



SOMPTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, March 12th 2008 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, Ms. M. Shaw, Mrs. M. Sherriff, M. Thornton, Mrs. J. Turner and J. Wales.

358.08 Apologies: T. Smith (fire duties)

359.08 Declarations of interest: Cllr. B. Mear declared an interest in a planning application (66 Busticle Lane)

360.08 Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting of Council and the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee were signed as a correct record

361.08 Urgent matters: There were no urgent matters but the Chairman used the occasion to thank Cllr. Mrs. Sherriff for all her hard work for the Council over 20 years. Cllr. Mrs. Sherriff is unable to attend the meeting in April and will not be standing for election to the Council in May

362.08 Public participation: The Chairman adjourned the meeting in order for the Council to discuss the current situation in West Street with a member of the SOS group who was in attendance. It was reported that the flint wall bordering the field at the eastern end of the village was in need of urgent repair (*Clerk to pass on concerns to Strutt and Parker*); the value of the flint walls in the village had been confirmed recently in comments on a planning application.

The SOS group were still hoping that there could be a temporary closure of Church Lane; the meeting discussed previous campaigns and whether or not the Council could take any action in the short term regarding the lorries that were using the road as a through-fare when prohibited from doing so (*Clerk to write to Co-op with registration numbers and copy to WSCC and company owners*)

The new restaurant in the village was operating a 'take-away' service and this was also contributing to the increase in traffic flows and congestion. (*Clerk to contact SOS/ Planning Dept. and to ascertain percentage of business that can be 'take-away'*)

363.08 Policing matters: PCSO Marc Granger was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a report on various matters of concern. (*Clerk to contact WSCC regarding right of way at Hillrise Avenue/Lancing and Sompting Cemetery*)

364.08 Report of the Planning Sub-Committee: (with one abstention)

The Committee recorded **NO OBJECTION** to the following applications:

ADC/0054/08 Yard, rear of St. Peters, flats
ADC/0056/08 2 Hillbarn Parade, rear duct
ADC/0062/08 7 Cokeham Gardens, detached garage

The Committee made the following comments about the planning applications below:

ADC/0026/08 29 Herbert Road, rooms in roof

The Committee **STRONGLY OBJECTED** to this application which was felt to be out of character and out of scale with the existing and neighbouring properties and an over-development in the area

ADC/0031/08& ADC/0032/08 Trelawneys Cottage, demolition of flint wall

The Committee **OBJECTED** to the application on the basis that as the property was within the conservation area the wall should be replaced with flint

ADC/0039/08 41 Cokeham Lane, carport (retrospective)

The Committee **OBJECTED** to the materials of the roof of this development as they were felt to be unsympathetic to the surrounding properties.

Resolved: To accept the report of the Planning Sub-Committee

365.08 Report of Amenities Committee: A written report from Cllr. Ms. Shaw (Chairman) was circulated. This addressed a number of issues raised at the Committee meeting on March 6th 2008. A lengthy discussion was unable to resolve disagreements amongst members of Council regarding the provision of bus shelters, in particular the style and type of shelter to be provided at Inglecroft Parade. Cllr. Ms. Shaw withdrew her report.

Resolved:

- (i) To accept the recommendations of the Amenities Committee to purchase three new noticeboards and to not change the backboard colour of the boards as the cost would be prohibitive**
- (ii) To purchase two new wooden bus shelters (agreed with two against)**
- (iii) To decide on the provision of a youth shelter at the next Amenities Committee meeting**

366.08 Finance: Council discussed the draft budget which had been circulated and agreed that next year the Finance and General Purposes Committee should seek to work more proactively on budget preparation. Members discussed the cost of opening the disused toilet block and the likely costs involved in management of the community centre.

Resolved: To confirm the draft budget for 2008/9

367.08 Risk Assessment: Council was required by the external auditor to conduct a review of its risk assessment policy. The current policy was circulated to members

Resolved: To refer the matter to a working group consisting of the Chairman, Chairman of Planning Sub-Committee and the Clerk

368.08 Highways and Footpaths: No reports

369.08 Report of the Clerk:

2. Accounts: The account balance as at 29th February was £57,66476. The following accounts were submitted for approval:

V. Garland - Clerk's pay and allowances to 31 st March 2008	£497.50
Artzbuilders – maintenance of Council assets February 2008	£300.00
Artzbuilders – repairs to noticeboard	£65.00
Artzbuilders – repairs to noticeboard and attempted relocation	£200.00
4Sight – donation as agreed at meeting of 13.2.08	£500.00

It was agreed that money promised to the Leconfield Project would be withheld until the Project's funding applications were determined.

3. Correspondence: Council agreed to a donation of £1000 to the Sussex Air Ambulance Fund

370.08 Reports of District or County Councillors: None

371.08 Reports of representatives to other organisations: Cllr. Bashford reported on a meeting of the Standards Committee. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee were to be members of the public. Further advice from the Committee regarding the Code of Conduct was to be circulated.

372.08 Other matters: It was reported that the daffodils at the corner of Busticle Lane and Rectory Farm Road had been vandalised.

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.