



SOMPTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 10th May 2006, commencing at 7.30p.m. at Sompting Community Centre, Loose Lane, Sompting.

Attendance: Councillors: B. Mear (Chairman), K. Bashford, Mrs. J. Burns, Mrs. T. Clarke, T. Clarke, Ms. M. Shaw, Mrs. M. Sherriff, M. Thornton, Mrs. J. Turner and J. Wales. Also in attendance District Councillor B. Boggis and members of the public.

63/06 Apologies. Cllr. Mrs. P. Allright

64/06 Election of Chairman: There were two nominations for Chairman, Cllr. Mear (proposed Cllr. Mrs. Turner, seconded Cllr. Bashford) and Cllr. Clarke (proposed Cllr. Ms. Shaw, seconded Cllr. Mrs. Clarke). A vote by show of hands was taken and Cllr. Mear duly elected Chairman. Cllr. Mear signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman and continued in the Chair.

65/06 Election of Vice-Chairman: There were two nominations for Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Bashford (proposed Cllr. Mear, seconded Cllr. Burns), Cllr. Ms. Shaw (proposed Cllr. Mrs. Clarke, seconded Cllr. Clarke). A vote by show of hands was taken and Cllr. Bashford duly elected Vice-Chairman.

66/06 (a) Election of General Purposes Committee and Representatives to Other Bodies: Cllr. Ms. Shaw was elected to serve on the General Purposes Committee in place of Cllr. Yates. The other members of the Committee continue in office. It was noted that Members of the General Purposes Committee also serve on the Planning Sub-Committee. Chairmen of the General Purposes Committee and Planning Sub-Committee continue in office until elections in Committee.

(b) Election of representatives for each of the following bodies for the ensuing year:

1. Village Hall Management Committee: Cllr. Mrs. Sherriff had been the representative on this Committee for 7 years but felt that as the representative was not able to speak at the meetings the value of attendance was limited. *Vacancy*
2. Penfold Memorial Trust: Cllr. Mrs. Sherriff
3. Lancing and Sompting Citizens Advice Bureau: Cllr. Bashford
4. Sompting Community Association: Cllr. Mrs. Sherriff
5. Adur Stakeholder Planning Forum: Cllr. Clarke
6. Sussex Association of Local Councils: Cllr. Thornton
7. Adur in Partnership Board: Cllr. Mrs. Turner
8. Lancing Youth Centre Management Committee: Cllr. Ms. Shaw
9. Adur Community Safety Partnership Youth Issues Group: Cllr. Ms. Shaw
10. Adur District Conservation Advisory Group: Cllr. Thornton
11. Shoreham Airport Consultative Committee: Cllr. Wales
12. Area Highways and Transport Partnership Panel: *Replaced by County Local Committee* – Cllr. Clarke

(c) School Governors: Council discussed the change in policy whereby the Parish Council was no longer able to nominate a representative to school governing bodies. Cllr. Clarke was a community representative at White Styles school. Cllr. Bashford suggested that Council write to the schools to see if the representation could be reinstated in the future. Cllr. Mrs. Turner had expressed an interest in being a representative at Boundstone Nursery School,

where Lancing and Sompting Councillors had shared the time in office. *Clerk to check whether or not Cllr. Mrs Allwright is a representative at Boundstone Nursery School.*

67/06 Policing Matters. *PCSOs Mandy Whittingham and Stuart arrive. It was agreed that this item be taken later to allow members of the public to comment on the following item of urgent concern*

68/06 Cokeham Brooks. Several members of the public attended the meeting in order to express their concern regarding the use of the field in the area known as Cokeham Brooks. They had observed movement of a number of vehicles in relation to the building of a track into the field, which lay behind their properties. A large quantity of soil had been deposited and built up into high banks. Planning permission had been given to construct a new farm track in order to benefit the grazing of horses. Several people wanted to enquire whether or not the construction of the track was for the purpose of carrying out a business for which planning permission had not been given. It was understood that the original planning consent was for one stable for horses. Cllr. Ms. Shaw reported that she was meeting Peter Latham, Director of Services at Adur District Council on 18th May to discuss another matter and that she would raise the issue with him then and report back to the meeting. Members of the public were given the assurance that they had the full support of the Council in this matter.

The Chairman presented Mrs. Kate Rhodes with a bouquet of flowers from the Council in recognition of her hard work as Parish Clerk. Members of the public then left the meeting.

69/06 Minutes. The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2006 were approved as a correct record after noting a mistake in the numbering of the agenda items. The Minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

70/06 Policing Matters. PCSO Mandy Whittingham gave apologies from Sgt. Cooke who was, however, back at work. She introduced Stuart a new PCSO. PCSO Whittingham asked if anyone wished to raise issues of concern and the Chairman remarked on the problem in the alleyways and garage compounds which he had reported to Adur District Council. Cllr. Ms. Shaw stated that she had had no reports of anti-social behaviour and that there seemed to be some improvement following the leaflet drop. The Chairman mentioned the problem of youths at Alldays and PCSO Whittingham said that she had spoken to Sgt. Cooke about this and would arrange a meeting with interested parties.

PCSO Stuart asked Councillors' opinion on the traffic warden service. The limited availability of wardens in the area resulted in the PCSOs being seen by the public as responsible for traffic issues. The Council discussed whether or not they could have any influence on this situation. Cllr. Ms. Shaw raised the issue of joy-riders on Crowshaw Recreation Ground and a bungalow being used by large groups of young people. PCSO Whittingham said she would look into this.

The PCSOs left the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

71/06 Matters arising from the Minutes As previously noted, the numbering of items was amended. Item 56/06 (c) – it was noted that van parking was now on the grass verge in Silverdale Road but the minibus had been moved. Item 56/06 (e) – The Chairman said that he would ring the Co-op Head Office as there had been no response to date; also, there were now two broken panes in the bus shelters – in Cokeham Lane and Busticle Lane. 58/06 – Sompting Festival. There had been no publicity in Adur Outlook but 5000 flyers had been ordered and there would be posters in the bus shelters; also a press release, piece in the Heralds and items on Splash FM.

72/06 New Parish Building Cllr Ms. Shaw reported on her exploratory meeting with Richard Silver of CDA, the company which may be invited to manage the project. They had looked at the original football club plans and drawn up a new version of them, copies of which were passed around. In meetings with Steve Hill and Peter Latham from Adur District Council, Cllr. Ms. Shaw had been given an encouraging response, although the Parish Council would have to fund the early project management work. The Chairman asked if other councillors had come forward to form a sub-committee or working group. Cllr. Boggis expressed his support for the project although he would not be able to join the group. He also said that he thought it would no longer be possible to access district council funds set aside for the toilets. Cllr. Mrs. Turner suggested an approach to Adur in Partnership and Cllr. Clarke pointed out that the time given for the funds to the Leconfield project had now elapsed and so this money would be available. Councillors agreed in principle to go ahead with the project planning but this would be formally discussed at the next meeting of Council. Peter Holt and Cllr. Mrs. Turner offered to take part in a working group.

73/06 Finances The annual financial statements prepared by the auditor were submitted for Council approval. The Chairman pointed out that the Chairman's allowance, which had not been drawn upon for several years, had not been listed but that it will be used for the purchase of flowers as a leaving gift for the Clerk. The accounts to be re-examined and signed at the next meeting.

74/06 Report of Planning Sub-Committee

Planning applications ADC 0020/06, 0026/06, 0039/06, 0040/06, 0053/06 **NO OBJECTION**

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| ADC/0019/06 | Rooms in roof and additional rear conservatory, 18 Cokeham Road. NO OBJECTION but insufficient parking and development is out of character and unneighbourly. |
| ADC/0029/06 | Relax conditions 1 and 2 of S/39/03 to enable holding of local pony club gymkhanas, field to north of West Street. NO OBJECTION and the Sub-Committee wholeheartedly supports this development for its contribution to reviving village life; some reservations about traffic management and the effect on the public footpath across the site; suggestion that hedges are grown around the site and wooden buildings preferred. |
| ADC/0032/06 | Rear conservatory, Leander, West Street. NO OBJECTION although there may be insufficient ventilation. |
| ADC/0064/06 | Vehicular access, 85 Upper Brighton Road. NO OBJECTION although the Sub-Committee question whether or not there is existing permission to drive over the pavement to the highway if there is no dropped kerb. |
| ADC/0070/06 | Rooms in roof, 107 Howard Road. NO OBJECTION although the Sub-Committee would prefer half-hipped roofs. |

75/06 Report of the Clerk

- a. Members' Register of Interests.** Members are reminded that any change to the information held on the register must be entered in the Register within 28 days of the change. Please note the Disclosure of Member's Interests, as specific matters arise, is still required.
- b. Accounts.** The account balance as at 30th April 2006 was not given as bank statements had not been received due to the handover to new Clerk. The amounts would be shown with end of May totals at June meeting. The following accounts were submitted for approval:

V. Garland - Clerk's pay and allowances from 10.4.06 – 30.4.06	£472.00
K. Rhodes – Reimbursement of expenses – postage and stationery	£ 11.19
Houseproud – maintenance of planters for April 2006	£140.00

- c. Highways and footpaths** Cllr. Ms. Shaw enquired about Halewick Lane waste transfer station and if there was any news regarding possible light industrial use. Councillors raised concerns about a proposed new telecommunications mast near Rectory Farm. District Councillor Boggis pointed out that masts up to a certain height do not need planning permission. Councillors agreed that there would be strong objections to this mast due to its proximity to a residential area. Councillors expressed concern about the lack of seats in some bus shelters. Peter Holt raised the issue of excessive overgrowth in the alleyways between Berriedale Drive and Abbey Road and between Berriedale Drive and Busticle Lane. Cllrs. Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Sherriff added that there was often broken glass and dog mess in the alleyways and Cllr. Shaw felt that the alleyways on the estate were not looked after properly. Clerk to write to the District Council.
- d. Trees/bulbs/planters.**
- e. Noticeboards and bus shelters.** Cllr Clarke reported on his communication with David Steadman of ADC regarding the bus shelter opposite the Ball Tree. Negotiations were on-going regarding the re-siting of the bus shelter and who should pay for any work involved. Clerk was to meet with David Steadman.
- f. Correspondence** Additional correspondence was noted. Payment for St. Mary's lawnmower was agreed. ADC Adur Development Plan – to be invited to give a brief presentation. Council felt that the only answer for the A27 was a by-pass – Clerk to write to WSCC. Clerk to write to enter Village of the Year competition. Clerk to write to Conservation Advisory Group

76/06 Reports of District and County Councillors. District Councillor Boggis reported that a working party from ADC was looking at the issue of verge-parking. Cllr. Clarke pointed out that bollards would not be necessary if by-laws were enforced. Clerk to write to Clive Bramble regarding wooden bollards for Busticle Lane as the white plastic bollards had only lasted a short time.

77/06 Reports of Representatives to Other Bodies. Cllr. Mrs. Sherriff reported that the roof in the gents toilets at the Community Centre had collapsed and an emergency repair had been carried out. Luckily no-one was hurt.

78/06 Other matters. Congratulations to Cllr. Boggis and commiserations to Cllr. Bashford were given regarding the District Council elections. Sompting in Bloom week would be 7-14 June when Councillors would look at gardens in the area.