

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 14 June 2007 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 L Pitts; R B Truman; K White;
R Wilcox; I P Wilson; and Mrs J Woollons.

There were six members of the public present.

ACTION

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 An apology was received from Cllr. Longhurst.

2. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2007

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 the members of the public present.

3.2 Mr Cooper raised a number of issues and commented on the poor state of grass verge cutting in the parish and asked if Council might consider employing its own contractor given the poor performance under the County Council's contract. He also asked if 'public questions and comments' could be put near the end of the agenda. Regarding the latter it was agreed to place the matter for discussion on the next agenda. The police reported on crime and circulated a crime bulletin.

3.3 Standing Orders were reconvened.

4. ACTION POINTS – Appendix 1

07/03/36 Bench by bus stop at Broyle Lane: it was reported that the Association were undertaking local consultations and would respond in due course.

07/03/38 Potato Lane – possible exception site: it was reported that the matter was still being considered by Lewes District Council and a substantive reply was expected in time for the next meeting.

- 07/04/40 Memorials for past Cllrs: there was no progress to report.
- 07/05/01 County Council consultation on new 30mph speed limit policy: it was agreed that the Clerk would relay comments from Cllr. Longhurst and rear-Admiral Davis and to discharge this action. **Clerk**
- 07/05/02 Developer Contributions update: it was reported that a paper had been circulated to all councillors outlining monies due, expenditure to date and commitments. It was agreed to discharge this action.
- 07/05/03 Additional Police Community Support Officer: it was confirmed that a press release had been issued. It was agreed to discharge this action.
- 07/05/04 Parking Survey outcomes: the Clerk reported that he had yet to receive a reply from the County Council.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Sussex Rural Affordable Housing Conference

- 5.1 It was agreed any interested councillors would contact the Clerk by 30 June.

County Council biodiversity training

- 5.2 It was agreed any interested councillors would contact the Clerk before 28 June.

6. FINANCE

Accounts Paid – Appendix 3a

- 6.1 It was agreed that the Payments Lists of 1 May to 31 May be confirmed.

Quotations

- 6.2 There were no quotations.

Grant Applications

RASCALS

- 6.3 On the recommendation of Office and Finance Committee it was agreed to make a grant of £200 towards the cost of French themed activities for RASCALS after school club.

Ringmer Youth Service

- 6.4 It was reported that in the light of the budget settlement from the County Council the service had asked Council to provide a grant of £10,000 towards staffing costs to maintain the level of service. On the recommendation of Office and Finance Committee it was agreed not to make a grant as it was generally not Council's policy to subsidise salaries and the sum greatly exceeded its grants budget. Council did, however, value the work of the service highly and, as in the past, it would entertain grants for specific projects. It was agreed the Finance Officer would reply and also suggest that the County Council might investigate if any future developers could be required to make a developer's contribution towards the service.

Finance Officer

Risk Assessment – Appendix 3b

- 6.5 The Finance Officer introduced his report including the risk assessment register and a summary of the insurance renewal for 2007/08. Cllr. Wilson declared a prejudicial interest in this item and withdrew. Following discussion the recommendations set out in the report were agreed.
- 6.6 Arising from discussions it was also agreed that next year provision for disaster management and recovery would be included in the assessment. The Finance Officer would also confirm that the village pond was included within the public liability cover. The insurance position regarding borrowed equipment would also be clarified.

Finance Officer

7. MINUTES OF THE GREENS COMMITTEE 7 JUNE 2007 – Appendix 4

- 7.1 Cllr. Wilcox introduced the minutes and drew attention to the recommendations in paragraphs 5.2 and 6.2. The Clerk reported on the work that had been done to the drain on the Green and the need to wait until next winter to ascertain if this had been successful prior to considering any more costly solutions. Following discussion it was agreed to accept the Committee's recommendation and to approve the minutes.

8. ANY REPORTS (by leave)

- 8.1 Oral reports were received from a number of councillors including those highlighted below.

Bus service reliability

- 8.2 Cllr. White highlighted the unreliable timing of service 28 arising from long-term road works and the lack of information for passengers. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Brighton & Hove Buses in consultation with Cllr. White.

**Clerk
07/06/05**

Routing of bus services in Ringmer

- 8.3 Cllr. Ms Lewis outlined residents' wishes to have some services routed round estate roads to assist more elderly and less mobile passengers. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Rural Voices Rural Choices

- 8.4 Cllr. Ms Lewis reported that the July meeting would be held in Ringmer and offered a particular opportunity to raise issues of local concern. Councillors were asked to let her have any issues by the next meeting of Council. **All Cllrs.**

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 9.1 The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of Council would take place on Thursday 12 July 2007 at 7.30pm. in the St. Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.