

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 12 July 2007 at Ringmer Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs. A R Peters (Chairman); Mrs J Fordham; A J Grindley;
Mrs V Humphrey; J Kay; P Longhurst; Ms P Lewis; 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 There were no apologies.

2. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2007

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

3. UPDATE ON OUTCOMES OF PARKING REVIEW IN RINGMER

3.1 Mr Crawford, Parking Manager of East Sussex County Council, reported on progress and proposed actions. Council confirmed that it still wished to see the measures agreed at its meeting on 13 July 2006 installed. It also confirmed that it wished to see the waiting outside the precinct in Springett Avenue limited to two hours, with no return within two hours, from 8am – 6pm Monday to Saturday. Mr Crawford confirmed that the County Council would action all the agreed measures and that he expected preliminary work to start in the autumn.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

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

4.2 Among the issues raised PCSO Clarke circulated the local crime bulletin. Mrs Skeef drew attention to the work of neighbourhood watch. Miss Divall spoke in favour of re-routing some bus services via estate roads and the petition that had been raised locally. Mr Hockley sought clarification on the accounts for 2006/07 and the statement of income for the developer's contribution. Mr Cooper expressed concern about the selection of companies to tender for the footpath replacement. District Cllr. Gardiner reported on an unsuccessful

attempt to widen the pavement between The Forges and the Old Post Office and steps being taken to protect the screening behind The Forges.

4.3 Standing Orders were reconvened.

5. ACTION POINTS – Appendix 1

07/03/36 Bench by bus stop at Broyle Lane: it was reported the Broyle Community Association had surveyed eight local residents and the outcome of this and Association's comments were considered. It was agreed to proceed with a bench by the bus stop on the verge by Fingerpost Field, subject to receiving permission from the County Council, but not to install a bin at this stage.

Clerk

07/03/38 Potato Lane – possible exception site: a reply from Lewes District Council (LDC) was reported. In principle this was supportive but raised matters that needed clarification. It was agreed that the Chairman, Vice- Chairman and Clerk would meet with Mr Moore and Mr Barnett of LDC and report back to Council prior to any further steps being taken.

**Cllrs. Peters,
Kay and the
Clerk**

07/04/40 Memorials for past Cllrs: there was no progress to report.

07/05/04 Parking Survey outcomes: as this had been discussed earlier it was agreed to discharge this item.

07/06/05 Bus service reliability: a response from Brighton & Hove Buses was reported. It was agreed to write to County Cllr. Lock regarding the provision of infrastructure for real time bus information signs and to thank the company for their response.

Clerk

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Temporary speed limits for road works, A26 Uckfield Road

6.1 The information provided by the County Council was noted.

7. FINANCE

Accounts Paid – Appendix 4

7.1 It was agreed that the Payments Lists of 1 June to 29 June be confirmed.

Quotations

7.2 There were no quotations.

Grant Applications

Ringmer Local Action Team

- 7.3 On the recommendation of Office and Finance Committee it was agreed to make a grant of £100 towards the cost of publicity materials for a community group awareness day.

Final Accounts 2006/07 – Appendix 5

- 7.4 The Finance Officer introduced his report and explained the statement of income for the developer's contribution in response to Mr Hockley's earlier enquiry. It was agreed to accept the report and its recommendations and that the Statement of Assurance be signed. The Chairman and Clerk then signed the Statement.

8. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 5 JULY 2007 – Appendix 6

- 8.1 Cllr. Longhurst introduced the minutes and drew attention to the tenders that had been opened for the replacement of the path on the Green. It was noted that Mr Brian Cruttenden's name had been wrongly spelt at minute 1.2. It was agreed to approve the minutes.
- 8.2 Cllr. Grindley raised concerns about the 'triangle' junction of New Road and the B2192 and asked if an oil trap had been installed at the County Council depot to avoid pollution of Norlington Stream.

9. ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF PATH ON THE GREEN – Appendix 7

- 9.1 Council considered the report from the Chairman of the Greens Committee and the Clerk and agreed the recommendation to accept the lowest tender of £28,902.07 from J F Construction.

10. POSITIONING OF 'PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS' ON THE AGENDA

- 10.1 Following discussion it was agreed to continue with the current arrangements whilst acknowledging that the Chairman could suspend Standing Orders at any time in a meeting if Council wished to seek a public view.

11. RE-ROUTING OF BUS SERVICES VIA ESTATE ROADS

- 11.1 Cllr. Ms Lewis reported on the work that had been done by local residents to establish a case for re-routing some bus services. A local petition with over 200 signatures had been gathered and would be presented to the bus company and the County Council. Those involved recognised that the proposal would raise some significant

issues regarding eg traffic, parking, effects on residents and effects on timetables but were hopeful that these could be resolved. Council agreed to offer support in principle to the work being undertaken.

12. AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, FIRST READING – Appendix 8

- 12.1 The Clerk introduced his report which would be left on the table for Council to consider at its meeting on 13 September 2007.

13. QUOTATIONS FOR SEESAW AND PAINTING OF SEATS ON THE GREEN

- 13.1 The Clerk reported that at a late stage one of the three companies approached had indicated that they could not quote for the seesaw. Both Wicksteed and Record had undertaken to quote. Following discussion it was agreed to proceed on the basis of two quotations for the seesaw as Council wished to avoid delay and get the equipment installed before the winter.

- 13.2 It was further agreed that authority would be delegated to the Planning Committee to consider and agree quotations for both the seesaw and the painting of the seats at their meeting on 26 July.

14. RURAL VOICES RURAL CHOICES

- 14.1 Cllr. Ms Lewis sought suggestions from Council on issues to be raised at the next meeting of Rural Voices Rural Choices that was to be held in Ringmer and on areas/issues for inclusion in the RVRC's Development Workers action plan.

15. ANY REPORTS (by leave)

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

Cllr. Kay reported on a project focusing on support for vulnerable people in villages that was being undertaken in Newick. Also on the Sussex Rural Housing Partnership where there had been focus on blockages to achieving housing targets.

Cllr. Mrs Humphrey reported on light pollution from the lighting of the new roundabout at The Forges, an issue it was confirmed that Cllr. White would be reporting on to the next Planning Committee.

- 15.2 The Chairman then suspended Standing Orders and invited further questions from members of the public. Mr Cooper expressed his views on the positioning of public question time and concern about any Housing Association involvement in the development of the possible exception site at Potato Lane.

15.3 Standing Orders were reconvened.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16.1 The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of Council would take place on Thursday 13 September 2007 at 7.30pm. in the St. Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.