



Chailey Parish Council
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Minutes

A Meeting of Full Council was held on Tuesday 17th June 2014 in the Reading Room, Chailey Green, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr. D. Cranfield (Chairman).
Cllrs. P. Atkins, S Avery, M. Evans, S. Griffin, K. Matthews, J. Millam,
P. Olbrich, J.Tillard.

Public present: None.

In attendance: V. Grainger (Clerk).

14/79. Apologies: Cllrs. D. Cowan, J-P Ellis.

14/80. Declarations of Interest: None.

14/81. Questions/ Comments from members of the public: None.

14/82. Items considered as a matter of urgency: Cllr. Millam mentioned that he had received a telephone call on the previous Sunday from Mr Benstead and had contacted the Clerk on Monday morning regarding a tree at Mill Lane, North Chailey, which Mr Benstead had reported was in urgent need of felling. The Clerk confirmed that the tree had been inspected and circulated photographs of the tree in question. Although the main trunk was split the tree surgeon had not considered it required urgent attention. However, it was scheduled to be felled as soon as practically possible. The Clerk agreed to contact the contractor and ascertain when the work would be completed.

14/83. To agree minutes of Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27th May 2014. The minutes were **Agreed** and signed as a true record of the Full Council meeting held on 27th May 2014 (Council resolution 14/316).

14/84. Reports from Council Representatives on Village Organisations:

- **Allotments:** Cllr. Griffin had made a recent inspection of the allotments plots and noted that some were in need of attention. It was explained that some had been recently relinquished and the new plot holders were now beginning work to cultivate the plots.
- **ESCC Highways SLR Meeting:** Cllr. Evans confirmed that the next Highways meeting was to be held on 24th June and the agenda would be circulated. Agenda items included the community self-serve initiative whereby the Parish Council could agree a 50% contribution towards any requested/and agreed Highways improvements. There would also be discussion about the Bus Stop near to Grantham Close.
- **Chailey Youth Group**
Cllr. Olbrich advised that the Youth Group were still seeking volunteer helpers. Members of Chailey WI were helping with demonstrations which had proved popular with the young people attending. A charity football match and barbeque was being planned for the 20th July. The Youth Group was now up to capacity with the numbers of young people attending.

14/85. Review of Progress of proposed changes to Chailey Common LNR Management Agreement:

It was confirmed that there had been no response from Lewes District Council to the request for a meeting to discuss the proposed changes to the LNR Management Agreement and the scheme of regulations. It was noted that two years ago the Parish Council had been advised of a revision of the agreement and responsibilities. It was now suggested that there should be a separate agreement for the Local Nature Reserve. In the proposed document the role of volunteers was unclear and their knowledge and expertise seemed to have been excluded. It was **agreed** that Cllr. Evans would draft a response to Mr Fathers on behalf of the Council. This would be circulated to Councillors for approval.

Mr J Smith had suggested that the Management Committee should meet on 9th July. The Committee remained in force until it was resolved to dissolve it, although Mr Smith's Chairmanship had ended in April 2014. The suggested main agenda items for the meeting were:

1. Treasurers Report
2. Update on the grazing project
3. Future financial contributions

It was commented that Lewes District Council should play an active role in the management of the commons; and the role of the Commons Society should be clarified.

14/86. Review of refurbishment of Parish Assets:

i) Chailey Windmill

The Council had received some recommendations from the Millwright advisor to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings; and an amended quotation had been sought for the repairs to the Windmill, using the recommended materials. The cost of the hire of the elevated platform would be £2,440.00, the cost of the operator would be £1,695 and the repair and replacement of the Fantail £2,960.00, a total of £7,095. The Insurance Company had reimbursed £3,765.00 for the storm damage to the fantail, but the repairs to the Windmill Cap were not covered. A sum of £500.00 had been received from the Friends of Chailey Windmill. This left a shortfall of £3,265.00, which the Parish Council would have to draw from the Windmill earmarked reserves. It was noted that not proceeding speedily with the repairs would result in water ingress and further damage to the Mill, and loss of visitor income. While the platform was in place the exterior paintwork would be cleaned in preparation for re-painting.

An electrical testing report had also been obtained for the Windmill with two recommendations to rectify potentially dangerous faults i.e. a replacement light switch (cost £25.00) and replacement earthing rod (cost £110.00).

Cllr. Cranfield proposed agreement of the Fantail/Cap repairs and electrical repair expenditure. This was seconded by Cllr. Olbrich and unanimously **agreed**, it was therefore resolved that the expenditure of £3,265.00 and £135.00 was agreed and remedial works would proceed.

14/87. Financial Reports to Council

i) Financial Summaries for May:

The financial reports for May had been circulated indicating a ledger balance at the end of May of £37,367.41 for Barclays Bank community account. There were nine un-presented cheques totalling £9,634.41 outstanding. The Barclays deposit account balance was £100,567.77. Total expenditure to date was £23,174.08 and the current operating surplus was £6,265.34

It was **agreed** that £15,000 should be transferred from the Barclays Bank deposit account to the community account to meet forthcoming expenditure.

- iii) **Earmarked Reserves** – The listing of earmarked reserves was noted. The provision for the play area and Windmill repairs had been increased in line with estimated cost of works; and an amount had been added for the cost of providing a path to the Pump House bus shelter. It was commented that St Peter's PCC had written to the Chairman concerning a contribution towards the addition of community facilities at St Peter's Church. It was **agreed** that this request would be discussed at the next meeting when all community grants were considered.

14/88. Items for Information and Future Discussion:

- Cllr. Millam had been contacted by a local resident wishing to amend a planning application submitted to Lewes District Council. It was **agreed** that the resident should be advised to contact the appropriate Planning Officer for advice.
- Cllr. Olbrich had received correspondence from a resident concerning the agricultural plots at Markstakes Lane. The letter was passed to the Clerk for response.
- Cllr. Griffin reported upon her attendance at the recent Lewes District Council meeting concerning the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). CIL applied to new dwellings and other development and was paid by developers to local authorities to meet the costs of additional infrastructure needs. There was a scale of contributions, 15% of which would be made available to the Parish Council. However, if a Neighbourhood Plan had been developed by the Parish Council and approved, this contribution would increase to 25%. The present arrangement of s106 contributions would continue for industrial developments and the new regulations would come into force in April 2015.
- It was noted that there was a proposal for housing development at the Old Hamsey Brickworks site, but the Parish Council had not been formally invited to comment.

14/89. Correspondence for Noting and Response:

The list of correspondence received was circulated and noted.

14/90. Risk Implications including Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Section 17: None

14/91. Date of next meeting of Full Council: The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 15th July 2014 at 7.30 p.m. The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Date:

Initials:

Date: