

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES: of the Meeting held on 10 June 2010

PRESENT: Councillors A Akbar, J Bennett, A Cooper, T Field and M Jones

15/10 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed that Councillor Field be elected Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

The Committee RESOLVED that Councillor Field be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

16/10 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed that Councillor Jones be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

The Committee RESOLVED that Councillor Jones be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

17/10 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Lines (Other Associated Business) and Rogers (Personal Commitment). These apologies were accepted by the Committee.

18/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

There were no Declarations of Interest recorded by Members.

19/10 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 February 2010 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

20/10 **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

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

The Clerk referred to Minute 4/10(a) and reported that each unit was continuing to be inspected regularly, with the overall standard of cleansing most satisfactory.

She advised the Committee that, unfortunately, the electric shutter at the Churchill Car Park Public Toilets was no longer working automatically, due to the fact that the motor needed replacing. She said that this work, which amounted to approximately £850.00 in total, would be undertaken in the near future.

The Committee NOTED this information.

(b) **Loo of the Year Awards 2010**

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation to again enter the Loo of the Year Awards and reminded the Committee of the 4 Star Grading received in the 2009 Competition in respect of the Churchill Car Park, Broadmark Lane and The Street Toilets.

The Clerk then advised the Committee that each entry into the 2010 Competition would cost £109.75.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the following Public Toilet units should be entered in the Loo of the Year Awards 2010:-

Broadmark Lane
Churchill Car Park
The Street

21/10 BUS SHELTERS AND BEACH SHELTER

(a) Situation Report/Cleansing

The Clerk referred to Minute 5/10(a) and reported that the Council's Toilet Cleansing Contractor was continuing to carry out daily cleansing of the Beach Shelter and periodic inspections and rubbish clearance of the Bus Shelters throughout the Village. She reminded the Committee that Verdant PLC were responsible for the general cleansing of all of the shelters, but the Council had decided that additional cleansing should be undertaken to ensure that they were kept to a satisfactory standard at all times.

The Committee NOTED this information.

(b) Refurbishment/Replacement of Bus Shelters

The Clerk referred to Minute 5/10(b) and reported that the Bus Shelter on the south side of Station Road (at its junction with Ruston Park) had been installed in April 2010.

The Clerk then reminded the Committee that the West Sussex County Council Grant Scheme, whereby Parish and Town Councils could apply for 40% of the total cost of new shelters, had been deferred until the next financial year. She said that in anticipation of the Scheme being continued in 2011/2012, an application had been made for the shelter at the junction of The Street and Claigmar Road to be rebuilt. She said that the cost was likely to be in the region of £10,000.00, of which £4,000.00 could be obtained by way of a grant under the aforementioned Scheme. She concluded by advising the Committee that the possible replacement of this shelter, together with previously received requests for two new shelters in Station Road and The Street, could be taken into account at its next Meeting, when the 2011/2012 Estimates were considered.

The Committee NOTED this information.

22/10 STREET LIGHTING

The Clerk referred to Minute 6/10 and reported that the new Contracts between the Council and the West Sussex County Council had now been agreed for street lighting maintenance services, and payment for the supply of electricity, and were fully operational. She said that the maintenance cost per lighting column, of which the Council were responsible for 44 (in private roads only), was £30.62 (subject to indexation, as set out in the Contract).

The Committee NOTED this information.

Councillor Cooper referred to certain lighting columns in The Street that were in need of replacement. He said that this had come to light when the Christmas Lighting Features were installed, when the County Council had said that they were not at a suitable standard for any such features to be attached to them.

The Clerk said that she would contact the County Council to try to ascertain when, in the future, the aforementioned columns might be due for replacement, under the new PFI Contract.

23/10 **PUBLIC SEATS**

(a) **Situation Report**

The Clerk referred to Minute 7/10(a) and reported that the annual programme of refurbishment had recommenced at the beginning of the current financial year and would continue throughout June and July.

The Committee NOTED this information.

(b) **Provision of Additional/Replacement Seats**

The Clerk reported that whilst the In-Bloom Committee would be having a new seat installed to commemorate the 2010 Campaign in Holmes Lane, near its junction with Milton Avenue, there was an aged seat, already in situ in close proximity to the site for the aforementioned seat, which was in need of replacement. She said that the cost to replace the previously donated seat would be in the region of £500.00 and she asked the Committee to consider its replacement.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that a new heavy duty wooden garden seat be purchased to replace the existing donated seat in Holmes Lane, near its junction with Milton Avenue. The Clerk said that she would arrange for the installation of this seat to coincide with the installation of the In-Bloom Committee's commemorative seat, which would be the same type of seat.

24/10 **ANNUAL MAINTENANCE OF AMENITY AREAS**

(a) **Situation Report**

The Clerk referred to Minute 8/10(a) and reported that once again, complimentary comments had been received from members of the public in respect of the Winter floral displays throughout the Village. She said that the Summer displays were now in the process of being planted up, to ensure that the best possible standard could be achieved for the South and South East in Bloom Competition.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

25/10 **LITTER BINS**

(a) **Request for Additional Litter Bin - Junction Park Drive/Station Road**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for an additional Litter Bin adjacent to the Bus Shelter in Station Road at its junction with Park Drive.

The Clerk reminded the Committee that the Arun District Council were not prepared to fund a new litter bin at this location, but would be prepared to service the bin, if the Council agreed to fund the cost of purchase and installation which would be in the region of £350.00.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that:-

- (i) a request be submitted to the District Council to provide a Litter Bin at this location, with the Council bearing the cost of purchase and installation
- (ii) prior to this request being submitted, the District Council be asked to address the problems currently being experienced on the public highway in this vicinity, as a result of Verdant PLC leaving litter and recycling bins on the grass verge and pavement, once emptied, which were causing severe obstruction and hazards for pedestrians at this point.

(b) Request for Additional Litter Bin - Sea Lane

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for an additional Litter Bin adjacent to the Bus Shelter in Sea Lane (western side - opposite The Dragon Chinese Restaurant).

The Clerk reminded the Committee that the Arun District Council were not prepared to fund a new litter bin at this location, but would be prepared to service the bin, if the Council agreed to fund the cost of purchase and installation which would be in the region of £350.00.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that a request be submitted to the District Council to provide a Litter Bin at this location, with the Council again bearing the cost of purchase and installation

26/10 2010 GARDENS COMPETITION

The Clerk referred to Minute 162/10 (Annual Meeting Minutes - 24 May 2010 refers) and said that arrangements for the Competition were proceeding, with the posters and nomination forms already circulated to the participating shops in the Village. She reminded the Committee that a nomination form had also been included with the Annual Newsletter delivered to the majority of households at the end of May/beginning of June 2010.

She confirmed that the closing date for the 2010 Competition was 23 June 2010, with the short-list being produced on 25 June 2010, and the final judging taking place on 1 July 2010.

The Committee NOTED this information.

27/10 RUSTINGTON-IN-BLOOM

The Clerk reminded the Committee that the next fund-raising event, which would be held on Friday 18 June 2010, was the "Film Night" at the Village Memorial Hall commencing at 7.00 pm. She said that the film showing was Last Chance Harvey, starring Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Tickets were priced at £5.00 each (including a lucky ticket draw), and a number were still available from the Council Offices, Village Information Centre and Museum.

She also reminded the Committee that as part of the 2010 Rustington-In-Bloom Campaign, the Rustington Scout Group had been invited to submit a design for a flower bed, as the initial stage in the enhancement of a piece of land in Holmes Lane, at its junction with Milton Avenue. She said that the entries received had been judged by the Committee, and the design produced by one of the Forest Beavers' Group had been declared as the winning entry. She said that it was hoped that the Winner and other members of the Group, would be assisting Ferring Nurseries to plant the design.

She then referred to the area in front of the former Abbotswood Site in Station Road and said that this area would be being further enhanced, with the extension of the existing planting, within the next few weeks. She said that it was hoped that Saxon Weald, the developer of the Abbotswood Site might sponsor the majority of the cost involved in the maintenance and planting in this area. She confirmed that she had approached Saxon Weald and was currently awaiting a response.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

28/10 WEEPING FIG TREE - THE STREET

The Committee considered email correspondence with Store Property Investments Limited and Millstone Landscapes, regarding the Weeping Fig Tree on the north side of The Street, at its junction with Broadmark Lane.

Following a detailed discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the Council's Tree Contractor's suggestion to raise the branches each year, but not to be detrimental to the tree's natural shape, be agreed, with no further action being taken in respect of removal of the tree for the foreseeable future.

29/10 DONATED TREE PLANTING SCHEME - PUBLIC HIGHWAY

The Clerk referred to Minute 11/10 and said that details of the Scheme had been included in both the Winter and Spring issues of the Newsletter.

She said that two members of the local community had expressed an interest in donating a tree for planting on the Public Highway but, to date, no further interest had been shown. She said that she would be contacting the West Sussex County Council again, in this regard, to see if it would be possible for the two prospective donors to form the basis for the commencement of this Scheme.

The Committee NOTED this information.

30/10 TREE WARDEN SCHEME

The Clerk referred to Minute 12/10 and said that the remaining five Tree Wardens were still monitoring trees around the Village, and she had nothing further to report at the present time.

The Committee NOTED this information.

31/10 CIGARETTE BUTTS - OUTSIDE THE ORIGINAL FACTORY SHOP

The Clerk referred to Minute 13/10 and said that she had contacted the District Council's Street Scene Co-ordinator who had subsequently visited The Original Factory Shop in Churchill Parade and had spoken to the Manager and Staff in this regard.

Councillor Cooper said that he had also spoken to the Store Manager and Staff, requesting that they refrain from disposing cigarette butts on the pavement in front of the store.

The Committee NOTED this information.

32/10 REPLACEMENT OF CYCLE RACKS - BROADMARK PARADE

The Clerk referred to Minute 9/10 and said that the next phase of the replacement programme would be taking place within the next few weeks, when all of the eleven cycle racks at Broadmark Parade would be being replaced.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

33/10 BRITISH TELECOM K6 'JUBILEE' TELEPHONE BOXES

The Committee considered a Press Cutting received from Mr Grimes, regarding a town in Berkshire that had campaigned to have a refurbished original K6 'Jubilee' Telephone Box installed, at a cost of £2,000.00. The cost of maintaining the box was to be borne by the Parish Council for the next ten years, with BT agreeing to install a telephone in it.

The Committee RECOMMENDED that no further action be taken in this regard at the present time.

34/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the next scheduled Meeting would be held on Thursday 7 October 2010.

Chairman:

Date: