

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES: of the Monthly Meeting held on 25 April 2005

PRESENT: Councillors G Tyler (Chairman), A Akbar, Mrs C Broomfield, J Ceiriog-Hughes, J Collins, T Field, S G Fitzsimon, R Grevett, D Murphy, C Pryor, R Steward and M Warrington

123/05 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs S Lines (Work Commitments), Mrs M Rice (Holiday) and Mrs I Richards (Family Commitments). These apologies were accepted by the Council.

124/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Steward declared a personal interest in Minute 149/05 but remained during the consideration of this item and took part in the voting thereon.

Councillor Tyler declared a personal interest in Minutes 149/05 and 150/05 but remained during the consideration of these items and took part in the voting thereon.

125/05 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 21 March 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

126/05 REPORT FROM SUSSEX POLICE

The Council received a detailed Report from Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Andy Orpin on policing matters throughout the Parish, including all relevant crime figures. He also reported that the Monthly Police Surgeries in the Village were proving to be most successful, with the next Surgery scheduled for 18 May 2005.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Orpin for his most informative and interesting Report.

127/05 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported that an apology for absence had been received from Councillor Parris.

There were no other Reports received from District Councillors.

128/05 COUNTY COUNCILLORS – MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Moor thanked the Council for allowing him the opportunity of commenting on matters relating to the County Council.

He referred particularly to the following:-

- (a) Arun District Council - Verdant Combined Cleansing Contract - Service slowly beginning to improve
- (b) The Martlets – Contractors in discussion with East Preston Parish Council for possible Offices and Museum in the grounds
- (c) Proposed Pedestrian Crossing – A259 in vicinity of Texaco Roundabout – Commencement of works delayed pending the outcome of negotiations with British Telecom regarding underground cables, etc.
- (d) Proposed widening of access and introduction of Pedestrian Crossing – A259 in vicinity of Sainsburys Superstore - Planning Approval now received by Sainsburys, and awaiting confirmation of funding contribution from Sainsburys

Councillor Moor reminded Members that this was the last Meeting of the Council that he would attend in the current four year term as a County Councillor covering the eastern side of Rustington and East Preston. He said that he was standing for re-election and, if successful, he would no longer be covering East Preston, but would be responsible for most of Rustington.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, expressed his thanks and appreciation for Councillor Moor's support throughout his current term of office.

The Council NOTED this information and expressed its continued appreciation to Councillor Moor.

129/05 REPORT OF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

(a) Quality Parishes Investment Fund

The Clerk reported the receipt of an email from the Council's Development Officer advising that the Council had been awarded £5,000.00 towards the refurbishment of the Play Area.

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information.

130/05 CASUAL VACANCY

The Chairman referred to Minute 98/05 and confirmed that as the Parliamentary Election had been called for 5 May 2005, the By-Election for the vacancy in the West Preston Ward would now take place on Thursday 26 May 2005.

The Council NOTED this information, together with the official Notice of Election and Revised Timetable, published by the Returning Officer at the Arun District Council.

131/05 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman apologised to the Council for his absence from the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting. He said that this had been due to a family bereavement. He thanked Councillor Pryor for Chairing the Meeting and presenting the Annual Report on his behalf.

He then advised the Council that he had little to report in respect of his official activities and attendance at Meetings since the last Monthly Council Meeting.

Councillor J Ceiriog-Hughes left the Meeting at this juncture.

132/05 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Council NOTED the Reports of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 21 March 2005 and 11 April 2005. (Copies previously circulated).

133/05 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Council received the Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 25 April 2005. (Verbal Report from the Chairman of the Committee).

The Council RESOLVED that the Recommendations contained in the Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 25 April 2005 be APPROVED.

134/05 2005/2006 BUDGET

The Council NOTED the receipt of the Council's approved Budget for 2005/2006, copies of which had been previously circulated to all Members.

135/05 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING

The Council NOTED the Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting held on 7 April 2005.

136/05 TRAFFIC ISSUES WORKING PARTY

The Council NOTED the Report of the Traffic Issues Working Party Meeting held on 12 April 2005.

137/05 RUSTINGTON YOUTH CENTRE

(a) Progress Report

The Chairman reported on an approach received from the Rustington Centre to hire most of the Centre for a period of one year to 18 months, Monday to Friday inclusive. He said that along with the Clerk, he had met with representatives from the County Council on several occasions in this regard. He said that the County Council had currently offered a figure of £13,000 per annum, to include certain facilities within the Woodlands Centre.

The Committee NOTED this information and AGREED that the Chairman and the Clerk should continue to progress this matter, and report back to the next Meeting of Council for final approval in this regard.

(b) External Storage Facility

The Clerk referred to Minute 102/05(c) and reported that Planning Permission had been granted on 13 April 2005, subject to compliance with conditions as follows:-

- Condition 1 The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 5 years from the date of permission

- Condition 2 The building hereby permitted shall be used for storage purposes only by the Youth Centre

The Clerk said that she was now in the process of making arrangements for the Order to be placed with Sturdy Sales Limited for the External Storage Building at a revised cost of £3,937.87 plus VAT, an increase of £179.00 on the original estimate received in November 2004.

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information.

The Clerk then reminded Members that she had previously circulated copies of the Quotations received in respect of the Concrete Base to accommodate the External Storage Facility as follows:-

Blue Sky Gardening Limited	£1,830.00 excl. VAT
Landbuild Limited	£1,650.00 excl. VAT

Following a discussion, the Council RESOLVED that the Quotation from Landbuild Limited in the sum of £1,650.00 excluding VAT, be accepted.

138/05 ATTENDANCE RECORD FOR COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 2004 – MARCH 2005 INCLUSIVE

The Council NOTED the attendance Record for Council and Committee Meetings for the period April 2004 to March 2005 inclusive.

139/05 PARISHIONERS' AWARD

The Clerk reported that a total of six nominations had been received for the individual award in response to the Press Release issued earlier in the year, including one carried over from the previous year. She said that no nominations had been received in respect of the Group/Organisation award, but there were two nominations carried forward from 2004. She suggested that the Meeting of the Working Party should take

place on 9 May 2005 commencing at 6.00 pm, prior to the Planning Committee Meeting. She confirmed that a Report detailing the Working Party's recommendations would be included on the Agenda for consideration at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

Following a further brief discussion, the Council AGREED that the Meeting of the Working Party should take place on Monday 9 May 2005 commencing at 6.00 pm, and no further nominations were received from Members.

140/05 2005 SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM CAMPAIGN

(a) Progress Report

The Clerk reported that the "In-Bloom" Committee was proceeding with arrangements for the 2005 entry. She said that community projects included a Tree Planting Scheme on the Recreation Ground, a School Design Competition in respect of the Southern Water Pumping Station in Broadmark Lane and the floral enhancement of the enclosed area outside the Guide Hall on the Recreation Ground jointly by the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows and the Little Explorers Play Group. She said that the partnership project to install a Coastal and Marine Wildlife Interpretation Board on the Seafront in the vicinity of the Overstrand East Estate was also progressing well.

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information.

The Chairman reminded Members that a Plant Sale and Barbeque had been organised by the "In-Bloom" Committee on 7 May 2005 at The Windmill Inn, Rustington. He urged all Members to make every effort to support this fundraising event.

The Clerk also reported that a 'Low Tide Day' had been arranged by the Arun Coastal Marine Ranger for 7 May 2005 at 2.00 pm in the vicinity of the Overstrand East Estate. She said that she would be attending and asked Members to attend, if at all possible.

The Council NOTED this information.

141/05 SPEED CAMERA – STATION ROAD, RUSTINGTON

The Council considered a representation received from Councillor Akbar regarding the Speed Camera in Station Road, and Councillor Akbar proceeded to explain his concern about this Speed Camera and the reasoning for its installation.

The Chairman, with the Council's agreement, then ADJOURNED the Meeting to allow County Councillor Moor to clarify the reasoning behind the installation of the Camera.

The Meeting was RECONVENED following Councillor Moor's report to the Council.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Moor for the information provided and the Council then RESOLVED to take no further action in this regard.

142/05 CONBAR AVENUE ALLOTMENT SITE

The Chairman reported on an approach made by the Clerk to the Arun District Council regarding the possibility of the transfer of the Freehold of the Conbar Avenue Allotment Site to the Parish Council. The Clerk reminded Members that copies of the relevant correspondence had been previously circulated to all Members.

Following a brief discussion, the Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should confirm that it was agreeable to the conditions laid down by the District Council and would be prepared to proceed on this basis.

143/05 CONBAR AVENUE ALLOTMENT SITE – PERIMETER FENCING

The Clerk referred to Minute 35/04 of the Allotments Committee Minutes and reported the receipt of a revised

Quotation from Blue Sky Gardening Limited for the Perimeter Fencing to the Eastern Boundary parallel with Conbar Avenue as follows:-

Total £3,659.57 excl. VAT

She confirmed that due to the financial constraints on the Allotments Committee, it was now evident that the new fencing would have to be installed in two phases, one in the current financial year, with provision being made in the Allotments Committee Budget for 2006/2007.

Following a further discussion, the Council RESOLVED that the Quotation in the sum of £3,659.57 excl. VAT, be accepted, but that the commencement of the works should be delayed until the transfer of the Freehold of the site had been completed successfully.

Councillor Grevett left the Meeting at this juncture.

144/05 PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT

The Clerk reminded Members that total grant funding in the sum of £25,500.00 had been received towards the Refurbishment Project. She said that a revised Quotation in the sum of £55,571.00 had now been received from Wicksteed Leisure, which included a larger variety of play equipment than originally estimated for, meeting the Council's primary objective. She said that she planned to place the Order the next day with an anticipated delivery time of approximately eight weeks. She hoped that the works would be completed prior to the start of the School Summer Holidays, but failing this, she might request a delay until early September 2005.

Following a brief discussion, the Council RESOLVED that the revised Quotation received from Wicksteed Leisure in the sum of £55,571.00 be accepted.

145/05 RUSTINGTON HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION – DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR

The Council considered a letter received from the Social Secretary, regarding the possibility of displaying a picture in the Village Memorial Hall to commemorate the Association's Diamond Jubilee Year.

Following a discussion, the Council RESOLVED that the request from the Rustington Horticultural Association to display a picture in the Village Memorial Hall be declined, on the basis that it would set a precedent which the Council might not be able to comply with, should other user Groups or Organisations make similar requests in the future.

The Council further RESOLVED that a Picture could be mounted at a suitable location in the back foyer, or another suitable location, as an alternative offer to the Association and the Clerk was asked to approach the Association in this regard.

146/05 RUSTINGTON AND DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The Clerk referred to Minute 118/05 and reminded the Council of its previous decision to further consider this matter.

Following a further brief discussion, the Council RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Rice should represent the Council in an official capacity as part of the Twinning Association's forthcoming visit to Künzell from 9-12 June 2005.

147/05 RE-DEVELOPMENT OF RUSTINGTON CENTRE

The Chairman reminded Members that this matter had previously been considered under Minute 137/05(a).

148/05 REVISED BUS ROUTES – SERVICE NUMBER 9

The Council considered a letter received from Mrs I. Freaan regarding her concerns in respect of the re-routing of

public transport buses down Harsfold Road. The Clerk confirmed that Mrs Frean's letter had been passed to Stagecoach requesting its sympathetic consideration in this matter.

The Chairman reported that he had recently attended a Meeting at Littlehampton Town Council, at which this matter had been discussed. He said that as a result of the Meeting, at which Mrs Frean was in attendance, a decision had been made to set up a Meeting between the appropriate representatives West Sussex County Council, representatives from the Littlehampton Town Council and County Councillor Dr Walsh. He understood that this Meeting had yet to take place.

Following a further detailed discussion, the Council RESOLVED to support the concerns raised in Mrs Frean's letter and make appropriate representations to both the West Sussex County Council and Stagecoach. The Council further agreed that the Clerk and the Chairman be AUTHORISED to prepare and submit these representations to the aforementioned bodies.

149/05 ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL – BYELAW REVIEW CONSULTATION – GOOD RULE AND GOVERNMENT

The Council considered a letter and enclosure received from the Senior Legal Assistant and RESOLVED that the Chairman and Clerk be AUTHORISED to prepare and submit a response on behalf of the Council, if necessary.

150/05 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL – JOINT EASTERN ARUN AREA COMMITTEE

The Council NOTED the Minutes of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee Meeting held on 29 March 2005.

151/05 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL – URBAN GRASS CUTTING – 2005 SEASON

The Council NOTED the Programme of Start Dates for urban grass cutting in the Arun Area.

152/05 DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS – QUALITY PARISHES AND PARISH PLANNING

The Council NOTED the receipt of a letter and enclosure received from the The Rt. Hon. Alun Michael MP, regarding Quality Parishes and Parish Planning.

153/05 THE SURREY/SUSSEX LEADERSHIP FORUM

The Council received an Invitation to attend a Mental Health Summit on 23 June 2005 at The Hawth, Crawley and AGREED that if any Members were interested in attending this Summit, they should advise the Clerk as soon as possible.

154/05 3 TOWNS SHOPMOBILITY

The Council received an Invitation to attend the Launch Event of the “Enable Me Project 2005” at Worthing Assembly Hall on 20 May 2005.

The Chairman advised the Council that he would be attending this Launch Event in another official capacity, but was happy to also represent the Council.

155/05 APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSFER OF JUSTICES LICENCE

The Clerk reported the receipt of applications for the Transfer of Justices Licence in respect of the following:-

- (a) Dragon, 125 Sea Lane, Rustington
- (b) Thresher Wine Shop, 129 The Street, Rustington

156/05 LITTLEHAMPTON CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Council NOTED a Report from Councillor Akbar in respect of his attendance at the Meeting of the Littlehampton Citizens Advice Bureau Management Committee on 23 March 2005.

157/05 COMMUNITY HOSPITAL FORUM MEETING - 21 APRIL 2005

The Chairman reported the receipt of a Report from Mrs Linda Beard, Chairman of the Zachary Merton Community Hospital League of Friends', of the above Meeting. He said that Mrs Beard had offered to provide a Report, as both of the Council's Representatives had been unable to attend the Meeting due to very late notice in respect of one Member, and no notice at all in the case of the other.

The Council NOTED this information and the Clerk was asked to convey the Council's thanks and appreciation to Mrs Beard for her informative Report.

The Clerk then referred to a further letter received from Mrs Beard, advising that it was the intention of the League of Friends to publish a book on Zachary Merton Hospital and, in particular, Zachary Merton himself. In her letter, Mrs Beard was asking for a financial contribution towards the cost of this publication.

The Council NOTED this information and AGREED that Mrs Beard should make a formal request for Grant Aid from the Council once an estimate of the costs that would be involved was available.

158/05 DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Council NOTED the following documents and publications received for Members' information:-

- (a) ICIS News – Issue No. 33 – Spring 2005
- (b) Action with Communities in Rural England – Village Halls and Community Centres – Funding Their Provision – Information Sheet 23
- (c) Canine Partners – Newsletter – Spring 2005
- (d) Sussex Police – “Patrol” – No. 436 - April 2005
- (e) ICIS – “Wellspring West Sussex” – Issue No. 1 – 2005
- (f) Southern Stakeholder Brief – Issue 19 – March 2005
- (g) Newsletter of the West Sussex Public Partnership Forum - “Partnership” - No. 31 – April 2005

There being no further business the Meeting concluded at 8.15pm.

Chairman: Date:

The following matters were raised by Members of the Public during the Public Question Time held prior to the Meeting:-

- (a) **Revised Bus Routes - Service No. 9**