything else is meaningless as there is a need for integrated bus and rail that is missing as it is all in the hands of private enterprise. The Council want to avoid desktop studies as the highways too far away from rail and buses, if you want to cycle they are unsafe because they are rat runs between towns. Current problem with pot holes make travel even more dangerous. Clerk to issue the response.

185-24 Enterprising Horsham – Consultation Underway – Parish Councils

Item carried to the next Planning Committee meeting.

186-24 Water Neutrality Question

A document detailing questions to send to HDC Planning regarding Water Neutrality was issued in advance of the meeting this was in response to the HDC planning training. It was proposed to send the questions to HDC. It was **RESOLVED** to issue the letter to Barbara Childs of HDC. Action Clerk.

187-24 WSCC Highways Winterisation

To note the new contact for Rusper Parish Council is George Fort of WSCC, a meeting was arranged on the day of the meeting where the 20mph was discussed as well as the proposed TRO as noted in the Millfields permitted planning application.

188-24 Rusper Parish Council Plan 2024

The Clerk issued a draft plan to outline the projects the council will undertake. The plan is a live document and will need further information adding to it. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the budget is due to be agreed and that spend on the forthcoming precept and the ear marked reserved needed to be researched and agreed. The Clerk suggested that the Council may want to form a Roads, Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee to run after the Planning Committee or on another date so that each project can be considered in more detail.

189-24 Financial

- i) It was **resolved** to **approve** the reports as attached - Reconciliation, Budget and Unity Bank transactions for September.
- ii) A first draft Budget FY25-26 was noted and alternations will be made for the next meeting.
- iii) It was **agreed** that Mulberry LCA Ltd to be appointed as the internal auditor FY24-25.
- iv) It was **noted** that the Council received an up to date CIL and S106 report.
- v) It was **agreed** to purchase of a replacement dedicated Parish mobile phone number as a cost of £33.00 per month to be set up via Direct Debit.
- vi) To **approve** the new UMS energy supply contract for the streetlights. (to follow)

190-24 Schedule of payments

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the schedule of payments.

191-25 Matters Arising

It was **noted** that Councillors wish to raise on the agenda for the next meeting:-

Tree surgery, Gatwick consultation, Courage Dyers, Noise Management Board pf GW airport HALC AGM and the Climate Action Group.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Council have the right to exclude the public and press from a meeting in respect of confidential or sensitive information which is prejudicial to the public interest and may pass a resolution, without notice, to do so.

192-25 Staff Matters

- i) To **consider** the NJC pay increase for the Clerk and RFO in line with the NALC payscale advice note October 2024. It was RESOLVED to provide the Clerk and RFO with a pay increase in line with SCP29 to £20.02 per hour backdated to 1st April 2024.
- ii) To **consider** a pay increase for the Litter Warden in line with minimum wage increases. It was RESOLVED to increase the Litter Warden pay to be 10% above National Minimum Wage effective from 1st November 2024 and for this to remain in place until the Council agree otherwise.

Next meeting is the Planning Committee meeting on 19th November 2024

Meeting closed 2109hrs

Signed..... Date.....