

## **RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Thursday 9 July 2009 at Ringmer Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. A R Peters (Chairman); Mrs J Fordham; A J Grindley; Mrs V Humphrey; J E Kay; Ms P Lewis; P Longhurst; R B Truman; K White; R Wilcox; I P Wilson and Mrs J Woollons.

There was one member of the public present, together with PCSO Armstrong.

#### **ACTION**

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

1.1 Apologies were received from PCSO Clarke.

#### **2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

2.1 There were no declarations.

#### **3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING held on 11 June 2009**

3.1 The minutes were agreed to be signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

#### **4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS**

4.1 The Chairman invited the meeting to suspend Standing Orders, and asked for questions or comments from members of the public present.

4.2 Mr Cooper referred to various past housing development proposals and regretted that these had not eventuated. He considered that the community college now formed the effective centre of the village and that this should be borne in mind when deciding where further growth should occur.

4.3 PCSO Armstrong reported a number of incidents in the village which he discussed with councillors.

4.4 Standing Orders were reconvened.

**5. ACTION POINTS – Appendix 1**

- 09/04/13 Springett Avenue dropped kerbs: The Clerk advised that ESCC has now stated that it will not currently be able to prioritise these as the crossing is not defective structurally and it is already in existence. In the meantime, he has asked that they at least assess the suggestions made. Regarding the dropped kerbs near Vicarage Way which are not low enough, this is in hand but the problem may not be resolved until autumn. It was agreed to discharge the action point.
- 09/04/14 S 106 Funding for pedestrian crossing: The Clerk referred to a schedule detailing the developers' contribution funds remaining, which had been circulated to all Councillors and discussed at Greens Committee. Further progress over the matter will be reported as achieved.
- 09/04/20 Outdated documents allegation: The Clerk advised that he had met with a senior ESCC highways officer. Having explained details of the path (including photos, dimensions and the specifications) and the documents that had been referred to by LDC's Principal Engineer and Access Officer, he was advised that these did not give rise to any cause for concern. This view had regard to the nature of the path through an open space rather than adjacent to a road, and to the modest extent to which it is used by wheelchairs. While the County's Estate Roads Manual referred to has been rescinded, an updated version has yet to be produced, and it is still used as a basis for sourcing dimensions etc since the fallback Government document is imprecise. A width of 1.2 m would be sufficient and could even be reduced further over short lengths, and the material used is regarded as preferable to concrete since it possesses greater flexibility. It was agreed to discharge the action point.
- 09/05/21 Ringmer's streetlights: No further progress would be made over this until residents had been consulted via the newsletter and feedback received & collated.
- 09/06/22 Remedial work to grass on Green: As this had been carried out, using topsoil kindly supplied by Mr Cooper, it was agreed to discharge this action point.
- 09/06/23 Improvements in Vicarage Way: The Clerk advised that he had received a response from ESCC to his preliminary enquiry about the possibility of a lay-by, in advance of intended consultation with the neighbours. It stated that the authority does not construct and maintain lay-bys, and also indicated that it did not see the costs of the requested bollards as being presently justified. The Clerk was nevertheless

requested to pursue the matter further and to arrange an on-site meeting regarding placement of protective bollards along the initial part of the footway to the east side of Vicarage Way just in from the junction with Lewes Road.

**Clerk**  
**09/07/24**

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE – Appendix 2**

- 6.1 Council noted the correspondence in Appendix 2 and the following was agreed on particular items:
- 6.2 ESCC re Highway Safety on The Broyle: The Clerk read the response received and Cllrs. noted that signage would be reviewed and a speed survey conducted – it was considered that this should be positioned between JWR Tyres and the Gliding Club as this tended to be where higher traffic speeds were experienced.
- 6.3 Bluebell Holiday Park: It was noted that other properties had expressed concern over the noise generated and that the matter was being investigated by LDC Environmental Health Officers and would doubtless be fully considered when a planning application is made, which would seem necessary given the regularity of activity.

## **7. FINANCE**

### **Accounts Paid – Appendix 3**

- 7.1 It was agreed that the Payments Lists of 1/6/09 to 30/6/09 be confirmed.

### **Quotations**

- 7.2 Nil

### **Grant Applications**

- 7.3 Nil

### **Correspondence received**

- 7.4 Request for proposed levy to Crimestoppers

It was agreed to defer consideration to the September Meeting, enabling more information to be obtained in the interim.

### **Other financial matters**

- 7.5 Resolution to update bank mandate  
Members resolved that Council act in accordance with the recommendations contained in Appendix 5 to Office & Finance Committee.

## **8. MINUTES of GREENS COMMITTEE held on 2 July 2009 – Appendix 4**

- 8.1 Cllr Wilcox presented the minutes and it was agreed that these be signed as a correct record by the Chairman, with a minor amendment in the last sentence of para. 5.4 to read 'adjacent enclosing' rather than 'boundary' wall.

**9. ANY REPORTS (by leave)**

- 9.1 Oral reports were received from a number of Councillors. Arising from these, the Chairman praised Cllr Ms Lewis for her good work during her term as a councillor and stated that she had been very reliable and provided a tremendous contribution. He referred to a SALC meeting of 23 June when Crimestoppers and a review of SALC subscriptions were discussed.

- 9.2 Cllr Truman asked that the car park at the new surgery be investigated to ensure that the disabled spaces are appropriately located to provide optimum accessibility. He also asked that details of arrangements received regarding swine flu be included in the newsletter. Cllr Wilson made reference to problems that had occurred at Green Close and stated that there had been a question in the House about Environment Agency's alleged failure to enforce the Environment Protection Act. He also referred to an issue concerning overly high leylandii trees between Anchor Field and Springett Avenue, which could reportedly potentially give rise to criminal as well as civil liabilities.

**Clerk  
09/07/25**

- 9.3 Cllr Ms Lewis thanked all present for making her time at the Parish Council so enjoyable. She had not received the latest proposals regarding the bus routes but was handing relevant information and contact details to the Clerk

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting of Council would take place on Thursday 10 September 2009 at 7.30pm. in the St. Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.