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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 25th February 2025 at 7.00pm. This meeting was held at Rusper Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M Cooke (Chair), G Hussey (Vice Chair), G Sallows, M Fenton, R Gatt, F Maitland-Smith, S White, D Matthews, G Fleming.

Also present: There were 5 members of the public for part of the meeting.

Meeting commenced 1900hrs

251-25 **Apologies**

It was resolved to accept apologies in advance of the meeting from County Councillor Katie Nagle, District Councillor Tony Hogben, M Fillmore.

252-25 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

253-25 **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.

254-25 **Minutes of previous meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 28th January 2025. The Chair signed the minutes.

255-25 **Open Forum**

MOP spoke about planning on Agenda 7 – stables are private, horses are kept there but there is no exercise paddock. The sand school will enable exercise of the horses to keep them off the road during winter. The barn is for agricultural purposes so an application for both has been put in. Only for private use, no commercial use. Location is tucked away from stables adjacent to woodland and uses the worse land on the site. Sand school has a lighting proposal to be used for a maximum for one hour per day during the darker evenings, tried to meet all the requirements on the application. Nearest property is 250m to the south covered in coppices and north side The Mount 400m away. Using solar panel currently and using solar powered light, unsure at this stage whether to connect to electricity. The previous application for sand school was approved in adjacent field but has since expired. If a generator is used it will be stored away in a storage block of its own to contain it and make it safe.

MOP spoke about Barnwood, there was interaction with local neighbours where a new access point was discussed. The applicants are doing a traffic survey and there are issues with biodiversity so that is the delay in the planning application submission.

It was agreed that the Chair would adjust the agenda order to suit the members of public in attendance.

256-25 Planning

DC/25/0172 - Land South of The Mount Farm, The Mount, Ifield, West Sussex

Erection of Agricultural barn and Sand School.

It was considered that the sand school could have a recommendation for a condition namely the sand school used for private recreation purposes only and not for livery or riding school establishment. Concern is the lighting in a remote area, on a raised location so most importantly is the impact on the wildlife in the area with bat and bird activity around that area. Minimum is condition that lighting is restricted to as fewer hours as possible. Noted that applicant has stated one hour use on the application. Noted that council discussed a condition to be applied on the lighting.

It was RESOLVED that council have no objection to the application on the basis that HDC Planning put in conditions to meet the application data. Conditions recommended are for the sand school to be built for private (non-commercial) use only and the lighting of the sand school is restricted to 1 hour per day usage.

2 MOP left

257-25 May Day Committee

- i) Handover had happened to a new committee for May Day planning. May Day will be held on 5th May 2025. It will be a traditional May Day activity with stalls on the streets with a band in the park with a picnic. May Day committee to write to the Clerk with any questions or information to be passed to council.
- ii) To was RESOLVED to approve the road closure application on behalf of the May Day Committee for 5th May 2025. Clerk to submit the application.

MOP left

258-25 Reports from other Authorities

The Clerk read out the report from District Councillor Tony Hogben.

259-25 Annual Parish Meeting

It was RESOLVED to hold the annual parish meeting 29th May 2025, Clerk to book the hall.

MOP left.

260-25 Rusper Sports Club Management

Cllr Simon White pushed through the charity paperwork in Cllr Fillmore's absence. The relationship agreement has had no changes or further discussion this can potentially be put through council. Sports Club AGM will be held in April where the relationship agreement will be adopted, but there will need to be changes to the constitution for charities commission requirements. Carry to the next meeting.

261-25 Gatwick

- i) The council **noted** the report that is on the parish council website.
- ii) CAGNE have asked council to consider a donation – carry to the next meeting.

262-24 Fingerposts

It was agreed that councillors would adopt fingerposts to manage. It was proposed that Cllr Maitland-Smith, Cllr Hussey and the Chair will get together to put together a volunteer list, costs and a renumbering system together with editing the fingerpost map. This will be then passed to the Clerk for her to obtain 3 quotations for repair and maintenance. Carry to next meeting.

263-24 WSCC Highways - TRO

The Clerk and Cllr Simon White met with WSCC Highways about the TRO application on 19th February. The Millfields planning application does have a table top speed calming measure condition in Horsham Road. It was noted that the Clerk had confirmed with the developer, planning officer and WSCC Highways that the speed reduction would not stop the installation of the table top as it was a requirement under planning condition. Noted that a pinch point was not possible due to the number of driveways in that area. Clerk advised council that they should consider the TRO in its own right and to the needs of the members of public who supported it. It was recommended to council to apply for a S106 to cover the £5000 costs towards the proposal. Council agreed that the issues of a point pinch point needed to be argued with HDC Planning Officer using local pinch points that have driveways along them in Faygate as an example.

It was **proposed** to apply for a 20mph and an extension of 30mph TRO. It was **RESOLVED** to apply for the TRO.

It was **proposed** to apply for S106 to pay £5000 towards the TRO application. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should apply for the Section 106 and if that fails to come back to council so funding can be sourced from the general fund.

264-25 Open Spaces Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that the committee would be formed to make recommendations to the ordinary meeting of the parish council. Clerk to write terms of reference ready for adoption at the May meeting.

265-25 Reports from Representatives

- i) Cllr Simon White – WSCC Highways said you cannot have larger blue HGV sign by Bohunt School or along the road leading up to the parish.
- ii) Cllr Marion Fenton – Bus Shelters working party are coming to look at the bus shelters with brushes and paint and some decking paint to do the bench outside the Village Hall. Clerk reimburse costs for the maintenance project.
- iii) Cllr Geoff Hussey – playground meeting has occurred, and the 2 quotes will be ready for the Clerk. Cllr Geoff Hussey – The chat room has now been maintained with new wooden roof. Type 2 stones are required for the front of the chat room or wood chips from a local tree surgeon.
- iv) Cllr Geoff Hussey – defibrillator signs were distributed for display.
- v) Cllr Michelle Cooke – Clerks appraisal was completed. Faygate Lane, Lambs Green is closed and had to be reported to WSCC Highways. The SID had to be removed from Saykers following a complaint, council can apply for a new licenced spot if they wish.
- vi) Cllr George Sallows – tree quotes were not included in the agenda which was the. It was proposed that the council

266-25 80th VE Day 8th May 2025

It was agreed that a beacon lighting would occur at 9.30pm on 8th May. Refreshments, advertising of the event and timings were to be discussed at the next meeting. Item carried to next meeting.

267-25 Financial

- i) It was **resolved** to **approve** the reports as attached - Reconciliation, Budget, EMR and Unity Bank transactions for January. The Chair signed the bank statements and reconciliation.
- ii) The revised contract for Grasstex was **considered** and it was **resolved** to approve the grass cutting contract which will be sent to Grasstex by the Clerk.
- iii) It was raised at the previous council meeting that there was some emergency works required to the trees in the sports field prior to the tree survey being completed. The works were **agreed** by the Clerk and the Chair under Financial Regulations 6.9 (ii) to the value of £875. Cllr George Sallows to organise the works.

268-24 Schedule of payments

It was RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments.

269-24 Matters Arising

None.

Next meeting is the planning committee meeting on 25th March 2025.

Meeting closed 2058hrs

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