

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 12 February 2009 at Ringmer Village Hall

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

There were 3 members of the public present, also Cllrs Gander and Mrs St Pierre, PCSO Armstrong and PC Greaves.

ACTION

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllrs Longhurst and White.

2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

2.1 No interests were declared.

3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING held on 8 January 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 Cllr Gander referred to problems of obstruction of disabled parking facilities. Cllr Truman advised that this was discussed at the recent Neighbourhood Panel meeting and is being treated very seriously.

4.3 Cllr Mrs St Pierre referred to the latest report by South East Water which indicates that if developed, a reservoir at Clay Hill would be unlikely before 2020 however investigations are currently now being pursued in relation to alternative sites too and also the possibility of pumping water from outside the water company's area. Cllr Wilson commented that SE Water should also be looking at remedying existing problems at Barcombe. She had attended an all party meeting in Parliament on the Lewes –Uckfield railway where the business case did not seem well supported. She would shortly be meeting County Highways officers and would take up the issue of marking and signing the parking restrictions. It was agreed that the errors in marking in Broyle Lane would be pursued by the Clerk.

**Clerk
09/02/04**

- 4.4 Mr Leeson advised that the Primary School requires a Governor to represent the local authority and asked if suggestions could be made.
- 4.5 Mr Hockley stated that another flooding incident in Green Close had been averted after the system failed. He suggested that the 'wait and see' approach adopted by Greens Committee in relation to several issues at the Green were unfortunate.
- 4.6 Mr Cooper referred to the further flooding at Barcombe Mills and suggested that this might instead make a good area for water encatchment. He stated that buses have been responsible for much of the recent damage to grass verges. His meeting with Environment Agency officers over Bulldog Sewer had not proved to be of benefit but they had advised that they should be contacted if further problems arose. He referred to unloading difficulties encountered due to the marking of double yellow lines in Springett Avenue.
- 4.7 PCSO Armstrong with PC Greaves provided details of recent local incidents and details of an action plan following the recent Neighbourhood Panel meeting which stressed the 3 main priorities as anti-social behaviour, litter and inconsiderate parking. Discussion followed about enforcement of parking controls. It was suggested that this problem be given an increased profile through mention in the magazine, Pump and website.

Standing Orders were reconvened.

5. ACTION POINTS – Appendix 1

- 08/11/26 Ringmer-Lewes Cycleway: It was agreed to retain this action point pending clarification over the extent of contributions that will be utilised and receipt of the promised updates; also that the Clerk would, as requested by ESCC highway engineers, collate Councillors' suggestions when detailed, regarding the route and design details and forward them to ESCC for consideration in advance of the meeting sought by Planning Committee.
- 08/12/27 Improvements to Village Hall: It was agreed to retain this action point pending consideration of the matter by Council in April. The issue will also be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 08/12/30 No Cold Calling zone: It was agreed to retain this action point pending delivery of the consultation with the March newsletter.

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- 08/12/32 Bulldog Sewer: As the issue had been considered by General Purposes Committee, some information had been received from Cllr Gardiner, Cllr Wilson & the Environment Agency, and further investigations were now already underway, it was agreed to discharge this action point.
- 09/01/01 Lighting adjacent to Community College: A letter had been sent to the Highway Authority about both the street and car park lighting and it was therefore agreed to discharge the action point.
- 09/01/02 Review of Supported Local Bus Services: A detailed response prepared and adapted by Cllr Ms Lewis in line with discussion at Council had been sent to ESCC and it was agreed to discharge this action point.
- 09/01/03 Drainage problems in Gote Lane: A letter in appreciation of Southern Water's remedial work had been sent and it was agreed that the action point be discharged.

6. CORRESPONDENCE – Appendix 2

- 6.1 Council noted the correspondence in Appendix 2 and the following was agreed:

Street lighting at The Broyle/Broyle Lane:

The decision by ESCC was noted and it was agreed that the junction layout be discussed at the forthcoming liaison meeting.

Street lighting maintenance

Council agreed to enter into an agreement with ESCC/Colas in relation with the 4 street lighting columns involved.

South Downs Advisory Forum Annual Meeting

Cllr Kay volunteered to attend as Council's representative.

Affordable Housing – Community consultation

It was agreed that this be attended and manned by Parish Councillors as far as practicable.

East Sussex Village of the Year

It was decided that entry into this competition be pursued and the Clerk would obtain the necessary form and commence the process.

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Ringmer Twinning Association

Council noted the details of the inaugural meeting and concurred with the letter of intent, and several councillors indicated an intention to attend the proposed event.

Summer Playout programme

Council agreed to the proposed sessions in the summer holidays, on the basis outlined.

7. FINANCE

Accounts Paid – Appendix 3

- 7.1 It was agreed that the Payments Lists of 1/1/09 to 31/1/09 be confirmed.

Other Financial Matters and Correspondence

- 7.2 There were no other matters raised.

8. MINUTES OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 29 January 2009 – Appendix 4

- 8.1 Cllr Mrs Fordham presented the minutes and it was agreed that these be signed as a correct record by the Chairman. She referred to the recent Neighbourhood Panel meeting and stressed that speeding had been a further area of concern. Council also discussed the RADAR survey and its circulated results and agreed that these be adopted.

9. MINUTES OF GREENS COMMITTEE held on 5 February 2009 –Appendix 5

- 9.1 Cllr Wilcox presented the minutes and it was agreed that these be signed as a correct record by the Chairman, following amendments in paragraph 3.3 from “...safer as a result of its increased width...” to “...wider...” and by deleting “...as already supplied by the Clerk.”

10. ANY REPORTS (by leave)

- 10.1 Oral reports were received from a number of Councillors. Arising from these, Cllr Peters indicated that some concern had been raised at the Chief Constable’s meeting over the extent of control applied over the Neighbourhood Watch schemes and their members, and it was felt that they should be regarded as working with and not for the Police.

Praise was conveyed at the benefits seen from PCSO's .
Cllr Grindley referred to the ESCC Cycling Strategy consultation and considered that the document should include safety considerations, to ensure that factors such as traffic speed, road width and traffic volumes are taken fully into account when designing cycleways. It was concluded that it would be appropriate for him to advance these more detailed points directly with ESCC as a private individual.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 11.1 The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting of Council would take place on Thursday 12 March 2009 at 7.30pm. in the St. Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.