

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES: of the Meeting held on 19 February 2009

PRESENT: Councillors T Field (Chairman), A Akbar, Mrs F Harrison, M Jones, Mrs S Lines and M Warrington

1/09 **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER**

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Jones to his first Meeting as a Member of the Committee.

2/09 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Perry (Holiday). This apology was accepted by the Committee.

3/09 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

There were no Declarations of Interest recorded by Members.

4/09 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 October 2008 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5/09 **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

(a) **Situation Report/Monthly Inspections**

The Clerk referred to Minute 31/08(a) and reported that the programme of regular inspections was continuing with the standard of cleansing still most satisfactory.

She reminded the Committee that provision had been made in the 2009/2010 Budget for the replacement of the remaining sanitary ware and some refurbishment works in the Public Toilets at The Woodlands Centre. She said that she would be obtaining costings for consideration at the next Meeting.

The Committee NOTED this information.

(b) **Broadmark Lane**

The Clerk referred to Minute 31/08(b) and reported that, unfortunately, the application for Planning Permission had been returned to Berkeley Homes for further information and, unfortunately, following much investigation, confirmation had been received that the plans could not be located.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee NOTED this information and RECOMMENDED that no further action be taken in this regard at the present time.

(c) **The Street - Refurbishment**

The Clerk referred to Minute 31/08(c) and reported that following minor delays, the refurbishment of the Public Toilets in The Street, was now complete, and the Toilets had been re-opened to the Public on

15 January 2009. She said that many favourable comments had already been received from members of the local community in respect of the high standard of the refurbishment.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

6/09 BUS SHELTERS AND BEACH SHELTER

(a) Situation Report/Cleansing

The Clerk referred to Minute 32/08(a) and reported that the Council's Toilet Cleansing Contractor was continuing to undertake intermittent inspections and cleansing of the Bus Shelters throughout the Village.

The Committee NOTED this information.

Councillor Akbar expressed his concern in respect of the reported standard of cleansing of the Bus Shelters in general by the District Council's Cleansing Contractor, and the Clerk said that she would make a representation to the District Council in this regard.

(b) Refurbishment/Replacement of Bus Shelters

The Clerk referred to Minute 32/08(b) and advised Members that she had recently received notification from the West Sussex County Council that grant funding of 40% would once again be available for a limited number of applicants in the next financial year. She said that an application to replace one of the Shelters on the south side of Station Road would be being submitted to the County Council in the very near future, and she was again hopeful that the Council might be successful with its seventh application under this Scheme.

She reminded the Committee that the programme of refurbishment of the Council's wooden Bus Shelters throughout the Village would continue, as soon as funding became available in the next financial year.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

(c) Provision of Additional Bus Shelter - Station Road

The Clerk referred to Minute 32/08(c) and reported that she had now received notification, from the West Sussex County Council, that consent had been given to the siting of a Bus Shelter in Station Road near the junction of Herne Lane, subject to the following undertaking:-

- (a) Maintain the Bus Shelter to the satisfaction of the Director of Operations and Infrastructure
- (b) Repair forthwith any damage howsoever caused to the Bus Shelter to the satisfaction of the Director of Operations and Infrastructure
- (c) Remove the Bus Shelter at any time as required to do so by the County Council and to indemnify the County Council against any costs. Claims and demands that may arise as a consequence of its placing or existence or removal.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information, but agreed that in view of the financial constraints being faced by the Council at the present time, no further action should be taken until later in the year when the 2010/2011 Estimates would be considered.

(d) Beach Shelter Replacement

The Clerk referred to Minute 32/08(f) and reported that the reconstruction of the Beach Shelter was now complete, and once again open for use by members of the public. She reminded the Committee that the

reconstruction was the subject of an Insurance Claim, and the total sum recovered from the Council's Insurers was £12,269.00, leaving approximately £3,000.00 to be met from the Council's own funds.

She said that in order to ensure that the Shelter was maintained to its new high standard, she would be arranging for more comprehensive cleansing to be undertaken by the Council's Toilet Cleansing Contractor.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

7/09 REPLACEMENT NOTICE BOARD - CHURCHILL COURT

The Clerk reported that following the complete destruction of the Public Notice Board at Churchill Court, as a result of an arson attack in October 2008, a new lockable Notice Board had now been installed. She said that the cost of the Notice Board had been £1,873.00 plus VAT, of which £1,621.11 had been recovered from the Council's Insurers.

The Committee NOTED this information.

8/09 STREET LIGHTING 2007-2008 ENERGY MAINTENANCE CHARGES

The Committee NOTED a letter received from Mr K Moss, Team Leader, Street Lighting, advising of the Street Lighting Maintenance Charges and the Energy Charges for the period 1 September 2007 to 31 August 2008, together with estimated charges for 2008/2009.

The Clerk then referred to the proposed PFI Contract, under which all street lights over 15 years of age were scheduled to be replaced. She said that she had received a representation from Councillor Rogers in respect of the street lighting on the private Sea Estate. Councillor Rogers had informed her that the Sea Estate Residents' Association were currently in the early stages of considering the possibility of repainting the existing street lighting on the Estate and, with this in mind, he felt that the County Council should be approached with a request that if it was decided at any time in the future, under the terms of the PFI Contract, to replace or enhance the street lighting on the Estate, the Residents' Association could have some input into an appropriate scheme and design.

Following a brief discussion the Committee RECOMMENDED that a request should be made to the County Council's Street Lighting Department for the Sea Estate Residents' Association to be consulted if, at any time in the future, the street lighting on the Sea Estate was scheduled to be replaced.

9/09 PUBLIC SEATS

(a) Situation Report

The Clerk referred to Minute 33/08(a) and reported that the programme of refurbishment would recommence at the beginning of the next financial year. She said that only urgent repairs were being undertaken at the present time.

The Committee NOTED this information.

(b) Provision of Additional/Replacement Seats

The Clerk referred to Minute 33/08(b) and reported that she would be making arrangements for the seat at the northern end of Broadmark Lane to be replaced at the beginning of the next financial year.

She then reported that the seat outside of the Public Toilets in The Street was in dire need of replacement, and asked the Committee to consider replacing it in the next financial year.

Following a further discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the seat outside of the Public Toilets in The Street be replaced in the next financial year.

10/09 ANNUAL MAINTENANCE OF AMENITY AREAS

(a) Situation Report

The Clerk referred to Minute 34/08(a) and reminded the Committee that the first year of the extended Contract with Ferring Nurseries would commence on 1 April 2009. She said that the Nurseries were in the process of planning and designing the floral planters and beds for the Summer planting.

She said that once again, complimentary comments had been received from members of the public in respect of the Winter floral displays around the Village, with no adverse comments to date.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

(b) Future Floral Enhancement of other areas in the Village

The Clerk referred to Minute 34/08(b) and reported no further action had been taken in this regard.

Following a further discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that in view of the financial constraints being faced by the Council at the present time, no further action be taken in this regard for the foreseeable future.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

11/09 POSSIBLE ENHANCEMENT OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACES IN RUSTINGTON

(a) Progress Report

The Clerk referred to Minute 35/08(a) and said that again, in the absence of any further information from the Arun District Council, she had nothing further to report at the present time.

The Committee NOTED this information.

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The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

12/09 DOG BINS/LITTER BINS

(a) Additional Dog Bin - Windmill Drive

The Clerk referred to Minute 36/08(c) and reported that a dog bin had now been installed at the above location.

The Committee NOTED this information.

(b) Request for Additional Dog Bin - Albert Road

The Clerk reported that she had previously circulated a request received from a resident of Albert Road, together with verbal representations from members of the public, for a Dog Bin to be installed in the vicinity of No. 1 Albert Road.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that a request should be made to the Arun District Council for a Dog Bin at the aforementioned location, for which the Council would be prepared to meet the purchase and installation costs.

13/09 RUSTINGTON-IN-BLOOM

(a) Progress Report

The Clerk reported that the Committee was progressing well with the 2009 Campaign. She said that the proposed route would soon be finalised, and whilst there were no major new projects planned for this year, there were several changes to the judging route which included the Parish Churchyard in The Street, Sea Road, Harsfold Road, Holmes Lane and Amberley Road.

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She said that of the four members of the local community who attended the Meeting, three had indicated that they wished to become Tree Wardens in the Village. She advised that the Council would need to agree to join the West Sussex Tree Warden Scheme, before any further progress could be made in this regard.

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POSSIBLE PROVISION OF CYCLE RACKS - STATION PARADE CAR PARK

The Clerk referred to Minute 41/08 and reported that together with the Chairman, she had met with the Freeholder of Station Parade Car Park and agreed a suitable location for the installation of the cycle racks.

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The Clerk said that only three representations had been received from Traders and, whilst they had no objection, in principle, to the installation of cycle racks, two had objected to the proposed location and had suggested an alternative.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the next scheduled Meeting would be held on Thursday 4 June 2009.

Chairman:

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