

# ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

## CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2007 in the War Memorial Hall, Alfriston, commencing at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Mr G. Knights, Chairman  
Cllr J. Byford  
Cllr Mrs S. Charlton  
Cllr J. Dumelow (from item 7.0)  
Cllr D. Monteath-Wilson  
Cllr R. Savage

**In attendance:** County Councillor J. Garvican  
District Councillor K. Whitehead  
18 parishioners  
P. Ayers Clerk

### Mr G. Knights in the Chair

In his capacity as out-going Chairman, Mr Knights took the Chair, and welcomed all present. There had not been an election on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, as insufficient valid nominations had been received at Wealden DC by the closing date. Thus all those who had put their names forward viz Jilly Byford, Sheila Charlton, Geoff Ellis, Diana Monteath-Wilson and Ray Savage were elected unopposed. He and all members of the out-going administration were disappointed that there had not been an election, but nonetheless wished the new Council well in its deliberations.

### **1.0 DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

The Clerk had distributed a pack of initial papers to all new Members, which would need to be dealt with prior to the ordinary business of the Council. The first of those was the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which each Member needed to sign in his presence. This was duly undertaken by all present and witnessed by the Clerk.

### **2.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Mr Knights called for nominations for the office of Chairman. Cllr Monteath-Wilson was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Charlton and **seconded** by Cllr Savage. There were no other nominations, and Mr Knights declared Cllr Monteath-Wilson duly elected as Chairman for the 2007-8 Council year. He offered his congratulations to the new Chairman, and all members echoed that view.

Cllr Monteath-Wilson completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman and the Clerk witnessed this.

The new Chairman thanked members for their support, and promised to continue to work for the benefit of the village.

### Cllr Monteath-Wilson in the Chair

### **3.0 THANKS**

The Chairman thanked Mr Knights for his superb job as Chairman for the last four years, and would do her best to emulate his success. He had drawn the Parish Council into the 21<sup>st</sup> century in a way that would have been inconceivable when she started attending meetings some 11 years ago. Members of the out-going Council had paid their own tributes during a social gathering recently. She commented that the Council now faced strategic demands way beyond the skills of volunteers, which needed to tap into the professional skills of all local residents. For that reason, the Parish Council did not follow either party or village

politics but tried to work for the benefit of the community as a whole. Mr Knights had laid firm foundation stones upon which to build in the future, and she thanked him again.

#### **4.0 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Mrs Charlton was **proposed** by Cllr Savage and **seconded** by Cllr Byford. There were no other nominations, and the Chairman declared Cllr Mrs Charlton duly elected. She completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Vice-Chairman, which was witnessed by the Clerk. All members congratulated Cllr Mrs Charlton on her election.

#### **5.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Ellis had tendered his apologies for absence. His reason for absence was noted in the Attendance Register.

#### **6.0 PROCEDURE FOR FILLING CASUAL VACANCIES**

##### **6.1 Clerk's report**

The Clerk distributed a report and draft policy for filling casual vacancies. He read the report which outlined the need for a laid down policy since there had been no need for co-options for nine years, but now that the need had arisen, there were already a number of expressions of interest to fill the two vacant posts. He had sought advice from other local Councils as well as the Sussex Association. There did not seem to be any standard procedure, so his draft policy drew on what was done elsewhere in the County.

There was clear evidence that one additional candidate had submitted a nomination form by first class recorded delivery post on 29<sup>th</sup> March, well before the closing date for nominations on 4<sup>th</sup> April, but for whatever reason beyond their control, the papers had not been received at Wealden DC until after the due date. Wealden DC's officers had confirmed that in every other respect this nomination was valid, and the Clerk had had sight of the paperwork. In legal terms, with evidence of posting available, the nomination was deemed to have been received 48 hours after the date of posting. This put the nomination well within the timescale laid down by Wealden DC, so that the only failing was due to circumstances beyond the control of either the nominee or Wealden DC. In those circumstances, and having taken advice from the Sussex Association of Local Councils, the Clerk considered that the nomination of Mrs Jennifer Dumelow of 12, Saffron Gardens, Alfriston had been valid and accordingly recommended her co-option with immediate effect.

As far as the second vacancy was concerned, the Clerk recommended that Members should reflect on the situation and the possible policy for adoption, and that filling the remaining casual vacancy was deferred to the June meeting. If the vacancy were to be advertised after that meeting, it would still be possible to interview candidates and recommend co-option to the July meeting of the Council. This would enable the newly co-opted Member to get up to speed with the responsibilities of their Portfolio over the summer recess and enable full service to be resumed in September.

After a brief discussion, Cllr Byford **proposed** that Mrs Jennifer Dumelow was co-opted onto the Parish Council with immediate effect. This was **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Charlton and **agreed unanimously**.

Mrs J. Dumelow was invited to join Councillors, and completed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was counter-signed by the Clerk.

Members also agreed to defer consideration of the second co-option until the June meeting whilst they reflected on the draft Policy prepared by the Clerk.

#### **7.0 CODE OF CONDUCT**

##### **7.1 New Code of Conduct**

The Clerk reported on the new Code of Conduct issued by central Government for adoption by all Councils from 3<sup>rd</sup> May. This replaced the four previous Codes adopted from 2002, which reflected the different requirements of the different tiers of local authorities. The new Code applied to all tiers, although some of its paragraphs had no relevance to particular tiers. Government required the paragraph numbering to be retained for simplicity, even if a preceding paragraph was omitted as irrelevant. Government required a new Code to be adopted by all Councils before the end of October 2007, after which the model Code would be imposed. The options were to either adopt the model Code or produce a completely new document, which would need approval by Government before adoption. Furthermore, if the

new Code was not adopted immediately, Members would need to complete a Register of Interests according to the old Code within 28 days of their election, and then complete a new Register according to the new Code within 28 days of its adoption. He recommended immediate adoption of the new Code. For simplicity, he had highlighted the copies distributed in red where a paragraph did not apply to a Parish Council (para 11) and in blue where adoption of a paragraph was discretionary (paras 7 and 12(2)). If Members chose to adopt those two paragraphs, they would need to be specifically highlighted in the resolution. The Clerk had attended a seminar about the Code hosted by Wealden DC. In relation to paragraph 7, he recommended adoption since this would give Members access to the professional advice of Wealden's Monitoring Officer should the need arise, and paragraph 12(2) because that would entitle Members with a direct and prejudicial interest in a subject the same right of audience as applied to a member of the public. Without that paragraph a Member was disadvantaged.

Councillors thanked the Clerk for his advice and agreed to follow his recommendations. Cllr Mrs Charlton **proposed** adoption of the new Code of Conduct 2007 with immediate effect including paragraphs 7 and 12(2). This was **seconded** by Cllr Savage and **agreed unanimously**.

### **7.2 Register of Members Interests**

Following adoption of the new Code of Conduct, Members were asked to complete the Register that had been included in their packs and return it to the Clerk within the prescribed period. The original of all documents were held by Wealden's Monitoring Officer, but the Clerk retained a photocopy of each, which had to be available for public inspection on request.

### **7.3 Written undertakings to abide by the Code of Conduct**

The Clerk asked Members to complete and return these undertakings as quickly as possible, for onward transmission as above.

## **8.0 ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS**

### **8.1 Portfolios**

The Chairman, together with Cllr Mrs Charlton, as Members of the previous administration, had canvassed Members views in advance to ascertain preferences.

Accordingly, she sought expressions of interest for the new Portfolios as follows:

- Allotments and Recreation Ground – Cllr Byford. **Proposed** by Cllr Savage, **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Charlton.
- Coach and Car Parks and Public Transport – Cllr Ellis had indicated a willingness. **Proposed** by Cllr Dumelow, **seconded** by Cllr Byford.
- Finance – Cllr Monteath-Wilson, ex officio as Chairman.
- Highways and Twittens – Cllr Mrs Charlton. **Proposed** by Cllr Savage, **seconded** by Cllr Dumelow.
- Planning – Cllr Mrs Charlton. **Proposed** by Cllr Savage, **seconded** by Cllr Dumelow.
- Rights of Way and the Countryside – Cllr Dumelow. **Proposed** by Cllr Savage, **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Charlton.
- The Tye – Cllr Savage. **Proposed** by Cllr Mrs Charlton, **seconded** by Cllr Byford.

Members **agreed** to confirm the above appointments for 2007/8.

It was agreed to leave responsibility for Affordable Housing, the Parish Plan and the website outstanding pending the appointment of the seventh Member.

### **8.2 Committees**

The Clerk recommended the establishment of a new committee jointly with representatives of the Recreation Ground licensees to progress plans to refurbish the Pavilion, where it was planned to start work in the autumn. He suggested that provision should be made for two Councillor Members, including the Allotments and Recreation Ground portfolio holder as Chairman. Three representatives of the licensees could be invited to join. Members **agreed** the recommendation.

Three committees were formed:

- Finance (4 members): Cllr Monteath-Wilson (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Charlton (Vice Chairman), Cllr Savage and one vacancy. **Proposed** by Cllr Dumelow, **seconded** by Cllr Byford.
- Planning (3 members): Cllr Mrs Charlton (Chairman), Cllr Dumelow and Cllr Ellis. **Proposed** by Cllr Mrs Charlton, **seconded** by Cllr Savage.
- Refurbishment of Pavilion (2 members plus 3 co-opted): Cllr Byford (Chairman) and one vacancy. The Clerk would approach the licensees for nominations for the three co-optees.

All appointments outlined above were **agreed unanimously**.

The Clerk reminded Members that they all became Trustees of the Tye Charity upon election, and this would be dealt with in the Annual Return to the Charity Commission.

## 9.0 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Representation on outside bodies was simplified as follows:

Cuckmere Community Bus – Portfolio Holder for Coach and Car Parks and Public Transport.

Cuckmere Flood Forum – to await outstanding co-option and an approach to Mr Cookman.

Alfriston Festival – Portfolio Holder for the Tye.

Safer Wealden Partnership – Mr A. Palmer.

Sussex Association of Local Councils – to be determined closer to date of AGM.

Tree Warden – Mr M. Charlton.

Village Hall Committee – Cllr Savage.

Wealden District Association of Local Councils – any Councillor as available for individual meeting dates.

Other bodies were to be encouraged to let the Council have regular reports of their activities and specific requests for participation by Councillors would then be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.

## 10.0 MINUTES

10.1 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007 had been published and circulated previously. They were taken as read. Acceptance as a true record was **proposed** by Cllr Monteath-Wilson, **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Charlton and **agreed**. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

## 11.0 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Garvican reported that a meeting of the County Council was to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

He had been approached by the local commanders of both Sussex Police and East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, who were concerned at the increases in motor accidents involving deaths on A27 between Lewes and Polegate. Since 2001, there had been 54 crashes between Falmer and Polegate, 13 on the dual carriageway section from Falmer to Lewes, where there had been no deaths, and 41 on the single carriageway section between Lewes and Polegate, where there had been 13 deaths. He had put down a question for the County Council meeting to ascertain what could be done. The emergency services considered that in the medium term, the only solution was a dual carriageway. Cllr Garvican pointed out that an e-petition had been established on the Downing Street website.

## 12.0 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Whitehead endorsed what Cllr Garvican had said and indicated that he supported moves to construct a dual carriageway. Such a plan had been developed in some detail in the 1990s, but had been defeated by those opposed to road improvements. In this case, safety was the principal issue, although clearly environmental considerations were also important within the area.

Wealden's new Council would meet soon. The election had seen 20 new Members elected, but the former Leader had not been re-elected. Cllr Pam Doodes was likely to become the new Leader with Cllr Whitehead as Deputy.

The Clerk added that Independent Cllr Chantal Wilson was the only candidate for the post of Chairman, having been accepted across the political spectrum.

Cllr Whitehead would retain the Portfolio for Planning and the Built Environment and was keen to ensure that Wealden's Local Development Framework was well in place by the Government's 2010 deadline.

### 13.0 FINANCE

#### 13.1 Bank Mandate

The Clerk pointed out that a new Bank mandate would be required to reflect the change of membership. It had previously been agreed that members of the Finance Committee would become cheque signatories and this was re-affirmed. The Clerk would make arrangements accordingly.

#### 13.2 Invoices for payment – May

The Clerk presented invoices for payment in May:

<b>ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL</b>		£
Clerk: admin and travel		41.69
wages		351.25
Inland Revenue		75.13
Planning & Building Design (Sussex) Ltd. – drawings for cricket pavilion		850.00
H.T. Partnership LLP – structural calculations for cricket pavilion		616.88
Wealden DC – return of payment for promotional leaflet		500.00
Richard Elliott – flint work at fountain on Tye		285.00
Action in rural Sussex – membership 2007/8		40.00
Wealden District Association of Local Councils – subscription 2007/8		18.00
South East Water Plc – supply to allotments		8.06
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>2,786.01</u></b>

#### **CUCKMERE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

P. Ayers – wages	125.04
Inland Revenue	26.74
	<b><u>151.78</u></b>

#### **WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

P. Ayers – wages	119.06
C. Burden – wages	216.76
D. Skertchly – wages	404.68
Inland Revenue	120.34
Wealden DC – quarterly car park return to March 2007	3,635.07
Cale Briparc – new ticket rolls	223.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>4,719.05</u></b>

Payments were **approved** on the **proposal** of Cllr Byford, **seconded** by Cllr Dumelow.

#### 13.3 Statement of Finances

Councillors examined the Statement of Bank Balances on 20<sup>th</sup> May provided by the Clerk, and accepted them as follows:

	£
Precept deposit account	28,502.64
Current account	7,889.28
Savings account	5,279.59
Car Park Account	<u>11,249.25</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>52,920.76</u></b>

#### 13.4 Consideration of Annual Accounts

The Clerk reminded Members that the previous administration had arranged for the Annual Accounts for 2006/7 to be considered earlier than usual, as they fell entirely prior to the election. Those accounts and the Annual Return had been completed, approved and despatched. The Clerk had now concluded the process by advertising the availability of the Accounts for inspection. A report from the External Auditor could be expected in September.

## **14.0 HIGHWAYS and TWITTENS**

### **14.1 Policy statement on paviers**

The Clerk had received a reply from the local interest groups, who had made contact with members of the Built Environment group at East Sussex CC. The Clerk had written again to the Area Highways office asking them to reconsider their view in the light of that group's advice. It was also understood that a source of brick paviers had been found.

### **14.2 Speed Management in East Sussex**

The papers had arrived and Cllr Mrs Charlton had read them. No change to the limit in Alfriston was proposed at this stage.

### **14.3 Report from SLR meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> March**

Cllr Mrs Charlton reported that the road narrows sign was expected soon.

The question of HGVs illegally using the weight restricted C39 route had been referred to the Traffic Police at Polegate for investigation. A response was awaited.

### **14.4 Village Maintenance Team**

The team was expected in late May.

### **14.5 Street cleansing**

A 13 week deep clean had been undertaken the previous week.

### **14.6 Waiting restrictions**

The Clerk had now established exactly what was to be proposed and would write to traders along the affected section of High Street to seek their views.

One 'no waiting' sign had been removed in error but was to be replaced.

In view of the regular congestion occurring in the centre of the village, Cllr Mrs Charlton suggested the use of fliers placed under car windscreens to encourage people not to park in restricted areas. Emergency service vehicles had been delayed because of this selfish behaviour. Members needed time to reflect upon the suggestion of windscreen notices, which would be brought back to the June meeting.

Suggestions about a lorry ban and policing waiting restrictions were made. The Clerk confirmed that the Police remained the only body who could enforce the regulations at present, but they were too busy dealing with other offenders. A lorry ban was difficult to enforce, given current policing levels, whilst the parking situation could be improved if Wealden DC were more receptive to the idea of decriminalising parking restrictions and their enforcement.

### **14.7 Cones in High Street**

Members confirmed that the trial should proceed. The Clerk would arrange accordingly.

### **14.8 Replacement street nameplate**

The new sign for 'The Furlongs' was now in place.

### **14.9 'A' Board request**

The Clerk described the circumstances under which permission was given for the use of 'A' boards for local events. The request from Alfriston Summer Music was approved. It was agreed that in future, this authority would be delegated to the Portfolio Holder, with only contentious requests being placed before full Council.

## **15.0 THE TYE**

### **15.1 Damage to surface of Tye**

The Clerk had not heard anything further about repairing the damage and understood that it was now planned to defer work until the autumn. He suggested that ruts needed to be filled at the earliest possible date to avoid possible injury.

### **15.2 Replacement of fence posts on Tye**

The Clerk reported that a sum of money was available from both last year's budgets and the current year. The scheme needed revisiting to specify the requirement, obtain tenders and proceed. If the timescale was likely to be an extended one, arrangements would need to be made to remove or make safe the rotting posts still in place.

### **15.3 Drinking Fountain**

Mr Elliott's flint work had attracted a number of complimentary remarks. Mr Trowell would now complete the installation.

### **15.4 Damage to Mine**

This had now been repaired and a bill was awaited.

### **15.5 Request for temporary closure of Tye road**

Letters had not yet been despatched as the Chairman of the Festival Committee was investigating a possible alternative parking site.

### **15.6 Permission to trade on the Tye**

The Clerk had written confirming permission to sell food and ice cream from stalls and the Festival Chairman had confirmed that they would not be proceeding with their wider request.

## **16.0 COACH and CAR PARKS and PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

### **16.1 Dene spaces – reflective markers on posts**

Cllr Mrs Charlton understood that Mr Trowell had this work in hand.

### **16.2 Clearance by Probation Service**

It appeared that most Parish Councils now wished to avail themselves of this useful service, and as a result, no dates had been offered in the foreseeable future. The separate meeting to assess the work required to clear and tidy the path from the Pumping Station to the URC Hall had not yet been held.

### **16.3 Car Park signage**

The new signage was now in place, and a new litter bin had been placed adjacent to the Attendants' hut. New lettering on the older bins was still outstanding and the motor cycle bays in the Dene had not been re-marked.

### **16.4 Willows barrier**

This had been re-painted.

### **16.5 Possible extension to Willows car park**

Cllr Mrs Charlton had approached Wealden DC's Estates Manager, who had confirmed ownership of the portion of land in question. Some concern was expressed at the possible loss of amenity, but Members would reflect on the situation and consider it further in June.

### **16.6 All day parking**

Cllr Savage complained that trade within the village suffered through the current charging regime under which people could park all day relatively cheaply in the village and go off walking, without contributing anything to the local economy, whilst those arriving later often found it difficult to park despite wishing to visit local shops and amenities. Cllr Ellis would be asked to re-consider the charging policy, although the Clerk reminded Members that as the landlord, Wealden had a large say in determining the charges. Cllr Mrs Charlton reminded Members of the idea from the former Tourism without Traffic project to establish a walkers' car park somewhere outside the village.

### **16.7 Old bus stop sign in Market Square**

The Clerk had not yet received a response from the Historical Society. In response to an enquiry, the Clerk confirmed that the sign had worked loose in high winds and been removed on safety grounds. It was retained in safe keeping whilst a decision was made, but it would not be appropriate to put it back in the Market Square, since the services to which it had referred no longer ran. Members asked for time to reflect on that decision.

### **16.8 Bus timetables in Market Square**

Cllr Mrs Charlton complained that the ESCC timetable display in Market Square was out of date. The Clerk would ask for a replacement.

## **17.0 ALLOTMENTS and RECREATION GROUND**

### **17.1 Car parking at Surgery**

The planning application to extend the Surgery into the current car park had just been received, and would be considered next week. An enquiry about purchasing one allotment plot as a replacement car park had been received, but no action had been taken prior to the planning application being considered. The allotment tenant was aware of the situation and the previous Portfolio Holder had recommended that consideration might need to be given to compensating him if the plot were lost.

The Clerk had approached the Valuation Office to establish a value for the plot if it were to be sold. He had been advised of their fees and the matter could be progressed when necessary.

### **17.2 Untended allotments**

The Clerk had written to two allotment holders concerning the condition of their plot. One had explained the circumstances, whilst the other had given up. Arrangements to re-let the plot were in hand.

### **17.3 Pavilion refurbishment**

The Clerk had met Mr Ellis, the Cricket Club Chairman, who had led the successful bid for landfill tax funding. They had discussed how the project should proceed, which had led to the establishment of the new Committee (Minute 8.2) to manage the project on a day to day basis, reporting to the Parish Council, which would handle finances and authorise any payments needed (see Minute 13.2). Both licence holders would be invited to nominate representatives to the Committee, although the stool-ball club was currently not meeting, or paying its licence fee. Cllr Byford, as Chairman of the Committee, would now make arrangements for the new Committee to meet and ensure that regular reports were made to the Parish Council as owners of the Recreation Ground and Pavilion.

It was anticipated that work would commence at the end of this summer season.

### **17.4 Damaged seat**

The Clerk had written to the relative, but there had been no response so far.

### **17.5 Photoplod 2007**

The Clerk reminded Members that the Photoplod charitable event was to be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June and a refreshment station would be erected near the goalmouth on the Recreation Ground. Undertakings to leave the site clean and tidy had been received.

### **17.6 Annual Playground inspection**

The Clerk had been advised that the Inspection would take place as usual in June. It would be unannounced and a written report would be received in due course.

He had been advised of a training course being held by Uckfield Town Council next month, and details were handed to Cllr Byford in case she wished to attend.

### **17.7 Overhanging tree on Recreation Ground**

Cllr Dumelow drew attention to low hanging branches on a tree on the perimeter of the Recreation Ground. The Tree Warden would be asked to inspect and advise on the situation.

## **18.0 RIGHTS OF WAY & COUNTRYSIDE**

### **18.1 Winton Street livery yard – accumulation of materials.**

The Chairman had discussed the situation again with the owner and explained his circumstances to the meeting.

### **18.2 English Oak in Market Square**

The watering schedule was in place, but there appeared to be no stop cock in the area.

Currently water was being obtained from a metered supply from Cllr Mrs Charlton's premises. It was agreed that she should be re-imbursed for any additional water charges incurred. If an alternative more suitable supply could be found, that would be used instead.

### **18.3 Collapsed hedge**

A hedge at the junction of West Street and Winton Street had collapsed. Arrangements were in hand for SDJC volunteers to correct the situation shortly.

### **18.4 South Downs Joint Committee Parish Tours**

The Clerk handed members an invitation from the South Downs Joint Committee to join their annual parish tour. Two dates were offered this year, and Members were asked to advise the Clerk which they would like to attend.

## **19.0 PLANNING**

### **19.1 Planning Committee meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> May**

Members received draft Minutes from the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007. They noted the Committee's decisions on applications as outlined below:

WD/2007/0971/F 8, West Street: conversion of existing offices and workshop to 2 residential dwellings and provision of 4 parking spaces. *The change of use from commercial to residential would be an over-development of the area in question. Two proposed houses without any garden would be in stark contrast to the neighbouring properties. Furthermore, there would be a loss of privacy to a neighbouring property. The loss of an industrial site in the village would be regretted. It is understood that the Listed Building application, which should accompany this planning application, has not yet been completed. **Observation:** If permission is to be granted, the Parish seeks specific restrictions on the use of large vehicles and measures to prevent any blocking of this important access in the centre of the village.*

WD/2007/1270 Alfriston School, North Road: replacement of swimming pool changing rooms with timber building. *This application is welcomed as it will be an improvement to the school's facilities.*

### **19.2 Decisions notified**

WD/2006/2491/F West Street: conversion of redundant garage to dwelling with parking. *Refused.*

WD/2007/0333/F Abbeyfield House, North Road: ground floor extension to form new conservatory. *Granted with conditions.*

WD/2007/0542/F Land adjacent to 3, Kings Ride: erection of new dwelling. *Refused.*

### **19.3 Engaging with the Local Development Framework**

An invitation had been received from Wealden DC for Members to attend an all day updating conference on 14<sup>th</sup> June. Details would be circulated initially to members of the Planning Committee.

### **19.4 Buildings of Local Interest**

Wealden had resurrected their proposal to create a list of buildings not formally Listed, but considered to be of local importance. It was agreed to ask the Historical Society for assistance with compiling the list.

### **19.5 CPRE Seminar**

The Clerk had received notice of a seminar on Local Development Frameworks being arranged by CPRE. Details would be passed to members of the Planning Committee.

## **20.0 PARISH CLERK**

### **20.1 Local Government White Paper**

There was still nothing to report.

### **20.2 Amplification equipment**

The Clerk had not yet received any approach, but in view of comments received Cllr Savage would liaise with Mr Knights and report to the June meeting.

### **20.3 Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting**

The Clerk reported on proceedings, but there were no items requiring Members attention.

### **20.4 Proposed effluent discharge into Cuckmere River**

The Clerk had sent a response shortly after the April meeting and read out its contents. The Environment Agency had responded assuring the Council that the views would be taken into account.

## **21.0 OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Chairman invited all outside bodies to report their activities to the Parish Council and to approach the Council when assistance was needed. In future, reports would only be included where there was formally a representative, or where a report had been received.

### **21.1 Cuckmere Flood Forum**

Professor Lloyd had hosted the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May and a report on the proceedings was awaited.

### **21.2 Festival**

Cllr Savage reported that the new Committee was very well advanced with its plans and that the brochure was to be completely re-designed.

### **21.3 Heartstart**

Cllr Dumelow reported that another defibrillator pack had been acquired and the number of calls received was increasing rapidly. New red uniforms had now been received.

The Chairman congratulated the team on a recent award.

### **21.4 Safer Wealden Partnership**

Mr Palmer needed additional volunteers in order that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme continued to flourish.

## **22.0 AFFORDABLE HOUSING (HoPE)**

The Clerk circulated copies of the former Chairman's last response to Wealden DC, which acted as a useful briefing statement from which the new Council could work. There had been no response from Wealden DC.

## **23.0 PARISH PLAN**

### **23.1 Progress report**

Cllr Monteath-Wilson was endeavouring to re-activate the Plan team.

## **24.0 WEB-SITE**

There was nothing to report.

## **25.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk had received formal notification of the fifth option for NHS re-organisation now under consideration.

## **26.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at 7.30pm in the War Memorial Hall, preceded by Public Questions from 7.15pm.

## **Public Questions**

1. One expression of interest in co-option was made.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007.