

LANCING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held on Wednesday 1 February 2017 at 7.00pm

Present: Chair: Cllr Gloria Eveleigh

Councillors: Carol Albury, Ann Bridges, Clive Burghard, Mick Clark, Lee Cowen, Liz Haywood (Minutes 92 to 95.2 and 98.5 only), Robin Monk, Geoff Patmore, Lionel Parsons, Emma Purnell, Gina Scotting and Jean Turner.

Officers: Helen Plant, Acting Clerk

In attendance: One member of the public (who left early) and one member of the press.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

92. Apologies

Apologies had been received, and with the reason outlined, were subsequently accepted from Cllr David Lambourne.

93. Declarations of Interest

None.

94. Minutes of Previous Meetings:-

94.1 Full Council held on 11 January 2017

The Minutes of this meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

94.2 Amenities and Environment Committee held on 18 January 2017

The Minutes of this meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

94.3 Planning Advisory Committee held on 18 January 2017

The Minutes of this meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

94.4 Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 25 January 2017

The Minutes of this meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

NOTE – The Chair announced that item 98.5 would be brought forward at this point.

98.5 Motion Received – New Monks Farm Development

In accordance with Standing Order 10, Cllr Patmore had submitted the following motion:-

"Lancing Parish Council objects to the proposed build on New Monks Farm (NMF) flood plain. The NMF proposal to build 600 houses and thousands of square metres of business development will create a massive flood risk to surrounding properties and to Lancing.

Lancing Parish Council urges Adur District Council and the Government Inspector to reject in totality any further development on the Lancing Brooks flood plain."

Members' views were sought in respect of the submitted motion.

Discussion ensued. Cllr Parsons considered that it wasn't just the flood risk that was a concern, there was also the lack of associated infrastructure, especially west bound on the A27. Cllr Purnell considered it would be unwise of the Council to oppose any development proposal at this stage. At this point, the Acting Clerk provided clarification and confirmed that the motion was directed at the number of dwellings and commercial development at NMF being included in the Adur Local Plan (ALP), which was currently under review by the Government Inspector, and not an actual planning application. Cllr Patmore acknowledged that in this respect, the wording of the motion would need amending. Concerns were expressed that if the NMF development was included in the ALP and the ALP was subsequently approved, it would set a precedent for other developments being proposed and approved on the remaining areas of the flood plain, such as the New Salts Farm proposal by Hyde Housing.

A revised wording of the motion was suggested and a named vote was called for its consideration. Cllrs Bridges, Burghard, Clark, Cowen, Eveleigh, Haywood, Monk, Parsons, Patmore, Purnell, Scotting and Turner were for the revised wording, Cllr Albury abstained.

Members also considered that any planning application that might consequently be submitted for the New Monks Farm development should be directly dealt with by the full Council.

Resolved – (a) That the following motion be approved and forwarded to the Secretary of State's appointed Inspector who is carrying out the independent examination of the Adur Local Plan (2016):-

"Lancing Parish Council objects to the inclusion of up to 600 dwellings and thousands of square metres of commercial development allocation within the Adur Local Plan (2016) as any development will create a massive flood risk to surrounding properties and to Lancing."

(b) That full Council considers any planning application/s that are submitted for the New Monks Farm site.

95. Chairman's Announcements/Report

95.1 AVA Information

The Chair provided the AVA figures in respect of the number of shop visits and the reasons for the visits, including that there had been 8 food bank donations and 15 food bank collections.

95.2 Lancing Parish Youth Council

The Chair reported that Cllrs Haywood, Patmore and herself and Ms Lydia Schilbach from West Sussex County Council had attended an initial meeting of the core group of young people who were keen to set up a Lancing Parish Youth Council. Matters discussed included an appropriate constitution, how to set up a network of youth to recruit councillors and the possibility of youth councillors being mentored by Parish Councillors. The next meeting was scheduled for 17 February 2017.

Cllr Albury asked whether there were any plans for the group to network with Adur Youth Council. The Chair replied that as the group were in the early stages of set up, it would be better to consider the idea once it was established.

95.3 Display Cabinets for local historic artefacts

The Chair considered that it would be a good idea to have display cabinets in the Parish Hall foyer to exhibit local historic artefacts as a start towards the set up of a Heritage Centre.

Cllr Parsons advised that he was hoping to arrange a Heritage Day within the next year, possibly in August, to bring together relevant organisations to establish whether there were sufficient artefacts to warrant a Heritage Centre. Cllr Patmore confirmed that through his air raid shelter work, he had become acquainted with some appropriate groups and would work with Cllr Parsons. Cllr Parsons confirmed that he was prepared to take the lead on the project.

Resolved – That a Lancing Heritage Action Group be set up to arrange a Heritage Day and to consist of Cllrs Albury, Bridges, Clark, Eveleigh, Monk, Patmore and Parsons.

96. Public Forum & Questions

Members expressed their disappointment in respect of the lack of public attendance to Council meetings and considered that the meetings needed better advertising. The Acting Clerk would endeavour to make improvements in this respect.

97. Other Correspondence:-

None.

98. Report(s) of the Clerk:-

98.1 Community Cinema

It was confirmed that the first evening film show for the Community Cinema took place on 23 January. The Community Cinema Working Group met on 26 January to evaluate the event, which was considered a success as there was a larger audience than expected considering the inclement weather. The Group also agreed that there would be no interval at future showings and the next film would be Bridget Jones's Baby on 20 February.

Cllr Cowen asked whether a private organisation could hire the equipment to show their own films. Cllr Monk considered that could be a possibility in the future.

Cllr Albury asked whether a profit had been made from the showing. Cllr Monk replied that, whilst the costs had not been covered, the project was currently reliant on the funding received from the Council's Small Projects Fund.

98.2 Skatepark

It was noted that the planning conditions had not yet been met by the chosen contractor, mainly due to an issue in respect of the proposed drainage scheme. The start date for the construction would therefore be delayed.

98.3 Lancing Post Office

At the last Council meeting, Members were advised that Post Office Limited had announced that the company was seeking a franchise partner to take over the Lancing Post Office services as part of its efforts to secure Post Office services in this community (Minute 85.5/Jan/17 refers).

Post Office Limited had responded to a request for further details of the franchise partner process, which had been circulated to Members for their information.

Cllr Cowen advised that a number of petitions were sited throughout the village and that he had arranged for a rally to take place on 18 February in front of the Post Office building for the Post Office services to be retained in the existing building. He also advised that the local MP, Mr Tim Loughton, had arranged for representatives from Post Office Ltd to meet with Adur District Councillors to discuss the issue.

Cllr Cowen also considered it pertinent that the Post Office building should be registered as an Asset of Community Value.

Resolved – That an application to register the Post Office building, located at 40 North Road, Lancing, as an Asset of Community Value be submitted to Adur District Council.

98.4 Beach Green Hire Request

It was reported that a request had been received for the hire of Beach Green (Area A) by the agent of Gerry Cottles WOW Circus and that the agent had applied for a discount on the £750 daily fee on the grounds that the circus was not one of the larger touring circuses and considered the hire dates from 7 May until 14 May 2017 to be out of season. Members' views were requested as to whether a discount on the daily fee of £750 should be granted.

Resolved – That the request be declined for the reason that Beach Green fees have only recently been reviewed and now include smaller areas that can be hired at a lower fee.

98.5 Motion Received – New Monks Farm Development

Considered earlier in the meeting.

99. Other Matters:-

99.1 Unveiling Event for the Basque Children Blue Plaque

Pursuant to Council Minute 89.4/Jan/17, Cllr Cowen advised that a date for the event had been scheduled for 20 May 2017. Investigations into Spanish themed food being served had so far proved too expensive, but investigations would continue, as well as sourcing relevant musicians/entertainers. The Library had also agreed to re-show the Basque Children Exhibition.

99.5 Garden Competition

Pursuant to Council Minute 89.5/Jan/17, Cllr Monk advised that the Working Group had recently met and decided that the competition would be for front gardens and hanging baskets only, that a sponsor was being sought and the entry form was in the process of being designed.

99.6 Lancing Air Raid Shelters

Pursuant to Council Minute 89.2/Jan/17, Cllr Patmore reported that the Action Group had met and that the recent weather conditions had prevented an initial survey being carried out.

99.7 Millennium Handshake

Pursuant to Council Minute 88.5/Jan/17, Cllr Patmore advised that the sculpture was still in the process of being revamped and once that had been completed, he would be proposing that a re-opening event took place.

100. Report(s) of Representatives on Outside Bodies

Cllrs Cowen and Clark advised that they had attended a recent meeting of the World of Widewater. Matters discussed included the potential development of a tourist booklet, arrangements for forthcoming events and that the group intended to make a funding request to Rampion to improve the information booth.

It had also been noted that an oily substance had been seen on some of the swans and, whilst a leaflet had been recently delivered to remind all residents to avoid polluting the lagoon, WoW considered that the cause could be attributed to builders/contractors working on properties adjacent to the lagoon. It was therefore considered appropriate for the Planning Advisory Committee to pass suitable comments on any planning applications in respect of properties adjacent to the lagoon to highlight the fact that Widewater was a Nature Reserve.

101. Future Agenda Items

None.

The meeting closed at 9.01pm.

Helen Plant
Acting Clerk to the Council
3 February 2017

Signed Chairman
Date