



SOMPTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 11th April 2007 commencing at 7.30p.m.at Sompting Community Centre, Loose Lane, Sompting.

Attendance: Councillors: K. Bashford, Mrs. J. Burns, Mrs. T. Clarke, T. Clarke, B. Mear (Chairman), Ms. M. Shaw, Mrs. M. Sherriff, M. Thornton, Mrs. J. Turner and J. Wales. Also in attendance were Peter Holt, District Cllr. Brian Boggis, PCSO Sean Trebble , members of the 'Save Our Sompting' Group and members of the public

199.07 Apologies none

The chairman adjourned the meeting in order to introduce Adur District Council Planning Policy Manager and Planning Policy officer who attended the meeting to give a presentation on the Site Allocations Issues and Options Document of the Local Development Plan.

The Planning Policy Manager explained that there were three stages to the public consultation that was currently taking place. The planning process would allow discussion as to which were the best sites for development and there would be a public examination of responses in September. It was a requirement that 2,600 new homes were built in Adur and the area of land available for development was constrained by physical features such as flood risk. A strategy of regeneration was in place to develop key areas including the airport and harbour and to protect key features such as the downs. 'Brownfield' sites would be used where possible. The consultation would inform decision-making as to where new development should take place.

Members of the public raised issues as follows:

- That there had not been sufficient notice given of the consultation period
- That the time allocated for responses to the document was too short
- That there had been no exhibition in Sompting itself
- More detailed proposals for development in the area were needed
- The information should have been sent to all households
- The plans could effect the Sompting village conservation area

The Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee proposed that the issue be discussed by the Council and that a link be created to the Parish Council website as information about the Document was not easy to find on the District Council site. It was agreed that, of the six sites for potential development in Sompting that were identified in the Document, only two of the sites would be acceptable as development opportunities.

Resolved: That the Council opposes four of the development sites suggested in the Site Allocations Issues and Options Document. It accepts that development in Peverel Close could be possible and development in Rectory Farm Road might be considered, although small business development there might be preferred. (Prop. TC, seconded BM)

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

201.07 Matters arising: Members of the public had approached the Council regarding the traffic problems at Lyons Farm. *Clerk to chase up responses from Worthing Borough Council, West Sussex County Council and Highways Agency.*

202.07 Items to be considered urgently: The Chairman raised two items of concern. Firstly, it was understood that the recycling/household waste facility at Lancing Business Park was still not open and that members of the public were waiting in lengthy queues at E. Worthing facility. Secondly, a proposed development of bungalows in Berridale Drive could have implications for traffic in Busticle Lane. *Clerk to investigate*

Council were also asked to make a decision about the date of co-option for Peter Holt, who was eligible to become a councillor from May 3rd.

Resolved: To co-opt Peter Holt as councillor for Cokeham South ward with effect from May 3rd 2007.

203.07 Public participation: The meeting was adjourned to receive a report from the S.O.S. group. A successful meeting had taken place on March 29th, attended by Tim Loughton M.P., County Councillor Vilna Woolhead and members of the Parish Council. The SOS group were asking for the temporary closure of Church Lane and hoped that they could continue to report on progress at Council meetings.

204.07 Policing matters: PCSO Sean Trebble who was responsible for Cokeham ward attended the meeting and left his written report. In this he confirmed that he had requested a 'bus stop' marking for Cokeham Parade and an extension of the yellow lines at the junction of Cokeham Lane and Cokeham Road, where parking had caused problems. Councillors asked that their concerns as follows were passed on to PCSO Trebble: (i) that yellow lines be extended further at the junction (as far as the pedestrian island) (ii) that parking on the Parade forecourt be looked at as this would appear to infringe on the pavement area at times and (iii) that police investigate children being carried to school on electric scooters. *Clerk to report*

205.07 Report of the Planning Sub-Committee: Council received the report of the Planning Committee. There was **NO OBJECTION** to the following applications:

ADC/0172/07	12 Arnside Close, Demolition of garage and construction of single-storey extension, although it was hoped that there would be adequate provision made for off-road parking
ADC/0195/07	12 Cokeham Lane, rooms in roof

The Committee **OBJECTED** to the following application, which it felt was inappropriate for the area and an over-development

ADC/0140/07	5 Hillbarn Parade, Detached bungalow
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Resolved: To accept the report of the Planning Sub-Committee

206.07 Finance: The Council received a request for grant-funding to assist with publication of a book about Sompting. After discussion it was agreed that alternative sources of financial help would be more appropriate but that the Council were keen to assist with the publication in other ways, such as offering publicity.

207.07 Vacancy: Council received two applications for the vacant seat in Cokeham South ward. As one of the candidates was disqualified under residency rules the Council voted unanimously to co-opt the other candidate and to invite the disqualified candidate to join one of the Council working parties until such time as he may be eligible for a future vacancy.

Resolved: To co-opt Tom Smith as councillor for Cokeham South ward
(proposed T.Clarke, seconded Mrs. T. Clarke)

208.07 Parish Building Project: Cllr. Mrs. Sherriff explained that, as Chairman of the Community Centre Management Committee, she had some misgivings about the proposed outside storage facility if the Parish Council were to change the use of the room currently used for storage into an office. She pointed out that public access to the office would be limited to afternoons as the room could not be accessed without entering through the room used by the play-group. Cllr. Ms. Shaw reported that some progress had been made in discussions about the lease and that the Estates Department at Adur District Council were looking into matters. No action on any building work could take place until a lease available.

209.07 Safety Day Grant: Cllr. Ms. Shaw described the proposed Safety Day which was to take place at the end of July and which would involve about 50 students from Boundstone Community College and 50 students from King's Manor Community College. Its objective was to inform young people about all aspects of road safety at an age when many of them would be soon be eligible to drive. The event was to be held at Ricardo and £1000 in sponsorship was needed. Cllr. Mrs. Turner suggested that the Friends of Boundstone might be able to assist. Council agreed to make a grant towards the project.

Resolved: That a grant of £250 be made towards the cost of the Safety Day
(proposed Chairman, seconded Mrs. T. Clarke)

210.07 Report of the clerk:

a) Accounts: The account balance as at 31st March was confirmed as £40,186.49. The following accounts were submitted for approval:

V. Garland - Clerk's pay and allowances to 31 st March 2007	£483.33
V. Garland – reimbursement of postage, stationery and keys for noticeboards	£ 56.69
Houseproud – Noticeboards and bus shelters	£111.50
Houseproud – Planter maintenance (winter schedule)	£112.00
Subscription – Society of Local Council Clerks	£ 85.00

b)Parish Council Assets: A letter had been received from Houseproud confirming actions on the noticeboards and bus shelters. The work would not be started until later in the month. It was agreed that the invoice for work on replanting the tree should be paid but that payment should be sought from West Sussex County Council. All were agreed on the proposed planting scheme for the planters.

c) Correspondence: an e-mail had been received regarding the 'horses' field' off Hamble Road. A completion date for the work had been given as the end of April. The details for the proposed visit to the Sompting Estate on Saturday, April 21st were confirmed. *Clerk to invite those who attended public meeting in August 2006.*

The annual award of the Doug Sherriff Shield was to be publicised and nominations invited; the award to be made at the Annual Assembly on May 9th. The parish newsletter was to be published in mid-May and contributions were to be sent to the clerk. A suggested name was 'The Sompting Signpost' with a green colour background or print, although checks would be needed to ensure that this was a suitable colour for anyone with visual impairment. *Clerk to contact printers.*

Reports of District or County Councillors: District Cllr. Boggis reported that the Planning Application for 'the Smugglers' had been approved by the Planning Committee on the basis that there would be no visual impact on the conservation area and no more than 6 extra car journeys were expected. Shutters at the Co-op had been removed. Cllr. Boggis had also contacted Adur Council's legal officers regarding representation of the views of the Parish Council.

Reports of representatives to other bodies: Cllr. Mrs. Turner had sent a written report on the Adur in Partnership meeting of 21st February 2007; two items of interest to the Council were information about the 'Fit for the Future' document and children's activity vouchers. Cllr. Ms. Shaw reported from the Children and Young People's Partnership. She outlined issues that had been discussed including plans for Freshbrook school, a minibus as a youth facility and a film to be made on weapon crime and gangs. Cllr. Bashford reported that CAB meetings would now be held on Thursdays.

Other matters: None

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.