

ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 21 June 2010 in the War Memorial Hall, Alfriston, commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr R Savage (in the Chair)
Cllr D Monteath-Wilson
Cllr J Byford
Cllr S Charlton
Cllr J Dumelow
Cllr G Ellis
County Cllr N Bennett
District Cllr A Watkins

In attendance: 18 Parishioners
S Smith – Parish Clerk

Public Questions

1. Mr Wilson firstly expressed his concern over the structure of the Lion situated outside the Star Inn. *Cllr Savage advised he would contact Rev Fox-Wilson to request an assessment.* Secondly he noted that the URC Garden was in need of attention. Thirdly he advised that it had been brought to his attention that vehicles were being incorrectly directed into and out of the village via Winton Street by satellite navigation devices. *Cllr Savage advised that East Sussex County Council were aware of the problem.*
2. Mrs Sayers requested an update on her application to Wealden District Council to run horse and wagon rides around the village from a base in the Willows Car Park. *The Clerk advised that APC had been consulted by WDC and that the matter was still under consideration.*
3. Mr Thomas expressed his concerns about the security of the allotments as he has witnessed unauthorised youngsters on the site in the evening.
4. Mr Taylor drew attention to a dispute about vehicle access over the Bridleway in Winton Street. He stated his position that he had been professionally advised that he had full uninterrupted access to his land, despite suggestions to the contrary from one of his neighbours. *Cllr Savage pointed out that Rights of Way were the responsibility of ESCC rather than APC.*
5. Mrs Sayers questioned why a contractor had been instructed by an APC Councillor to start work on restricting access to the Bridleway in Winton Street. *Cllr Savage assured her that she had been mis-informed. Any further queries should be put in writing to the Clerk.*
6. Mr Burden firstly drew attention to a problem with overhanging tree branches on the Tye. *Cllr Savage confirmed the Tree Warden would be informed.* Secondly he noted that 17

cars had been illegally parked on the Tye during a function one weekend. *Cllrs noted the position, which will become part of the evidence for the wider review of parking on the Tye.*

The Meeting

539.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Hogestijn.

540.0 Minutes

Unadopted Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 June 2010 had been circulated previously. Acceptance of the Minutes as a true record was **proposed** by Cllr Monteath-Wilson, **seconded** by Cllr Dumelow and **agreed**.

541.0 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Cllr Bennett gave an update on the Waste and Minerals Consultation, noting that the responses to the Consultation were now being considered. He confirmed that the South Downs National Park Authority was now up and running in shadow format and urged parishioners to visit their website to find out more information. A map showing the area covered by the SDNPA has been given to the Parish Council, which Cllrs asked the Clerk to bring to the next meeting.

542.0 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Cllr Watkins advised that a delegation of Planning powers from the SDNPA to WDC is pending. He confirmed that the local Postmaster has been in communication with WDC following his presentation at the Annual Assembly. The Local Development Framework (LDF) consultation is still in existence, although some of the “top down” targets imposed by Central Government have been scrapped following the recent election. The Star Inn Licensing Application is to be heard by WDC on 19 July. Following the Public Question re the horse and cart rides in the village District Cllr Watkins will establish the present position.

543.0 HIGHWAYS and TWITTENS – Cllr Charlton

543.1 Update re Village Traffic Matters

Cllr Charlton reported that at the recent Finance Committee Meeting, Cllrs debated the recent request from SAFE towards the costs of holding an in-depth investigation into the traffic problems in the village. This would be held under the auspices of English Heritage / Public Realm Information and Advice Network. It was felt that this workshop would address a key issue identified in the Parish Plan and accordingly was something that APC should support. Early indications are that it is likely to cost in the region of £6,000, but a great deal of detail about the scope and objectives of the exercise remains to be finalised. Committee members felt that a proposal should be submitted to full Council that an amount of £5,000 should be allocated towards a contribution to the workshop, subject to APC being fully satisfied that such a workshop was in the interest of the whole village. A proposal to allocate £5,000 to be available to a workshop involving PRIAN/EH/ESCC/APC/SAFE/WDC was **proposed** by Cllr Charlton, **seconded** by Cllr Dumelow and **agreed** with no objections.

543.2 Lorry Watch / Police Enforcement

This is ongoing – no further data.

543.3 Any other Highway matter

Cllr Charlton advised that ESCC Highways Dept have been reminded that the yellow lines in Weavers Lane need repainting. Cllr Monteath-Wilson trusted that the correct width and colour will be used, as incorrect markings had previously been applied, causing problems.

544.0 CAR and COACH PARKS and PUBLIC TRANSPORT – Cllr Ellis

544.1 Dene Car Park

Cllr Ellis reported that the new posts have been ordered and delivery is expected shortly.

544.2 Willows Car Park

Cllr Ellis noted that WDC have indicated they are not supportive of APC's plans for the supply of electricity but that the matter is still being pursued.

544.3 Any other Car and Coach Park Matter

None

544.4 Any Public Transport matter

None.

545.0 FINANCE – The Clerk

545.1 To receive the Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 3 June 2010

Unadopted Minutes had previously been circulated previously. Acceptance of the Minutes as a true record was **proposed** by Cllr Charlton, **seconded** by Cllr Ellis and **agreed**.

545.2 Presentation of 2009 / 2010 Audited Accounts

The Clerk circulated the Audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010, which revealed an excess of receipts over payments excluding VAT of £10,318. Cllr Charlton thanked the Clerk for ensuring their preparation had been completed in a timely manner. Cllr Charlton **proposed** their acceptance by Councillors. The motion was **seconded** by Cllr Monteath-Wilson and **agreed**.

545.3 Statement of Finances

The Clerk advised the summary of bank account balances as at 21 June 2010.

Precept Deposit account	28,971.30
Current account	24,978.18
Savings Account	5,484.27
Car Park Account	13,404.19
Total	<u>72,837.94</u>

545.4 Invoices for Payment

The Clerk presented the following invoices for July payment. Copies circulated to all Councillors.

• Wages – P Grosse	£212.95
• Wages – M Honisett	£262.24
• Wages – D Skertchly	£251.54
• Wages – S Smith	£806.41
• HMRC – Tax and NI	£404.57
• Wealden DC – Car Park Returns	£11,079.14
• Alfriston Heartstart (Proceeds of Mine)	£506.93
• Nigel Butten – Internal Audit	£300.00
• Society of Local Council Clerks - Subscription	£135.00
• BT – Telephone	£134.23
• R J Field – Allotment Clearance	£110.00
• Cale Briparc – Car Park keys	£96.26
• BT – Internet	£79.31
• JB Architectural Ironmongery	£55.03
• Mrs P Milledge – Reimbursement of Repairs	£26.44
• S Smith – Reimbursement of Locksmith Charges	<u>£20.00</u>

Total

£14,480.05

A proposal to accept the Finance Report was **proposed** by Cllr Ellis, **seconded** by Cllr Dumelow and **agreed**.

545.5 Any other Finance matter

None

546.0 Planning – Cllr Charlton

546.1 To receive Minutes from the Planning Committee meetings held since last Parish Meeting

- WD/2010/0716/F: Merebank, Seaford Road, BN26 5TP – Demolition of 2 cattery buildings and replacement with agricultural building. Erection of polytunnel, revert from use of land for cattery business to smallholding. Agricultural building to

manage 2 hectares including new orchard. Polytunnel to run small not for profit local vegetable and fruit box scheme. *No objections.*

- WD/2010/0828/LBR: The Old Manse, High Street, BN26 5SZ – Retrospective application for alterations undertaken by previous owners. *No recommendations as insufficient details supplied by WDC.*
- WD/2010/0982/F: Highway Cottage, Winton Street, BN26 5UJ – Replacing unsightly and inappropriate extension occupying a similar footprint. Replacing garage and greenhouse building with a new garage. Repositioning existing oil tank. *No objections.*
- WD/2010/0983/LB: Highway Cottage, Winton Street, BN26 5UJ – Replacing unsightly and inappropriate extension occupying a similar footprint. Replacing garage and greenhouse building with a new garage. Repositioning existing oil tank. *No objections.*

WD/2010/1178/LB: 10 North Street, BN26 5UG – Minor alteration works to modernise the property in keeping with its historic character. *No objections.*

546.2 Matters for consideration by Planning Committee this evening (after meeting)

None

546.3 Decisions notified

- WD/2010/0613/F: Alfriston United Reformed Church, High Street, and the Gun Hall, The Tye – Demolish existing single-storey extension and construct new two-storey extension with link openings (Listed Church Building). Convert to single dwelling and construct new stair extension (adjacent church hall). *Withdrawn 28/5/10.*
- WD/2010/0614/LB: Alfriston United Reformed Church, High Street, and the Gun Hall, The Tye – Demolish existing single-storey extension and construct new two-storey extension with link openings (Listed Church Building). Convert to single dwelling and construct new stair extension (adjacent Church hall). *Withdrawn 28/5/10.*
- WD/2010/0677/F: Rose Cottage, North Street BN26 5UQ – Provision of a detached double garage block with first floor studio. *Granted 18/5/10.*
- WD/2010/0706/F: Little Stow, BN26 5XS – New Dormer to West (rear) elevation, new entrance porch, extension to hall and internal alterations. *Granted 25/5/10.*
- WD/2010/0798/F: The Gun Hall, United Reformed Church Memorial Hall, The Tye – Convert to single dwelling. Construct new stair extension. Division of site to retain Church car park. *Withdrawn 28/5/10.*

546.4 Any other planning matter

None

546.5 Premises Licence Variation Application WK/2010028028 – The Star Inn

Following a Public Meeting held on 9 June, the Clerk has written to the Licensing Officer at WDC urging that the concerns of the immediate neighbours over the use of the garden facilities, namely the playing of live music and the sale of alcohol are taken into account.

547.0 ALLOTMENTS and RECREATION GROUND – Cllr Byford

547.1 Allotment Clearance

Cllr Byford reported the clearance is mostly completed. This item is to be deleted from the Agenda.

547.2 Allotment Allocation

Cllr Byford advised that all the existing plots have been allocated and that she and the Clerk were working together to allocate the reclaimed plots within the next month. This item is to be deleted from the Agenda.

547.3 Any other Allotment matter

Cllr Byford reported that the Notice Board is now ready and should be put in place shortly.

547.4 Licence for Clubs Using the Pavilion

The Clerk will provide an update next month.

547.5 Recreation Ground – Play Area/Fencing

The annual inspection from ROSPA is expected this month.

547.6 Any other Recreation Ground matter

The sub-committee are expected to meet within the next month and give a report to APC with their proposals.

548.0 RIGHTS OF WAY and COUNTRYSIDE – Cllr Dumelow

548.1 Winton Street Bridleway

Already covered during Public Questions.

548.2 Any other Rights of Way matter

Cllr Byford noted that a sign in North Road needed attention.

548.3 Any Countryside matter

Nothing to report.

548.4 Any report from Tree Warden

No report.

549.0 The TYE - Cllr Monteath-Wilson

549.1 Access to AWMH and Parking

Cllr Monteath-Wilson referred to the suggestions put forward by Mr Gulland and noted that due to the complexity of the matter it should be deferred until next month.

549.2 Any other matter relating to the Tye

None.

550.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING

550.1 Parish Plan

The Clerk advised he is in communication with the Chairman of the Parish Plan Committee to arrange for more copies to be printed.

550.2 United Reformed Church

Planning Applications for the Church and the Church Hall have been withdrawn.

550.3 Any other Strategic Planning matter

None.

551.0 PARISH CLERK

551.1 Grass cutting Contract

The Finance Committee recommended that the existing contractor be retained for the next 3 years, on the basis of the competitive quote given and the quality of the work undertaken. A resolution to grant the contract to Mr G Pocock was **proposed** by Cllr Charlton, **seconded** by Cllr Dumelow and **agreed**.

551.2 Proposed Comforts and Joys Donation

To be carried forward to next month.

551.3 Any Other matter

None

552.0 Reports from Outside Bodies

a. Heartstart – Cllr Dumelow reported that there have been 76 calls so far this year for Heartstart.

b. War Memorial Hall Committee – Cllr Monteath-Wilson advised their next meeting will be held next week.

c. Alfriston & Cuckmere Valley Partnership – The Clerk has received a report indicating nothing to report this month.

553.0 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

553.1 Any Correspondence Received

- Cllr Hogestijn has tendered her resignation from the Council, citing personal reasons. Cllr Savage praised her contribution and requested the Clerk to investigate all options regarding the vacancy created.
- A letter has been received from the organisers of Photoplod 2010, thanking APC for the use of the Recreation Ground for the event held on 5 June which raised the record pledged sum of £52,500 for Action Medical Research.
- The Clerk advised he has received 2 emails concerning suspected illegal use of the Downs in the vicinity of the village – he will keep the matter under review and bring back to Council if further problems are brought to his notice.
- Cllr Byford drew attention to correspondence received from 2 parishioners about the ongoing traffic problems in the village, which the Clerk had previously circulated to Cllrs. Both parties (one of which was acting on behalf of 20 High Street residents / traders) are pressing APC to take action further action on the proposal to install traffic lights at the bottleneck in the High Street. The Clerk referred to the resolution passed earlier in respect of funding the workshop as being APC's preferred way forward.

554.0 DATE of NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 19 July 2010 at 7.30pm in the War Memorial Hall, preceded by Public Questions from 7.15pm.

Public Questions / Observations

- Mrs Gregory expressed her concerns at the delay in obtaining replacement security posts in the Dene Car Park. *Cllr Savage and the Clerk confirmed that they expected the position to be resolved very shortly.*
- Mrs Daw noted that the fountain on the Tye was not working. *Cllr Monteath-Wilson will arrange for it to be prepared.*
- Mrs Daw also gave details about cars being parked illegally on The Tye during a recent wedding. *Following discussion, Cllrs requested the Clerk to investigate the provision of temporary No Waiting notices which could be strategically placed during events*
- Mr Goodchild referred back to the earlier public question about the Winton Street Bridleway to clarify that the contractor was working under his instruction, rather than an APC Councillor, as had been suggested.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.