

**Minutes of the Lancing Village Residents Meeting
held on Thursday 25 May 2017 in
Lancing Parish Hall, South Street, Lancing**

Chair: Councillor Gloria Eveleigh (to conduct proceedings)

In attendance: Helen Plant, Clerk and Vally Fish, Assistant Clerk

Councillors Present: Carol Albury, Mick Clark, Lee Cowen, Robin Monk, Lionel Parsons, Geoff Patmore, Emma Purnell, Jean Turner,

There were twenty-nine residents of the Parish who signed the attendance register.

1. Chair's Welcome

The Chair of Lancing Parish Council opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed all the attendees. Cllr Eveleigh explained the purpose of the meeting, which was an electors meeting required by statute and was not a Council meeting but the opportunity for residents to voice any matters of concern regarding the Village. Those matters would then be minuted and reported to Council.

2. To confirm the minutes of the Residents Meeting held on 26 May 2016

The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed to be an accurate and true record of the meeting.

3. The Annual Report of the Council 2016/17

The Chair advised that copies of the Annual Report for 2016/17 were available in the hall and it was also on the Parish Council's website.

4. The Chair called for questions and statements by the Public and the following issues were raised:-

- a) Are the parking issues at Monks Recreation Ground being considered within the Improvement Project as the grass verges are being ruined – could they not just be taken out as this would save West Sussex County Council Highways money for not having to cut the verges?

Cllr Clark explained the process involved to request bollards are installed to prevent vehicles parking on the grass. However, consideration of the verges being removed for parking would be included in the overall improvement masterplan and the Parish Council would work with WSCC Highways to find an appropriate scheme.

- b) Traffic issues over the railway bridge on Grinstead Lane.

It was acknowledged that this issue had been ongoing for a long time and was another WSCC Highways issue. Cllr Parsons advised residents to attend the next County Local Committee meeting to continue to raise the issue and put pressure on WSCC.

- c) Concerns were expressed at the potential closure of the Post Office, endeavours should be made to retain the service at the existing site.

Cllr Cowen encouraged everyone to respond to the Post Office's consultation in respect of the proposed changes and to attend the Public Forum on 19 June 2017.

- d) Litter bins at Beach Green are not big enough to cope with the volume of waste.

The Clerk advised that investigations would be made for the provision of extra bins.

- e) A number of small green areas in Lancing are overgrown and neglected.

These areas are outside of the Parish Council's areas of responsibility and residents were advised to report such issues directly to Adur District Council of Highways England (for areas adjacent to the A27).

A member of the public said recognition should be given to the Keep Lancing Lovely team for their dedication and everyone at the meeting gave a round of applause in agreement.

- f) Is the Manor Park Café likely to evolve into a larger scale development?

The Clerk advised that no such reports had been heard, but if such an application was received, the Planning Committee would consider it accordingly.

- g) Beach Green play area is outdated, when will it be renewed?

The Clerk advised that the Beach Green play areas was one of the Council's better play areas and due to funding constraints, Monks Rec Improvement Project was currently the Council's priority.

- h) Can the Parish Council obtain any further funding from the Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club Training Ground development to go towards renewing play areas?

The Clerk advised that the Council had received £100,000 from the development to construct the skatepark. Cllr Patmore added that Adur District Council had received over £1m from the development agreement (Section 106) and explained where some of the other funding had been spent. Furthermore, in his role as District Councillor, he was trying to establish where the remaining funds were and where they could be spent.

- i) What's happening with the Luxor Cinema building as it remains an eyesore and has now attracted a homeless person who is using a doorway as a toilet?

Cllr Patmore advised that the property developer was drawing up plans for the building to be converted into residential units and it was hoped that the façade would be retained. In respect of the homeless person, all the appropriate authorities had been advised of the situation and endeavours were being made to re-home the individual.

- j) Can the Parish Council confirm that it will respect residents' feelings when considering the Ikea planning application as no-one wants it and was aware that one Parish Councillor had abstained from voting at a recent Council meeting when the matter was discussed?

ClIr Purnell explained that there might have been specific reasons as to why a Councillor abstained from voting.

The Chair advised that if and when a New Monks Farm planning application is submitted, it will go straight to a full Council meeting for consideration.

k) Parish Council meetings are not advertised well enough.

The Chair advised that all meetings were advertised via the Council's website and Facebook page, noticeboards throughout the village and in the re-introduced Newsletter. Ways of how this could be improved were requested.

l) Why was the Village Voice stopped?

The Assistant Clerk explained that the Village Voice was produced by a local business person and relied on advertising revenue, so it came at no cost to the Council. However, the advertising declined and subsequent lack of funding forced the leaflet to stop.

m) Can something be done regarding the anti-tank block at the back of SETyres – have a history plaque on it to advise what it is?

ClIr Patmore advised that it was intended for the block to be moved into a more prominent position and to have an information plaque installed and the block will then become part of the Council's history trail, along with the Beach Green air raid shelter.

ClIr Parsons advised that he hoped to organise a Local History Day later in the year to be held in the Parish Hall.

n) Can the grass cuttings at the recreations grounds be picked up?

The Clerk advised that grass cuttings always look unsightly at the start of the grass-cutting season, and that it was too time consuming to pick it up.

o) What are the storage containers and works being undertaken at New Salts Farm?

ClIr Clark advised that it was in respect of works to the railway substation.

p) A lot of money over the last few years has been spent on young people, what is the Parish Council doing for adults?

The Chair confirmed that a Community Cinema had been recently introduced and other ideas for adults would be welcome.

q) The map poster at Lancing Station is geographically incorrect and has been for a while, even though it has been pointed out previously.

Endeavours would be made to correct this.

r) How can the Farmers Market be better attended? Cllr Cowen posed this question to the meeting as he was seeking ways to improve it, albeit the market was an Adur District Council responsibility.

The following points were raised:-

- i. It's hidden away
- ii. Where can you park to visit the market, when the market is in the car park
- iii. Nothing to do there for families
- iv. It's quite expensive
- v. Could a community pitch be arranged?

s) Is the rumour regarding Aldi moving into the Police Station correct?

The Clerk was not aware of the rumour and as far as the property was concerned, it was earmarked for residential development.

t) The closure of the Village Action shop is disappointing, is it opening elsewhere?

Andy Brook, a volunteer at the Village Shop present at the meeting, advised that AVA's Chief Officer had been in talks with Adur District Council regarding an alternative space, but this had been subsequently rejected. All efforts were being made to find another central location. The Chair added that in the meantime, Parish Surgeries are likely to be held the same day as the Farmers Market.

The Chair advised that the issues would be subsequently submitted to the Council for a final response to be determined for each item.

There being no other matters raised, the Chair closed the meeting at 8:43 pm.