

SLINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Slindon Parish Council

Held on Monday 11th February 2019

At the Coronation Hall, Reynolds Lane, Slindon at 7pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Niki Adamson (Chairman), Barbara Brimblecombe, Steve Chilver, Peter Fenton, Derek Thomas and Paul Wilkinson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Norman Dingemans, Arun District Councillor.

Mr Derek Whittington, West Sussex County Councillor.

Ms Katie Archer, National Trust.

1. FILMING OF MEETINGS AND USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

- 1.1** Members and the public were reminded of the procedures for filming and recording the meeting and requested to switch mobile devices to silent for the duration of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1** There were none.

3. TALK WITH US

There were two members of the public present.

- 3.1** Mr and Mrs Jerome-Ayling, who lived next door to Lilac Cottage in Sunnybox Lane, addressed the Council regarding planning application SDNP/18/06416/HOUS. Drawing the Council's attention to the plans presented with the application, they explained that the drawings did not show the extent of an existing extension making it difficult to judge the impact of what was proposed. In their view the width, depth and height of the proposed outbuilding represented a substantial addition to the footprint of the property. Whilst Mr and Mrs Jerome-Ayling did not wish to prevent their neighbours from carrying out repairs or indeed extending their property, the current proposal was a step too far and gave them cause for concern regarding the impact on their own property.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

- 4.1** Councillor Fenton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 14.4, Slindon Community Land Trust as Chairman of the Steering Committee and confirmed that he would leave the room if there was any discussion.

5. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th January 2019

- 5.1** It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND URGENT ITEMS

- 6.1 URGENT MATTERS** – there were none.

6.2 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman referred to a number of the updates that were due to be reported during the meeting relating to the A29, A27 and various planning matters. Regarding the A29 Traffic Management Scheme, traffic counters were down for the period from 30th January to 5th February. The data collected would be reviewed by West Sussex Highways and they would be in touch again once the data had been analysed. The A27 Arundel Bypass Elected Representatives Forum meeting scheduled to take place on 26th February had been postponed. A new date was awaited. She passed on information from the Coronation Hall support group regarding the presence of asbestos in the Hall. It was noted that whilst there was

some asbestos present it was contained within the small projector housing at the rear of the hall and benign. Finally, the Chairman announced that the Clerk had resigned and would be standing down once a replacement had been found. Members were saddened by this news and expressed their appreciation for all that Mrs Harris has done for the Council. The Chairman would keep Members informed of progress in recruiting a replacement. **It was RESOLVED that the updates be noted.**

7. PLANNING MATTERS

7.1 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

7.1.1 SDNP/18/06349/FUL - Dawtreys Hooks A285 Selhurst Park Road to Droke Lane Upwaltham

The Council received details of a planning application (previously circulated) which proposed using the land as a private natural memorial ground. It was noted that the site was in a sensitive isolated location, near to public rights of way and within woodland classified on the Ancient Woodland Inventory. Members proceeded to review the application in terms of the impact of the plans on the area. Observing that it was proposed that ashes be interred in the ground, there was concern that this could change the ecology of the ground and that further intrusion in the area could also disturb the habitat of many birds, plants and trees and undo the work to reintroduce native species and wildlife in the area. Overall, it was considered that the plans represented too great a disturbance to what was viewed as a unique environment. **It was therefore RESOLVED that the Parish Council object to the planning application and that its comments be submitted to the Planning Authority.**

7.1.2 SDNP/18/06416/HOUS - Lilac Cottage Sunnybox Lane Slindon BN18 0LX

The Council received details of a planning application (previously circulated) which proposed an extension to an existing outbuilding (wooden storage shed/workshop) to provide garden storage, arts and crafts area and space for a snooker table. The plans provided with the application were not considered to be consistent with how the main dwelling had been developed over the years and it was therefore difficult to judge the impact of the proposals. The proposed outhouse was also very close to, if not abutting the boundary of the neighbouring property. It was observed that in terms of permitted development, these proposals represented a far greater increase in the total footprint of the buildings than the 50% generally considered acceptable. They would also represent a significant addition to the living space which was considered an overdevelopment of the site and out of character in terms of the scale and design of other properties within the surrounding area. The plans also included a skylight which if implement would constitute a beacon of light, contrary to the South Downs policy regarding preservation of dark skies in the National Park. **It was therefore RESOLVED that the Parish Council object to the planning application and that its comments be submitted to the Planning Authority.**

7.1.3 Arun District Council Application WA/1/19/PL - Proposed Roundabout Improvements A/27/A29 Fontwell Roundabout

The Council received details of a planning application (previously circulated) relating to the proposed development at Fontwell and access arrangements for a housing development of 400 houses and some commercial space. The Parish Council had lodged an objection to the main development based on the impact of increased development on the border of the parish, particularly with regards to traffic. The developer was seeking an amendment to one of the conditions of the planning consent, relating to the timing of the improvements to the Fontwell

roundabout and was seeking to defer the delivery of junction improvements until at least 150 dwellings on the new estate were occupied. Members considered that the access arrangements for the development were such that the mitigation measures stated in this condition were justified. Observing other development that was now underway further down the A29 Fontwell Avenue, Members considered this highlighted the need for this infrastructure to be implemented as originally approved. **It was therefore RESOLVED that the Parish Council object to the planning application and that its comments be submitted to the Planning Authority.**

7.2 SDNPA DECISIONS / PRE-APPLICATIONS/ UPDATES – there was nothing further to report.

7.3 SDNPA LOCAL PLAN UPDATE

Members had received formal notification that following completion of the SDNPA Local Plan Hearings, a further consultation had commenced. It was noted that this consultation was about the legal compliance of the proposed main modifications which were policy matters. **It was RESOLVED that the update be noted.**

8. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS

The updates regarding the updates regarding the A29 Traffic Management Scheme, and the A27 Arundel Bypass Elected Representatives Forum, as previously reported were noted.

9. WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Whittington reported that the County Council would be discussing the budget for 2019/20 at a meeting on Friday 15th February. Referring to the recent announcement of additional funding for local authorities to help deal with highways works, it was noted that work would be prioritised to ensure the money was spent by the end of the current financial year.

10. ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

10.1 Councillor Dingemans reported that the District Council would be discussing the budget for 2019/20 at a meeting on 20th February. It was proposed that the District portion of the Council Tax increase by 2.96%. The District Council would be hosting a number of sessions around the district for prospective candidates at the forthcoming local government elections. Details would be published on their website.

11. NATIONAL PARK MATTERS

11.1 Councillor Dingemans reminded Members that the SDNPA Dark Night Skies fortnight would start on 16th February. This included events at Midhurst, Goodwood, Lewes and Devil's Dyke. He also stated that the consultation on the main modifications closed on 28th March, putting the Local Plan another step closer to implementation.

12. REPORT FROM THE CLERK

12.1 The Parish Council received and noted the contents of the Clerk's Report (copy attached to the minutes).

13. FINANCE REPORT

13.1 BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION

The Parish Council received and noted the statement of account (copy attached to the minutes) showing that the Parish Council's bank balances had been reconciled with the known expenditure and income as at 31st January 2019. The quarterly

check was carried out by Councillor Wilkinson on 24th January 2019 with no matters arising.

Slindon Parish Council		Bank Balances @ 31/1/19
HSBC C/A @ 31/1/19	£ 16,414.61	
HSBC D/A @ 31/1/19	£ 26,114.40	
Pettycash balance @ 31/1/19	£ 21.50	
Less uncashed cheques *	£ -	
Total @ 31/1/19	£ 42,550.51	

13.2 AUTHORITIES FOR PAYMENT

The Parish Council had before it the list of payments for approval (previously circulated). **It was RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:**

Payee	Amount (basic cost)	Amount (VAT)*	Total Amount	Description
Mrs J Harris	£370.10p	N/a	£370.10p	Standing Order - Clerk's Monthly salary payment per timesheet attached for 14/1/19 to 10/2/19
Coronation Hall Committee	£14.00p	N/a	£14.00p	Standing Order - Hall hire for Jan 19 Mtg
Sercombe Sons	£200.00p	£40.00p	£240.00p	Chq Srl 100269 - hedge cutting Rec.Grd.
Arun District Council	£290.00p	£58.00p	£348.00p	Chq Srl 100270 - annual maintenance contract ere dog waste bin @ Rec. Grd

The Parish Council also noted receipt of the following payment; Contribution towards cost of "Tommy" silhouette for the village from The Pudding Club totalling £282.50p received on 6/2/19.

The Clerk declared a pecuniary interest in the following matter as an employee and stated that she would leave the meeting if there was any discussion on the matter.

13.3 NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL (NJC) FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES 2019/20 PAY SCALES

In line with the revised pay scales for 2019/20 (previously circulated) it was proposed that the Clerk's salary be increased from £10.67p per hour to £11.00p per hour with effect from 1st April 2019. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk's salary be increased as recommended and backdated to 1st April 2019.**

14. COMMUNITY MATTERS

14.1 **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2019**

It was noted that the invitation to local community groups and businesses would be sent by the end of the week. All other arrangements were in place and a reminder would be going out towards the end of the month. Members agreed to hand deliver invitations throughout the village 10/14 days before the event itself. The Council also agreed that an invitation be extended to the local MP.

14.2 TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS - THURSDAY 2nd MAY 2019

Members had already received the election timetable and it was noted that the nominations period ran from Tuesday 19th March until 4pm on Wednesday 3rd April 2019. Nomination packs would be available to download from the District Council's website from 15th February. The Clerk would ensure there was a supply available at the March Parish Council and Annual Parish Meetings on 11th and 18th March respectively. An information item would also be published in the next edition of the Parish Magazine. The Clerk would also be attending a briefing session on Tuesday 26th February at the Civic Centre in Littlehampton. **It was RESOLVED that the update be noted.**

14.3 DRAFT MEETING DATES 2019/20

Council had before it a list of draft meeting dates proposed for **2019/20** (previously circulated). **It was RESOLVED that the draft meeting dates for 2019/20 be approved.**

14.4 SLINDON COMMUNITY LAND TRUST STEERING GROUP

It was reported that the CLT project has been put in the National Trust's schedule as a priority. The SCLT will be commissioning another housing needs survey shortly and plan to hold a village meeting in late Spring, early Summer. **It was RESOLVED that the update be noted.**

14.5 NATIONAL TRUST

Ms. Archer provided the Council with an update on upcoming events and progress with the Trust's hedge activities and forestry work in response to ash die back on the Estate. Members congratulated Ms Archer and the team on being shortlisted for a National Trust award. Councillor Fenton reported that he had been approached by a college student who had expressed an interest in drawing up a plan for the continuation of preservation work at the village pond. Ms Archer confirmed that the Trust would be willing to work together on this and it was agreed that Councillor Fenton would take this forward. Following the tree works at the Pond and the Recreation Ground the Council needed to return a security padlock that had been borrowed from Beechdown Arboriculture. Members thanked Beechdown for the loan of the lock and **it was RESOLVED that a new security padlock of a similar type be purchased to secure the gates at the Recreation Ground.**

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 11th MARCH 2019

The date of the next meeting was noted.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Minutes signed as a true record.....Date:
Chairman, Councillor Adamson