

Pyecombe Parish Council

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Minutes of the full Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th November at Pyecombe Church at 7.00pm

Present – Cllr D. Wilson – Chairman, Cllr G. Bishop, Cllr T. Cullen.

West Sussex County Councillor P. Griffiths

Clerk and RFO – Mrs D. Langston

6 Parishioners

Draft

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Council held a minutes silence to remember those parishioners who lost their lives in conflict. Also remembered was Shirley Charles a long local resident of the village who recently passed away, our sympathies are extended to her family.

Council answered questions raised by Parishioners regarding the Children's Play Area. Following a tidy up by MSDC the Council are looking into possible funding for new equipment see Item 54.14. Concerns were raised regarding a fallen tree in Church Lane which has now been cut up and placed on the verge opposite. Council confirmed the clearance of any trees which fall onto the highway remain the land owners responsibility, any issues can be raised with the local Highways department.

Discussion regarding the recycling bin located near the Plough which appears to be used as a general tipping area. Cllr Wilson will contact the company concerned asking for more regular pickups.

General discussion by members of the public regarding the proposed development at PY1. Concerns were raised about the proposed number of houses being much higher than the suggested 5/7. Council were made aware that three interested parties have advised they will look at building more than five properties proposed if their tender is successful. Concerns were raised regarding the access from Church Lane which may require this road to have a pavement installed it was felt this will fundamentally change the look of what remains a country road. Residents asked what they can do to object when there is planning application in place. Councillor Griffiths advised you must object on specific policies, stating numbers and quote this article within the District Plan. Councillor Griffiths enquired whether Pyecombe has a Neighbourhood Plan as this offers some form of protection Council had previously taken the view due to cost implications that this was not a viable route. Although Pyecombe has a Village Plan this was not officially adopted by MSDC and therefore carries no weight. Residents enquired whether there was an allocation within budget to allow for the employment of a Planning Consultant which currently there is not. Suggestions were made by residents that perhaps the houses most affected by the development could consider contributing towards these costs. One resident offered to speak to a Planning Consultant to see whether any Pro Bono advice can be offered. It was also felt that Council should make a decision regarding this Item immediately rather than wait until it was raised on the Agenda however as legalities require Council decisions to be taken during Open Meetings this was not possible.

50.14 Apologies for Absence; Councillor Saich.

51.14 Declaration of interest by Councillors on any item on the agenda; None received

52.14 Minute of Previous Meetings Tuesday 9th September and Friday 24th October were duly agreed and signed.

Clerk

Cllr
Wilson

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| <p>53.14 Update from West Sussex County Councillor Peter Griffiths – Councillor Griffiths requested confirmation regarding the cutting back of vegetation along the Old London Road. Council confirmed that this had been cut back but only on one side of the road which Councillor Griffiths will look into. The A23 widening scheme had been completed 3 weeks ahead of schedule and 20% under predicted costs. Cllr Griffiths has written to the Transport Secretary asking for funding for the ongoing issues with the A23 noise. Confirmation was given that Councillor Griffiths has called for County Council not to back the proposed second runway at Gatwick as there are no obvious benefits for local people/community groups.</p> <p>Mayfield Market Town has claimed that West Sussex County Council Highways have approved their plan for development however this is not the case. Councillor Griffiths asked that Council write to South Mid Sussex Community Council with a request for yellow lines to be placed along the London Road opposite the junction Church Lane. Clerk will send an email regarding this matter.</p> | <p>Cllr Griffiths</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>54.14 Children’s Play Area Update – Councillor Wilson advised Councillor Griffiths of a meeting with Mr D Terry who inspected the car park at this site with his suggestion being that this area be closed off and turned into a larger play area. Council have concerns about traffic implications if this action is taken and feel that if the adjoining gully was cleared and filled in this would alleviate the flooding issues. As this gully belongs to West Sussex County Council Councillor Griffiths was asked to look into on our behalf. Councillor Griffiths requested Council complete the online survey regarding the A27 proposals. Clerk will complete on behalf of the Council.</p> | <p>Cllr Griffiths</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>55.14 Flooding and Operation Watershed – Councillor Wilson confirmed that there is still an issue with flooding at The Street when severe rainfall occurs. Despite contractors carrying out camera investigations a report which was due has still not been received. As more funding is available through Operation Watershed this item will be raised with WSCC by Councillor Wilson with assistance from Clerk. Riparian Ditches Campaign was also raised under this item Councillor Griffiths confirmed that whilst some land owners are very good West Sussex County Council are asking Parish Councils to assist with this venture by highlighting those land owners who neglect this duty. Councillor Griffiths will look into supplying Council with a copy of the Highways Borders Map.</p> | <p>Cllr Wilson/ Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Griffiths</p> |
| <p>56.14 Report by Mid Sussex District Council – This item was not available as no attendees.</p> | |
| <p>57.14 Highways to include A23 Lay-by/Route 66 Diner entrance. Overgrown hedgerows and verges – see Minute reference 53.14. Clerk confirmed new signage is now in place along the approach to the Route 66 entrance it is hoped this will alleviate some of the problems associated with the overnight parking of lorries.</p> | |
| <p>58.14 Planning – Land at Church Lane, Pyecombe/SDNP Local Plan Information– Following the discussion with members of the public prior to the commencement of the meeting Council resolved to arrange an informal meeting with the proffered Planning Consultant at which no decisions may be taken regarding Council matters. Members of the public accepted this proposal and Council will be contacted with available dates. Councillor Wilson updated the meeting on a recent SDNP meeting held at Midhurst during October where it was confirmed the Local Plan has received a total of 37 responses from across the park. Following this the Draft Plan should be ready for consultation by Autumn 2015 with a view to implementation by 2017.</p> | |
| <p>59.14 Inter Parish Meeting update – Councillor T Cullen attended the Inter Parish Meeting on Tuesday 30th September with representatives from neighbouring parishes. The main item of discussion was the possible Mayfield Market Town development. Confirmation was given that local MP’s Nicholas Soames and Nick Herbert were both opposed to this proposal. Parishes with Neighbourhood Plans in place may be afforded more protection against large scale developments.</p> | |

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| <p>60.14 Community Initiative Funding – Council would like to apply for funding through the Community Initiative Fund for several items to enhance community cohesion such as new waterproof Gazebos for the Village Weekend and replacement benches for several locations around the parish. Clerk will contact G Sibanda to request information and will complete the application form once quotes have been obtained.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>61.14 Finance/Clerks update – Funding for benches within the parish will be applied for as per Item 60.14. Defibrillator remains an ongoing item as before funding can be applied for a definite location needs to be found. Councillor Wilson will speak to Church regarding this item. Balance sheet was handed to all Councillors confirmation of second precept payment received. Cheques raised for payment since last meeting confirmed as follows; £261.84 WSCC Invoice 8001042866 Clerks Salary July £120.00 PKF Littlejohn Invoice SB20140886 Audit Fees £75.36 EDF Energy Invoice 579909974659 £261.84 WSCC Invoice 8001054644 Clerks Salary September £261.84 WSCC Invoice 8001057220 Clerks Salary October</p> | <p>Cllr Wilson</p> |
| <p>62.14 Councillor Vacancy – Following the resignation of Councillor D Hunt there will be a vacancy on council. SSALC guidelines suggest that due to the proximity of the General Election this vacancy should be filled in May.</p> | |
| <p>63.14 Budget 2015/2016 – Council agreed to meet in January to confirm 2014/2015 Budget. Clerk will email all members a predicted budget sheet based on 2014/2015 spending.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>64.14 Dates for future meetings; 13th January, 10th March, 19th May, 14th July, 15th September, 10th November. Venues to be confirmed.</p> | |