

## **RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Thursday 14 February 2008 at Ringmer Village Hall**

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

There were eight members of the public present.

#### **ACTION**

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

1.1 All councillors were present.

#### **2. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2008**

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

#### **3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS**

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

3.2 Mr Craven asked if letters could be sent to the local schools regarding  
litter on the roads and twittens used by pupils. The clerk undertook to  
write to the Community College and the Primary School.

**Clerk  
08/02/02**

3.3 Mr Leeson reported that there were three vacancies for community  
governors at the Primary School and invited any interested councillors  
to apply or to refer other interested people to him. Mr Hockley raised  
concerns about the footpath on the Green and circulated a copy email  
to councillors for information. Mr Cooper also commented on the  
path.

3.4 Standing Orders were reconvened.

#### **4. PROPOSED TWINNING ASSOCIATION FOR RINGMER**

4.1 Mrs Gunde and neighbours sought Council's support for their  
proposal regarding twinning Ringmer with a small town in Germany.  
Four potential locations were being pursued and Mrs Gunde outlined  
how the process would unfold if a suitable partner was found. If  
established a twinning association would look to the Council for civic

support, representation at its meetings, and ad-hoc grant support. Council welcomed the initiative and following discussion it was agreed to support the establishment of a twinning association in principle.

## **5. ACTION POINTS – Appendix 1**

07/10/49 Vehicle activated signs: there was no progress to report

08/01/01 Interim review report on Phoenix Centre: it was reported that a response had been sent and had been acknowledged by the County Council. It was agreed to discharge this action.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE – Appendix 2**

6.1 Council noted the correspondence and agreed the following:

### Ringmer bus service proposals

Cllr. Mrs Pitts reported that the tenders for the service specified a minimum size of 21 seats for any buses and, if accepted, any service would start from April. She undertook to report back to the next meeting

### Village Maintenance Teams

Councillors would submit ideas regarding suitable minor works to the Clerk as soon as possible.

### Church Hill/Vicarage Way – road safety

To raise the matter at the next Liaison Meeting and in the meantime pass the letter received to the County Council.

### Fire & Rescue Service presentation at Annual Parish Meeting

The arrangements proposed for the presentation were welcomed.

## **7. FINANCE**

### **Accounts Paid – Appendix 3a**

7.1 It was agreed that the Payments Lists of 1 to 31 January be confirmed.

### **Quotations**

7.2 There were no quotations.

## **Grant Applications**

### Lewes Citizens Advice Bureau

- 7.3 It was agreed to make a grant of £300 and the Finance officer would comment on the difficult access to the Lewes office for people with disabilities.

### Ringmer Education for Adults with Learning Disabilities

- 7.4 It was agreed to defer this application pending the receipt of further information.

## **Other Financial Matters and Correspondence**

### Appointment of external auditor

- 7.5 It was reported the Mazars had been re-appointed as the external auditor for Council.

### Donation to East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service Benevolent Fund

- 7.6 It was agreed to make a donation of £50 in respect of the Service's agreement to provide a speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting.

## **8. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF 17 JANUARY 2008 – Appendix 4**

- 8.1 Cllr. Longhurst presented the minutes.
- 8.2 With regard to minute 5.1 concerning the width of footways in Lewes Road it was agreed to refer the matter to a Highways Liaison Meeting as proposed and that the Clerk would arrange this.

**Clerk  
08/02/03**

- 8.3 It was agreed to approve the minutes.

## **9. MINUTES OF THE GREENS COMMITTEE OF 17 JANUARY 2008 – Appendix 5**

- 9.1 Cllr. Wilcox introduced the minutes.
- 9.2 It was agreed to approve the minutes. Cllrs Grindley and Wilson asked that their abstentions be recorded.

## **10. QUARTERLY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AND DISSEMINATION OF COUNCIL INFORMATION**

- 10.1 It was agreed to offer local food producers and outlets the opportunity to be listed in the summer edition of the newsletter at no charge. An

announcement of this would be made in the March newsletter as would the distribution arrangements for those newsletters not distributed to each household. Given the advent of quarterly newsletters it was also felt that this would reduce the need to submit the regular updates hitherto made to the Parish Magazine by Cllr. Ms Lewis. Items of particular importance or topicality could still be submitted on an ad-hoc basis.

## **11. ESTABLISHMENT OF A NO COLD CALLING ZONE**

- 11.1 It was agreed to circulate the material supplied by Mrs Skeef and return to the issue at the April meeting.

## **12. ANY REPORTS (by leave)**

- 12.1 Oral reports were received from a number of councillors including the issues identified below.

- 12.2 The Chairman reported on the outcome of the first meeting of the Affordable Housing Group regarding the potential development of the exception site in Potato Lane. The group had been advised by officers that two two-bedroom and two three-bedroom units would best meet the village needs and that public consultation on this should be kept separate from the wider consultation on Council's own housing policy. It was agreed that Council would wish to see any proposals before they were subject to public consultation and the Clerk would write to Mr Askew of Hastoe about this.

**Clerk  
08/02/04**

- 12.3 Cllr. Longhurst outlined RADAR's concern that a weight limit restricting the passage of heavy vehicles on the B2192 be taken up with the County Council. It was agreed to raise this at the next Liaison Meeting.
- 12.4 Cllr. Mrs Pitts raised the issue of continued car parking in Broyle Lane, back from the junction with The Broyle. The Clerk reported that this stretch was to be the subject of yellow lines under proposals that the County Council had put forward and he would see what the current position was.

## **13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 13.1 The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of Council would take place on Thursday 13 March 2008 at 7.30pm. in the St. Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.