



SOMPTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, December 13th 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 and J. Wales. Also in attendance was co-opted member P. Holt .

145.06 Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. J. Turner and PCSOs Mandy Whittingham and Stewart Metcalfe.

146.06 Minutes of the last meeting were signed as a correct record.

147.06 Matters arising: all to be considered later on the agenda

148.06 Items to be considered urgently: The Chairman requested that all comments be made through the Chair and pointed out that there would be a time limit on discussions before a vote was taken, in order to ensure that meetings finished at a reasonable hour.

149.06 Public participation: The Chairman adjourned the meeting in order for the Council to receive a report from members of the 'Save Our Sompting' Group regarding the traffic situation in West Street. The Clerk reported that she had been unable to organise a date for a meeting with Richard Speller from W.S.C.C. and County Councillor Vilna Woolhead. SOS had been in contact with Tim Loughton M.P., and he had indicated his willingness to attend a meeting.

Nigel Howard from the Group reported that there had been another accident opposite the vicarage and photographs recording traffic incidents were shown to the Council. The SOS Group felt that although West Street was part of a Conservation Area this was not taken as seriously as, for example, in Eastbourne; councillors questioned whether or not the traffic calming measures along the coast in Worthing would effect the flow of traffic through the village and was money spent there at the expense of other areas? SOS was considering other actions they could take such as contacting the press but it was felt that there should be a further attempt to arrange a meeting first. Suggested dates for this would be forwarded to the Clerk

The Chairman assured the SOS Group of the Council's continued support for their campaign and agreed that there would be further discussion later in the Meeting.

Members of the SOS Group then left the meeting.

150.06 Parish Building Project: Councillors had received written reports from Cllr. Ms. Shaw on the background to the White Paper, parish development and the parish newsletter. (ii)Cllr. Ms. Shaw then explained the background to the Lottery funding bid and described what work had taken place so far involving discussions with officers from Action in Rural Sussex and Adur District Council. She explained how much more work would be needed in order for the Council to be in a position to

submit a bid by the April 'deadline' of the current Lottery funding round and questioned whether or not this could be achieved without more input, as any funding application would require the evidence of community consultation and support. Cllr. Shaw gave the example of the 'focus' group which had been held at Boundstone School and pointed out that this had involved the preparation of the questions, time spent with the young people during school hours and the writing up of the findings and such exercises demanded time and commitment from those involved in submitting the bid.

(iii) Council discussed the work that had taken place towards a parish newsletter, and clarified the purpose of the newsletter, which could either be part of the Lottery consultation process or a regular newsletter giving an update of what is going on in the parish. It was agreed that as much of the material was now out of date it would be preferable to rethink the purpose of the newsletter and its connection to the parish building project before production.

Resolved: Clerk to draft a press release for distribution early in the New Year seeking members of the public who would be interested in joining a working party to take the parish building project forward and possibly also to be involved in the production of the parish newsletter.

151.06 Finance: The Clerk reported that the Annual Return had been posted on the noticeboards and members of the public invited to inspect the Statement of Accounts and Auditor's Report.

152.06 Report of Planning Sub-Committee: The Planning Committee Chairman reported from the Planning Sub-Committee.

There was **NO OBJECTION** to the following planning applications:

ADC/041806	5 Arnside Close, rear conservatory
ADC/0423/06	111 Howard Road, single-storey rear extension
ADC/0433/06	Ball Tree Surgery, air-conditioning units
ADC/0441/06	22 The Lawns, rear conservatory
ADC/0455/06	47 Valley Road, single-storey rear extension
ADC/0458/06	63 Ullswater Road, rooms in roof

The Committee made the following comments with regard to the other applications:

ADC/0414/06	16 Thirlmere Crescent, single-storey rear extension. There was NO OBJECTION but the lack of existing plans made comparison difficult.
ADC/0417/06	1 Peveril Close, retention of high chain-link fence fronting Loose Lane. The Committee STRONGLY OBJECTED as this would be out-of-keeping with the surroundings.
ADC/0422/06	28 Bramber Close, rooms in roof. OBJECTION. The Committee believed this development would be un-neighbourly, out-of-scale and out-of-keeping with the surrounding properties.
ADC/0457/06	57-59 Test Road, roller shutters to existing shopfront. The Committee OBJECTED to external shutters which would detract from the appearance of the neighbourhood/be contrary to the character and appearance of the street scene. They felt that external shutters are more suited to the 'inner city' and would prefer to see internal shutters.
ADC/0469/06	48 Abbey Road, Front dormer. OBJECTION. The Committee was unable to compare the plans with the existing layout as no

site plans were sent. However, it was felt that this development would be greatly out of character and scale with the neighbouring properties.

The Council accepted the report of the Planning Sub-Committee

153.06 Report of the clerk:

2. Accounts: The account balance as at 30th November 2006 was £43509.62 including bank interest of £72.03. The following accounts were submitted for approval:

V. Garland - Clerk's pay and allowances to 31 st December 2006	£483.33
Houseproud – Noticeboards and bus shelters	£111.50
Houseproud – Repairs to bus shelter	£ 69.00
Houseproud – Planter maintenance (winter schedule)	£112.00
Houseproud – New bulbs and bedding for planters	£ 81.00
Adur District Council – printing of Council papers	£ 6.33

3. Bulb planting: It was agreed to ask Houseproud to plant the bulbs that had already been purchased.

4. Notice Boards/Bus Shelters: The Clerk was asked to look at the Council insurance policy in relation to making a claim for repairs to some of the shelters, especially the weather damage to the shelter in West Street. Concern was expressed about the time it was taking for repairs to be carried out and the Clerk was asked to expedite the quotation for the noticeboard for Inglecroft Parade and to ask Houseproud to look at the mapboard by the URC. It was suggested that a monthly report be produced detailing work that had been carried out.

5. Cokeham Brooks: The Clerk was asked to thank the residents from Ullswater Road for their information regarding the barbed wire and 'debris' in the reedbed area and Council confirmed their belief that the barbed wire was not permissible.

6. Correspondence: (a) requiring a response, decision, formal noting:

Sompting Waste Management Complex Liaison Group Meeting

(b) received to date:

Adur District Council – agendas and minutes

Friends of Lodge Hill Carol Concert

Annual Report – Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex

Southern Water – update on drought situation

ICIS leaflets

West Sussex Mediation Service Annual Report

154.06 Reports of District or County Councillors: None

155.06 Reports of representatives to other bodies: Cllr. Thornton reported on a meeting he had attended of the Adur Conservation Group that had objected to the design of the new art block planned for Lancing College.

156.06 Other matters: (i) Cllr. Ms. Shaw reported that the new youth worker in the area had asked if the Council would consider a donation towards a new youth shelter at Hamble Road. Council agreed to consider this at the next meeting. (ii) Council requested the Clerk to contact Cllr. Mrs. Allright about the 'six-month rule'. (iii) Council requested the Clerk to write to the SOS group confirming support for their campaign but suggesting that it would be more appropriate for the Group to organise the meeting and for councillors to attend.