

RUSTINGTON PARISH MEETING

MINUTES: of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting held on 8 April 2010

PRESENT: Rustington Parish Councillors Mrs S Lines (In the Chair), A Akbar, J Bennett, J Collins, G Eyre, T Field, Mrs F Harrison, M Jones, S Perry, D Rogers, G Tyler and P Warren, Mrs C Ward, Mrs E Lamb, Mrs C Harris and D Moyle (Rustington Parish Council), PCSO H Pearson and PC D Bridger (Sussex Police), I Armstrong (Rustington Sports & Social Club), Mrs J Armstrong and A Beard (Rustington Community Partnership), B Ball (Summerlea Community Primary School), Ms A Bate, Mrs L Beard (Zachary Merton Community Hospital League of Friends), Mrs A Bennett, L Bond, P Brown, Mrs E Collins and Miss P Thomson (St Andrew's United Reformed Church), Mrs R Cornish (Georgian Gardens Community Primary School), G Donaldson, MBE (Cudlow Avenue Freeholders Association), Mrs F Eyre (Arun District Council Sheltered Housing), K Grimes, R Hargreaves (Arun Neighbourhood Watch Association), P Ingram (Rustington in Bloom), A Keay and J Cooper (Rustington Otters Football Club), R Mann (Rustington Cricket Club), Ms D McDonald, B Richards and Mrs M Richards (Arun Decorative and Fine Art Society), Miss J Scully, Mrs M Taylor, Councillor Mrs H Thorpe, D Vaughan, D Wakeling and Mrs A Wakeling (Rustington Residents Association), M and Mrs A Wright

APOLOGIES: Rustington Parish Councillors Mrs C Broomfield, J Ceiriog-Hughes, A Cooper, R Grevett, County Councillor Dr J M Walsh, District Councillors Mrs P M Bower, T C Chapman, M J Clayden and D F Wilde, PCSO E Hartley, W Molloy (Georgian Gardens Community Primary School), Ms A Marchbank (West Sussex County Council Youth Service), D Herbert (Rustington Otters Football Club), Mrs M Vosper (Rustington Afternoon Townswomen Guild), Mr C and Mrs H Snell

1. PRESENTATION - RUSTINGTON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

The Meeting received a detailed Presentation from Austen Beard, Chairman of the Rustington Community Partnership, on the Partnership's current and future Projects and the progress made since its formation.

Following the Presentation, the Chairman of the Meeting thanked Mr Beard, on behalf of the Meeting, for his most interesting and informative Presentation.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting held on 2 April 2009 were approved by the Meeting and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman reported on the activities of the Parish Council during the preceding year. A copy of this Report is attached and forms a part of these Minutes.

4. AUDITED STATEMENT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

The Meeting received the Audited Statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009.

The Clerk reported that these Accounts were available for inspection in the Council Offices.

5. FINANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2010 AND 31 MARCH 2011

The Meeting received a Report from Councillor G Tyler, Chairman of the Parish Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee on the Council's finances for the year ending 31 March 2010 and 31 March 2011. A copy of this Report is attached and forms a part of these Minutes.

6. LOCAL SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

The Chairman advised the Meeting that the Chairmen of the Governing Bodies from each of the three Primary Schools in Rustington were invited to attend the Meeting to provide a brief Annual Report in respect of the individual Schools.

She then confirmed that written Reports had been received from Mrs Rosemary Cornish, Chairman of Governors, on behalf of Georgian Gardens Community Primary School and Mr John Ceiriog-Hughes, Chairman of Governors, on behalf of Rustington Community Primary School.

Mrs Rosemary Cornish, Chairman of Governors then presented her Report on Georgian Gardens Community Primary School. This was followed by a detailed verbal Report from Mr Brian Ball, Headteacher of Summerlea Community Primary School.

Finally, a Report received from Mr Ceiriog-Hughes, the Chairman of Governors at Rustington Community Primary School, was presented to the Meeting by Councillor D Rogers on Mr Ceiriog-Hughes' behalf.

Transcripts of the aforementioned Reports, together with details of the main points covered by Mr Ball in his verbal Report are attached and form a part of these Minutes.

7. REPORT FROM SUSSEX POLICE AUTHORITY

The Meeting received a Report from PCSO Miss Pearson for the period from April 2009 to March 2010. She also gave the Meeting a general overview of Police activity in and around the Village. A transcript of this Report is attached and forms a part of these Minutes.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The Meeting received the following Reports from the County and District Councillors:-

(a) County Councillor G M Tyler

Councillor Tyler reported on the current West Sussex County Council issues relating to Rustington. He said that work had now commenced on the Extra Care Sheltered Housing Scheme on the old Abbotswood Site in Station Road, with the construction work expected to take approximately twelve months to complete.

He referred to the future of Joint Area Committees and said that a Cross Party Committee had been set up to look into this and would be reporting its findings later in the year.

He also reported that consultation had started in respect of the work of the County Youth Service, and said that the original required savings of £2 Million from this Budget had now been reduced to £1 Million. He said that whilst Rustington would be included in this consultation, it should not be affected as it had its own youth provision and only worked in partnership with the County Council.

He assured the Meeting that the condition of the roads continued to be a priority and due to the extreme winter, potholes had been a never ending nightmare. He said that £15 Million had now been identified to repair the roads on a permanent basis as only temporary repairs had been carried out to date. Whilst this was obviously good news there was a down side, in that as there was no extra money available for the aforementioned repairs, the total cost would have to be met from the road improvement fund. This would, therefore, result in some major road schemes being put on hold.

He concluded by reporting that there was a spate of manhole covers being stolen at the present time. He said that the unit cost was £250.00 to replace. He asked those present, if they were to see anyone removing any of these, to report it to the County Council immediately, as this was not only expensive but extremely dangerous.

(b) District Councillor T C Chapman

In the absence of Councillor Chapman, Councillor Mrs Harrison presented his Report as follows:-

“The Parish Council is to be congratulated on its continued efforts to retain the character of Rustington. This is no easy task given the complex pressures and challenges that fall upon the shoulders of all Parish Councillors, not least the Chairman.

The popularity of Rustington as a place to live and a place to shop is well-established and the extension of hours for disc parking has created a new challenge for Worthing and other places, such as Lancing.

On behalf of my constituents in the West Preston Ward, I thank the Parish Council for all that it has done, and is doing, to secure the future of the Village.”

(c) District Councillor G M Tyler

Councillor Tyler reported that the District Council was currently undergoing a major restructure, associated with its efforts to make efficiency savings. He said that whilst this was resulting in the loss of some staff, the majority of savings would be made through natural wastage and not through redundancies. He advised that the Chief Executive had announced his decision to leave the District Council within the next two year period, and he also understood that two other Senior Directors had opted to retire from their positions.

He said that the District Council would be undergoing an enormous amount of change over the next three years but he believed that the end result would see a stronger Council emerging.

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Questions/matters raised by Members of the Public present included the following subjects:-

- (a)** Future of Sheltered Housing in Rustington - Plea from residents to County District and Parish Councils to try to ensure the retention of sheltered housing provision and protect the services provided - *Noted by all Councillors present*
- (b)** Concern expressed in respect of vehicles using Albert Road and Woodlands Avenue at excessive speeds as a short cut to the centre of the Village - Situation exacerbated by current road works in Broadmark Lane and The Street - *Police to monitor situation and possibly use Mobile Speed Indication Device in this vicinity, subject to satisfactory risk assessment*
- (c)** Concern expressed regarding deteriorating condition of Cricket Square on Woodlands Recreation Ground, and need for new boundary rope or fencing - *Request from Parish Council for Cricket Club to make a representation in this regard, with a view to meeting to discuss concerns raised*

- (d) Sea Lane Pedestrian Safety Scheme - Taking account of County Council's current need to make savings and the possibility of Schemes being deleted, request for County and Parish Councils to ensure that the aforementioned Scheme be retained in some form - Possibly by the deletion of the proposed Traffic Signals, with the original idea of the provision of a footpath in front of cottages in Sea Lane being concentrated on - *Noted by Parish and County Councillors present*

Chairman:

Date: