

**Minutes of the Council meeting held at the Memorial Hall
on Tuesday 3rd January 2017 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors: D Pankhurst (Chairman) (DP), H Pankhurst (HP), P Lamont (PL), C Pollington (CP), T Hogan (TH), M Coleman (MC), R Hollman (RH), D Watts (DW)

Also present: County Councillor A Davies (AD) and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** G Sanderson, C Hellen, District Councillors: I Jenkins, M Mooney
2. **Disclosure of interests under the Council's Code of Conduct:** None.
3. **The minutes of the Council meeting held on 6th December 2016** were unanimously agreed.
- Q1. **Member of the Public in Attendance** – Jenny Als (JA) who wished to raise concerns under **Agenda item 7.11** and this item was taken next.

JA said that a group of residents directly concerned with the implications of the Site Development Plan were forming a group to oppose this and historically there was the issue regarding the foul water disposal which goes up to Iden and the Parish Council had been previously advised that the whole system needed to be re-piped before any further housebuilding took place in the village. Councillors advised JA that we had been told by Southern Water in relation to the Maltings site that the pumps had been upgraded and with modern plumbing and equipment this was no longer a problem. JA was keen to know what approach the Parish Council would be taking. Although the Councillors felt that already from their experience at various meetings that this was a “done deal” after discussion it was proposed that the Parish Council should object and this was agreed unanimously. The Parish Council would, however, need to formulate strong answers to the three questions posed when making a response. The Chair had already been approached by a spokesperson for the residents group and was very aware of their concerns.

4. **District & County Councillor Reports** None. AD reported that she would have the draft budget from ESCC for the next meeting.
5. **Community Matters and Issues**
 - 5.1 **VAS and traffic calming** DP read out his letter regarding the delays to the installation of the VAS, which was sent to Brian Banks (ESCC), who had confirmed that the matter was being dealt with as a formal complaint and would be answered within 20 working days. A response was expected by the end of January. AD had also followed up the matter with Brian Banks in person.
 - 5.2 **The Maltings** PL provided a letter from Westridge Construction which had been sent to residents of the Maltings stating that demolition at the Maltings would commence on 16th January 2017. DP noted that a reply to his email to Laura Webster (Amicus Horizon) regarding the demolition plans for the site was still awaited.
 - 5.3 **Bus Services** DP confirmed that all three Parishes are supporting the 9.03 service and he read out a letter from Renown Buses, which he had copied to Beckley and Northiam, giving a breakdown of passenger numbers and whether or not they were concessionary. The Parish Council felt that this information was very positive. Total passenger numbers for the 9.03 service were 187. It was also noted that there is an article in the Peasmarsch Periodical asking for feedback from passengers. AD confirmed that she is still awaiting a response from ESCC regarding the Bus Service Bill implications and DP will bring this up at the next RALC meeting on 11th January 2017.
 - 5.4 **Village Sign** An exhibition of designs submitted by pupils at Peasmarsch Primary School will be held on Sunday 15th January from 1pm to 4pm. MC and TH will put out the display boards and CP will arrange the displays. Judging will take place at the end of the exhibition and the judging panel will be CP, AD and Anna Jury. HP will contact the School regarding the possibility of a member of staff being involved and to ask if they would wish to bring some pupils to the exhibition on Monday 16th January. A discussion on prizes for the competition was deferred to the next meeting as there was the possibility of having more than one design incorporated. Quotes and costings to be deferred to the February meeting.
 - 5.5 **Recreation Ground** Cost of new equipment remains the same but some new fundraising developments include the landlady at the Cock Inn who will run Bingo nights every other month, starting in March. DP/HP will liaise to ensure that there is not a clash of dates with Memorial Hall quizzes or events, which would detract from support for this fundraising. The bid to Rother

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Community Grant is due on 22nd January and DP has started the application but will need facts and figures from the Recreation Ground Treasurer. There is also the possibility of making a bid to Sports for All in mid-February and DP suggested it would be a good idea to wait before ordering the equipment until then and RH agreed. Bags for Tesco's suggestion from GS – no further information at present.

5.6 Drainage MC was delighted to report that he had received an email and it appears that the remedial drainage work in Main Street is scheduled to start at the end of January.

5.7 ESCC Highways Reports None. It was noted that the 40mph VAS sign was still not working and CH to be asked to follow this up.

5.8 Community Highways Application Form: Brickfields Layby PL had read through the application form and provided notes to Councillors and felt this was not a viable option. DW asked AD if it was possible to use a local contractor for this work and after discussion it was decided that the best way forward would be to contact East Sussex Highways via Brian Banks and ask him to carry out a feasibility and design brief. CH to do.

6. Budget 2017-2018 DW proposed and MC seconded that the precept for 2017-18 be increased to £28,000 as it was felt that there were a number of long term projects ie: the Brickfields layby and increase to Recreation Ground funding, and it would be prudent to increase the precept in order to bring these to fruition and this was unanimously supported. The following changes were also agreed: Employee Pension Scheme to be increased to £600; Insurance to be increased to £1,000; Recreation Ground grant to be increased to £4,000; Peasmarsh Periodical printing to be increased to £400. School Crossing Patrol, Memorial Hall project costs and Recreation Ground project costs to be deleted as headings at the end of this financial year as no longer relevant.

7. Reports and other items

7.1 Confirmation of Freedom of Information Policy and review of Environment and Sustainability Policy The revised Freedom of Information Policy was proposed by HP and seconded by CP and was unanimously agreed and signed. It was agreed to update the Environment and Sustainability Policy for confirmation at the next meeting. The Financial Regulations to be reviewed at the February meeting.

7.2 Speedwatch Report Nothing to report.

7.3 Clerk's Report Noted.

7.4 Police Report None.

7.5 Footpaths Report None. CP reported that the fingerpost at Old House Lane is missing and CH to contact the Footpath Secretaries to report this to East Sussex Rights of Way Team.

7.6 Allotments There was concern that the boundary hedge at allotment 1 is now missing and the boundary is blurred. TH reported that a tractor is parked there and it was agreed that a polite letter be sent to the tenant pointing out that vehicles are not allowed and mentioning the missing boundary. CH to do.

7.7 Memorial Hall Nothing to report.

7.8 Repairs and Maintenance Nothing to report.

7.9 Hedge Cutting MC and TH reported that the hedge at Cherry Tree Cottage has been cut on Main Street but not on the School Lane side. CH to follow up.

7.10 Phone and Internet problems These issues seem to have been resolved thanks to BT's repair work.

7.11 Development and Site Allocations Local Plan (see above – Q.1)

7.12 Youth Provision DP to contact Andy Stoodley regarding February half-term sports sessions.

8. Financial Matters

8.1 Reports The monthly statement of receipts and payments, and budget comparison and bank reconciliation were unanimously agreed: proposed by HP and seconded CP.

8.2 Payments The following payments were unanimously approved, proposed CP; seconded TH:

8.2.1 Clerk's December pay and expenses: £477.15

8.2.2 Parish Noticeboard Signage, Care Signs: £69.00 plus VAT (£13.80) = £82.80 (Invoice not yet received) RH to chase up.

8.2.3 Expenses to CP for purchase of sweets for Primary School pupils for Village Sign Competition: £15.00

8.3 Receipts None.

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9. Correspondence

9.1 SSALC Conference to be held on 14th March 2017 – PL to attend.

9.2 AirS Conference to be held on 19th January 2017 – no attendees.

9.3 Peasmarsh Primary School Crossing Patrol HP reported that Peasmarsh Primary School is responsible for funding the school crossing patrol from the School's budget since devolved arrangements were made to Academy Schools by East Sussex County Council in 2014. Peasmarsh Parish Council is not required, therefore, to make a contribution to the School Crossing Patrol.

10. Planning Matters

10.1 Applications: Nothing to report.

10.2 Decisions: The following decisions were noted:

Reference	Location	Proposal	Status
RR/2016/2501/P	Cock Inn Public House, Main Street, Peasmarsh TN31 6YD	Proposed single storey rear extension.	APPROVED CONDITIONAL
RR/2016/2527/L	Cock Inn Public House, Main Street, Peasmarsh TN31 6YD	Proposed single storey rear extension.	LISTED BC GRANTED
RR/2016/2377/P	Sharvels Farm House, Flackley Ash, Peasmarsh TN31 6YG	Proposed oak framed conservatory.	REFUSED
RR/2016/2378/L	Sharvels Farm House, Flackley Ash, Peasmarsh TN31 6YG	Proposed oak framed conservatory.	LISTED BC REFUSED

10.3 Planning Appeals: Nothing to report.

11. Dates of forthcoming meetings: 7th February 2017, Parish Council Meeting, Memorial Hall from 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed:

date: