



Chailey Parish Council

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Minutes

A Meeting of Full Council was held on Tuesday 13th December 2011 in the Reading Room, Chailey Green, commencing at 7.55 p.m.

Present: Cllr. L. Waller (Chairman)

Cllrs. D.Cranfield, J-P.Ellis, M.Evans, S.Griffin, J.Millam, R.Trussell.

Public present: None

In attendance: V. Grainger (Clerk).

11/153. Apologies for absence: Cllrs. P. Atkins, D.Cowan, P.Olbrich, J.Tillard

11/154. Declarations of interest: None.

11/155. Questions from members of the public: None

11/156. Items considered as a matter of urgency: None.

11/157. To agree minutes of Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2011: The minutes were **Agreed** and signed as a true record of the Full Council meeting held on 15th November 2011,(Council resolution 11/ 232).

11/158. Reports from Council Representatives on Village Organisations:

- **Chailey Windmill** - Cllr. Evans reported that the Chailey Windmill Committee AGM had been held and a copy of the financial report would be forwarded. Cllr. Evans outlined the main matters discussed:
 - i) The Windmill brochure had been redesigned during the year and the total costs had been met by the Friends of the Windmill.
 - ii) The insurance value for the post card collection may need to be reviewed.
 - iii) Advice would be sought regarding the death watch beetle infestation.
 - iv) The accounts provided indicated a surplus carried forward of just under £400.00.

11/159. Localism Act 2011- Provisions of interest to Parish Councils:

A report concerning the Localism Act 2011 and the implications for Parish Councils was circulated for information. The Localism Act would permit Parish Councils to have additional influence on future development and provision of services through the development of Neighbourhood Plans. At the Planning & Environs Committee meeting held on the 6th December members had discussed the provision of affordable housing and completing a housing needs survey in Chailey. Cllr. Evans suggested that it would be useful to have the opportunity to discuss future provision and development in Chailey without the time constraints of other matters for consideration. It was **agreed** that an additional informal meeting would be arranged in order to commence the process of formulating a future plan for Chailey.

11/160. Review of Standing Orders

The Clerk advised that a review of the Council's standing orders was being undertaken and that the completed sections of the standing orders would be provided to the next available meeting for consideration. This would include a review of the terms of reference for

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Planning & Environs Committee and roles and responsibilities. A report was circulated that set out the roles and responsibilities for the Clerk, Councillors and Chairman.

11/161. Finance Report to Council

i) Financial Summaries November:

The financial report for November was circulated indicating a balance of £125,036.43 in Barclays Bank Community account as at 30th November, with one un-presented cheque of £300.00, a ledger balance of £124,736.43 was indicated. Opening cash as at 1.4.11 was £50,892.29 with a current operating surplus of £100,122.00. It was **agreed** that £50,000.00 would be transferred to a deposit account with Barclays. The mandate documents were duly signed by Cllr. Evans and Cllr. Cranfield. With regard to the Halifax account it had been indicated that an additional amount could be added to the fixed rate account. However, this could only be authorised by the signatories at the branch office. Cllr Waller agreed to call at the branch office and ascertain what action was required to add to the account.

ii) Approval of Expenditure: The list of payments for November/December was circulated and approved.

iii) Budget Update: The budget return had been updated to include November payments and receipts, in order to further consider the Council Tax precept and budget for 2012/13.

11/162. Items for additional expenditure for 2012/13 budget.

Additional funds had been received from the proceeds of the grant of easement for St Marys Church, North Chailey. Members discussed possible options for expenditure which would provide community benefit. Some provision had been made for the rebuild of the Sports Pavilion, although some time had elapsed and a recent update of progress was considered necessary. Improvements to the condition of the sports fields had also been identified as an issue. Cllr. Griffin suggested inviting representatives from the sports club to attend a Council meeting to explain the various issues.

Queens Diamond Jubilee: Members considered the various suggestions for marking the Queens Diamond Jubilee. LDC Cllr. S Davy had put forward a number of ideas and the offer to organise these events was much appreciated. Other suggestions included the production of a Chailey Jubilee map and a Chailey beacon to link with the lighting of beacons around the country. It was suggested that the Chailey Bonfire Society might have some plans in place and Chailey Bonfire Society representatives would be invited to the January Parish Council meeting.

11/163. Correspondence for noting:

River Farm – A letter had been sent to the owner of River Farm following a meeting attended by the Clerk and Cllr. Waller, a copy was available for inspection.

Chailey Youth Group- a letter of thanks had been received from Chailey Youth group for the continued support provided by the Parish Council.

ESCC- Commons Management - cattle grid at North Chailey. It had been suggested that a speed ramp would be installed at Mill Lane, North Chailey to slow traffic approaching the cattle grid in order to reduce the noise impact. The Parish Council had been requested to confirm its agreement to the installation of the ramp and to the circulation of a letter to local residents. Members expressed concern that there should be no insurance liability implications for the Parish Council. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would make further enquires to ascertain the position.

11/164. Items for information and further discussion

- **Bus Stop at South Chailey**- There had been previous discussion about the use of the Pump House at South Chailey, as a bus shelter. It was **agreed** that a survey of the present condition would be made in order to progress the matter.
- **Rural Broadband Access**- Cllr. Trussell had attended a recent conference concerning the Government's plan for superfast broadband connections. It had

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been identified that the connection speed was significantly slower in rural areas. Although the use of fibre optics was being introduced in some parts of the country, there were no plans to introduce this anywhere in East Sussex with the exception of the urban areas of Lewes and Uckfield. Home-based businesses in rural areas rely on the internet to conduct business. The aim of East Sussex County Council is to get all of East Sussex covered, however there was a requirement to demonstrate need. A five person team was being recruited to progress the matter and some funds were allocated to conduct a needs survey – with the aim for roll out in 2013. Cllr. Trussell agreed to represent the Parish Council on this matter and report progress.

- **Cattle Grids/signs at North Chailey** – Cllr. Millam expressed concerns about the signs at North Chailey adjacent to the cattle grids which restricted sight lines. It was confirmed that this would be raised at the ESCC Highways SLR meeting to be held on 16th December.

11/165. Risk Implications to include update on progress of Risk Assessment Schedule:

Additional comments had been made to the draft risk assessment schedule. Copies of the schedule were circulated for further comment.

11/166. Implications of Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Section 17: None

11/167. Parish Council Meeting Dates 2012

The 2012 meeting schedule was circulated and the dates confirmed.

11/168. Date of next meeting of Full Council: 17th January 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Date:

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