

Hamsey Parish Council

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Mrs J.Toomey, Clerk to Hamsey Parish Council
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Minutes of the meeting of HAMSEY PARISH COUNCIL held at BEECHWOOD HALL on Thursday 16th November 2017 7.15pm

Present: Cllr.D'Arienzo, chair
Cllr.Ian Ginn, vice chair
Cllr.K.McBrown Cllr. M.Dodd
Cllr.R.Baughan Cllr.J.Harmer

Apologies: Cllr.A.Suttie
Cllr.Isabelle Linington (LDC)

In attendance: Mrs J.Toomey - Clerk to the Council. 3 members of the public.

		Action
63	Apologies for absence - Cllr.A.Suttie	
64	Questions from the public. A resident told the council she had a smallholding in Hamsey which also offered farm therapy. She now wants to build a house there in order to be near to the livestock. She said there have been some thefts, possibly because a footpath goes through and they feel rather vulnerable. She has spoken to neighbours who seem fine with the idea and has also spoken to the LDC officer. She will provide the PC with the officer's comments.	
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64.2	A member of the public asked if there would be room at Hamsey school for children moving into the new housing at Coversand this was confirmed by the council.	
65	Declaration of interest by Councillors on any agenda items and update of interests. None	
66	Minutes of the meeting held 14 th Sept. 17 were agreed & signed as a true record	
67	Update on any matters arising from last meeting (not elsewhere on the agenda)	
67.1	The chair said the council would like to thank Cllr.McBrown and resident Jane Baldwin who have taken on collecting and collating parish magazine content from Cllr.Suttie. Council congratulated them both on an excellent first issue.	
67.2	<i>Min.no:51. The chair had lodged an expression of interest with SDNPA for a cycleway from Cooksbridge or Bevernbridge to Lewes. She had suggested a number of routes and had asked for advice to move this forward and had also contacted sustrans.</i>	
68	Financial matters	
68.1	<i>Council approved the following payments (including VAT):</i> *Cheque No.300257 £93.60 LDC Dog bin empty *Cheque No.300258 £812.68 Clerk salary/expenses for Sept. (inc.CofT funds) *Cheque No.300259 £26.93 KPS mowing at Malthouse playpark *Cheque No.300260 £628.60 Clerk salary/expenses for October *Cheque No.300261 £26.93 KPS mowing at Malthouse playpark *Cheque No.300262 £17.00 Offham church – poppy wreath *Cheque No.300263 £1981.20 MH Goals Ltd. Goals for Beechwood (grant)	
68.2	Council noted the current financial situation.	
68.3	Council considered the budget and precept required for 2018/19 as circulated by the clerk and which includes £9000 ring fenced towards new play equipment. Council agreed to a small increase of under 1% which would be offset when the Covers housing comes on line.	
68.4	Council considered any grant requests for 2018 and agreed to give £150 to the Lewes Citizens advice, £125 to the Sussex Air Ambulance and £75 to the Sussex St.John's ambulance.	

68.5	Council noted that £13,225.66 has been received from LDC. Being the first payment of CIL money from LW/16/0935 (Covers) and being money towards the provision of an all weather multi sports area at Beechwood Park.	
69 69.1	Planning matters - to receive any report from the planning committee LW/17/0758 & LW/17/0759 Highwell, The Drove, Offham - Kitchen extension to rear elevation – <i>no comment</i> SDNP/17/04169/HOUS Little Bretts, Whitfeld Lane, Hamsey - Erection of timber outbuilding - <i>PC had no objection</i> LW/17/0899 North End Barn, North End Lane, Hamsey BN8 5TE- retrospective application for the erection of a single storey 3 bay garage and store - <i>no objection</i>	
69.2	Copyhold Farm – Council had been alerted to the erection of a new barn, new gates, several shipping containers and any number of vehicles on the agricultural site and chair has been told that this is being monitored by LDC	
69.3	Planning matters - to note any decisions by LDC or SDNP LW/17/0685 Unit 2 Knights Court South Road South Common - Change of use from office (Use Class B1) to residential (Use Class C3) - <i>granted</i> LW/17/0697 Land At Gradwell End South Chailey - Care accommodation (C2) comprising 65 extra care units, clubhouse and social area, other care and associated facilities together with landscaping and parking - <i>approved</i> SDNP/17/04576/TCA Pippins The Street Offham - Yew hedge - reduce to boundary wall 1x Sycamore - trimmed to boundary fence Laurel shrub - reduce to 8ft - <i>granted</i> LW/17/0758 & LW/17/0759 Highwell, The Drove, Offham - Kitchen extension to rear elevation – <i>granted</i>	
70 70.1	Recreation ground and Beechwood Hall a) Cllr.McBrown gave an update on the purchase of new play equipment for the park which is likely to be installed in time for the Easter break 2018. Fundraising continues and everyone was urged to vote for the project on the Aviva community fund website. There will be a collecting box at the free children's Christmas party on November 25 th and all councillors were invited to attend.	
70.2	b) Chair gave an update on installing CCTV which she is seeking funding for. Clerk was asked to contact hall trustees for more information regarding quotes.	clerk
70.3	c) LDC are introducing fines for dog fouling on any public space and the clerk is trying to get more details of how this will be publicised and enforced.	clerk
71	Council noted all correspondence received since the last meeting	
72 72.1 72.2	To receive any reports from meetings attended by Councillors or Clerk Chair and vice chair attended the annual conference – report attached Cllr.Dodd, Chair, LDC Cllr.Linnington and planning consultant J.Redwood met with the landowners and developers at Hamsey Brickworks to discuss the future of business units and the ancient woodland on the site. It was suggested that just one business unit could initially be built in order to test the market. If it was then found that 8 units would not be viable, these would be replaced with housing but 3 of the units plots would be reserved for future community use. It was suggested that the woodland could go into a trust or be managed by the PC in the future and that the PC might be able to be involved with design of the development.	
73 73.1	Council considered rail and bus issues. Cllr.Ginn had attended the GTR stakeholders meeting. The station partnership belongs to the rail users group. The new 22.47pm from Victoria service presently runs only on Fridays. Cllr.Baughan has checked the running times and gone back to GTR to ask for the full daily service to come on line. The consultaion on the 2018 weekend services should conclude by the end of 2017 but it will be 2018 before any results are known.	
73.2	The level crossing at Cooksbridge is due for renewal next year which will mean disruption and road closures aver long periods. Cllr.Baughan will monitor this.	Cllr.Baughan
73.3	There is a meeting planned for parishes on the old Lewes-Uckfield line – Cllrs. Baughan and Ginn will attend. Council understands that a representative from the	

	<p>rail futures group has indicated that 15,000 new homes would be needed before the old line could be re-opened.</p> <p>The chair said the PC were very grateful to Cllr.Baughan for his commitment.</p>	
74	Highway and Traffic issues	
74.1	Cllr.baughan had received agreement from ESCC that they would repair the damaged footway in Cooksbridge and chair had been assured that repairs would be made to the bridge at Hamsey. No dates for this as yet.	
74.2	Council had been alerted to problems of obstructed visibility when exiting Malthouse Way, caused by vehicles parked on A275.	
74.3	Cllr.baughan raised the issue of parking along the A275 by vehicles associated with the Covers development. Access to site parking appears blocked. He will investigate.	Cllr.Baughan
75	Council considered Waste and Recycling Issues	
75.1	A report had been circulated.(attached).	
75.2	Clr.Baughan will monitor the work by network rail and will ask about signage at the crossing to request drivers cut their engines whilst waiting.	Cllr.Baughan
75.3	Council were informed that Winchelsea PC have a public park rule of no more than 2 dogs per person, brought in to stop dog sitters not clearing up dog mess.	
76	Update on the parish emergency plan Cllr.Suttie had circulated a draft plan. Cllr.Harmer is looking at updating the information and contact numbers.	Cllr.Suttie Cllr.Harmer
77	Any update on the parish council logo The new logo has been chosen and awards given to those who were successful.	
78	Any update on defibrillator training Chair has spoken to the Sussex Heart Charity about a defibrillator for Offham. If one is installed, training could then be organised.	Chair
79	Right of Way, field N.of Beechwood Park. The RoW has been fenced and this has led to rabbits undermining the path by burrowing under the fence. It became quite overgrown with brambles blocking the way. SDNP Park Rangers have now cleared it but this will need monitoring.	
80	Items for noting	
80.1	Chair asked council to note that the Cooksbridge phone box was now a book swap and community noticeboard. She has contacted BT to chase removal of the decommissioned box in Offham.	
80.2	SALC have issued their 2018 training programme. I.Ginn to register for Charity Trustee awareness day on 22.3.18	
80.3	Anti-social behaviour, including serious damage to vehicles, has been reported on the community face-book. A public meeting for residents to raise their concerns with the police will take place at Beechwood Hall on November 30 th . Residents are being encouraged to report every incident through the Sussex Police Website.	
80.4	Chair announced a community event – The light in the Dark, will take place on November 24 th 2018.	
80.5	Cllr.McBrown said following the successful fundraising event this year, another village fun day will be organised for June 30 th 2018.	
81	Meeting dates for 2018 - 11 th Jan,8 th March,10 th May, 19 th July, 13 th Sept., 8 th Nov.	

Meeting closed at 9.43pm.

JT 20/11/16

Signed.....(Chairman) Dated.....

Min. 72.1: Report from Town/Parish conference

Presentation by Chief Inspector Emma Brice:

- Types of crimes are changing, ie increase in modern slavery, trafficking, cyber crimes, child exploitation. This is the reason for less foot patrol as they are deployed to work in other areas inc fraud for older people and on-line fraud..
- Trying to get a fairer deal for Sussex as we are currently funded 70% precept vs 30% government, in contrast to Surrey for example, who gets 50/50%.
- Sussex is a safe place, but they are working hard to make it feel like a safe place, also relating to domestic abuse, mental health, online crimes, harassment and child sexual exploitation.
- Prevention Teams starting in November- Neighbourhood Policing. Inc. new roles of Preventative Enforcement Officers and Youth Officers, who will be working with schools, children's homes, working with partners to identify and deal with issues before they escalate. This team will be working 100% in the community, not 20% as now.
- They haven't withdrawn policing from towns and villages, they have had to change the way they work to be more effective, so doing things differently now.
- We should report everything to 101 and/or on the Sussex Police website.

Tim Whelan, Head of Case and Specialist Services LDC and EBC:

Neighbourhood First to be introduced

- A multi skilled neighbourhood based team across Eastbourne providing a presence in the community that can respond to customers, encourage prevention and enabling, resolve issues on the ground and ensure the highest 'clean, green and safe' standards are maintained
- A more speedy, simple, responsive customer journey leading to higher customer satisfaction
- Relationship building in the community with customers, partners and other agencies
- Empowered and multi skilled staff, resulting in higher staff satisfaction.
- Intended to assist police, gather low level intelligence and be visible to the public. Likely to concentrate most work in populated areas, towns.
- Highly visible and in uniform
- Currently operating in Eastbourne
- Highly skilled teams solving problems on the ground.
- Will approach rural areas differently to coastal or town areas
- Will be attending town and parish meetings to stay in touch with what's happening.
- Training teams in January and should be up and running by April
- A mobile app will be available so we can report dog fouling, broken glass, fly tipping etc.
- There will be 12 advisors across the district.

Dementia Action Alliance:

- Presented on how to make you organisation Dementia Friendly
- Looking for individuals and organisations to sign up as Dementia Friends
- Bus drivers, banks, supermarkets etc all encouraged to sign up and learn ways in which they can assist the growing population of dementia sufferers.
- Think about how people with Dementia interact with our PC and consider ways to help, eg clear signage with pictures, passwords, tricky lighting, flooring etc.
- Can book a training session free of charge in our community for 10+ people

Recycling:

- New scheme to start in our area in around March of next year
- One recycling wheelie bin (provided) for mixed recycling
- Bid to increase recycling rate for district
- Included will be intro letter (details of what you can and can't recycle), sticker on bin and magnet with collection dates.
- Wheelie bin for general waste will be available to purchase at a discounted price.
- Gull-proof sacks for bin bags are being trialed in some areas with success
- New materials that will be recycled: plastic trays, yoghurt pots, plastic boxes, aerosols.
- Not Tetra Paks yet, may do in future. Bring to dedicated bring sites.
- No longer taking textiles or batteries.

Aidan Thatcher, Head of Planning:

- Spoke about Local Plan
- Looking at changing CIL as it's not generating enough revenue.
- We can access revenue from CILs via bids, Spring 2018 bi-annual release.

Councillor Tamsyn d'Arienzo

Min. 75.1 :Environment Report – November 2017

Litter Strategy for England – Work continues with reviewing this government published strategy document and, in particular, what we can take from it now to apply here in Hamsey parish.

Litter Heroes – We are continuing to do all we can to encourage more residents to adopt their local areas as a key initiative to complement the quarterly parish litter picks. If anyone wishes to take part in this initiative and 'adopt' their part of our parish please do let us know.

Dog Fouling – This issue, which is becoming an increasing problem within our parish, continues to be monitored. As previously noted, the Beechwood Hall trustees have decided that dogs should be kept on leads when in the recreation ground as the problem with dog fouling there has become so extreme. Unfortunately, some local dog owners are still not complying with this new requirement and additional measures are now under consideration to address this issue. In a welcome development, LDC are now proposing to implement Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) covering dog fouling anywhere in Lewes district with anyone found not to be clearing up after their dog facing a fine of up to £1000.

Parish Litter Picks – Five local residents gathered in the autumn sunshine to clear our parish verges of litter on Saturday 14th October.

This time we focussed on the A275 clearing the whole section between the Rainbow pub and Offham. All the laybys on the A275 were also tackled (including the Cherry Seller layby 'hot-spot' near to the junction with Wickham Lane which was in a particularly bad state) and the layby at the bottom of Deadmantree Hill where significant quantities of litter were encountered.

It was yet another successful morning resulting in a large collection of full black bags and associated bollards, and other miscellaneous junk, etc that was collected by our friends at LDC Waste & Recycling.

The parish litter picks are held on a quarterly basis on Saturday mornings meeting at 10.00 at Beechwood Hall and are publicised in the Hamsey News, the community website and by posters, with the next litter pick taking place on Saturday 13th January 2018. All are welcome and we hope very much to see as many parish councillors as possible taking part in this regular opportunity to keep our parish clean!

Pollution at Cooksbridge level Crossing - The issue of pollution created by stationary road vehicles waiting at Cooksbridge level crossing is continuing to concern local residents, not least because of the potential harmful effects on children playing at Hamsey Community Primary School. In the UK, about 8% or 50,000 deaths are estimated to be linked to pollution and something must now be done to address this issue in Cooksbridge.

We are pursuing a number of work-streams to address this issue at Cooksbridge including the repositioning by Network Rail / GTR of the stopping point of long London bound trains to reduce barrier down times and the provision of appropriate anti-pollution road signage by Network Rail, East Sussex Highways and on the fencing of selected local properties.

Network Rail Works at Cooksbridge level Crossing on 30-10-2017 – Following the environmental damage caused by Network Rail's contractor McNicholas when they last worked at Cooksbridge in April of this year, we were keen to avoid a repeat during work carried out by this same contractor on Sunday 30th October. Through early engagement with the Network Rail project team responsible we were able to ensure that environmental controls were given appropriate priority and as a result it was pleasing to note that these works passed off without major incident.

Following these works, we have recommended further improvements to the Network Rail project team particularly around the issue of noise pollution (fitting of appropriate 'white noise' reversing alarms to plant) and these have been accepted. Going forward, we are trying to proactively engage with the project teams of any future Network Rail works at Cooksbridge to ensure that environmental issues are being appropriately managed.

Vision - Tamsyn and Robert are continuing to talk with neighbouring parishes to share information and to join forces on environmental initiatives. We have many really exciting initiatives now in progress and more ideas in the pipeline and we would always welcome contributions and suggestions for consideration.

We continue to share a vision of Hamsey parish as a community working together to ensure a clean and sustainable environment for present and future generations.

Councillors Robert Baughan and Tamsyn D'Arienzo