

ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November 2006 at 7.15pm at The Community Hall, Winchelsea Beach.

Present: Councillors M Alford, C Bronsdon, Mrs K Carter, Mrs S Chetwood, R. Comotto, Mrs C Merricks (In the Chair), T Moore, B Thompson, S Turner.

In attendance: Cllr. K Glazier (ESCC), Cllr. N Ramus (RDC), T Cox (retiring Clerk), D Rosewell (incoming Clerk). PCSOs Dan Bevan and Dione Powell. Members of the public were also present.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.17pm, welcoming Councillors, County and District Councillors and members of the public.

06/141 The Chairman formally reported on the appointment of Derek Rosewell as the new Clerk and welcomed him to the meeting.

The retiring Clerk reported on the arrangements for handover to his successor; making clear that he would be available for advice until the end of the year, although his formal retirement would take effect at the end of November.

Reports by PCSOs. These were detailed, and written copies will be circulated. There were no questions from the public.

The Chairman then invited questions from members of the public relating to the day's business before the formal opening of the meeting. There were no questions or comments from members of the public.

06/142 Reports by Cllr. K Glazier on behalf of East Sussex County Council and Cllr. N Ramus on behalf of Rother District Council (RDC).

a. Cllr. Glazier reported that the recent inspection by the Commission for Social Care Inspection had resulted in a four-star rating for the Council, which was a very good result. He then took questions on the recent Local Government White Paper and Transit Camps for Travellers.

b. Cllr. Ramus reported on the proposed extension of the Site of Scientific Interest. He expressed concern at the proposals, but said that further meetings are to be held to discuss the way forward. He reminded the meeting that the RDC Licensing and GP Committee on the 16th November would be discussing the issue of separate parishing for Winchelsea and that he had not adopted a position on the matter.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors for their reports and moved to next business.

06/143 To receive and record any apologies for absence.

The Clerk reported apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. J Horsman, Mrs A Rumsey and H Sutton.

06/144 Disclosure of Interests and Code of Conduct.

The Clerk reported that there were disclosures by Cllr. Alford in respect of item 10 (i), Cllr. Comotto in respect of items 9, 11(a), 13(a) and (d), Cllr. Mrs Merricks and Cllr. Thompson in respect of item 10 d (iii), and by Cllr. Turner in respect of 11(a).

06/145 To consider and approve the signing of the Minutes of the Council's meeting of the 9th October 2006 by the Chairman.

Cllr. Comotto proposed a number of amendments to the minutes which were approved and agreed as follows:

Page 2 06/132 item 06/117 After "legislation" add "(Crime and Disorder Act 1998 SS5 and 17) ".

Page 3 06/133 line 14 "Election" should read "Parish" and line 54 delete "surplus principally due to" and add "deficit overcome by". **Proposed by Cllr. Turner, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Carter that the minutes be signed as a correct record of the meeting. Agreed.** The minutes were signed and dated by the Chairman.

06/146 Matters arising from the previous minutes.

Principally for information, the Clerk reported:

06/132 (06/120bi) The internal auditors' visit has been deferred until January at their request.

06/132 (06/121) Clean Neighbourhoods. The Clerk explained that the Council has discretion about how far to exercise powers to exclude dogs from public areas under its control. After discussion, the matter was deferred until the next meeting to enable councillors to consider the way forward in their respective wards.

The Clerk reported on the current situation with allotments across the Parish.

06/137 Deferred Item. Winchelsea Speed Watch progress. Cllr. Bronsdon asked for a progress report on the Winchelsea Speed Watch initiative. Cllr. Comotto reported on SID and VAS devices. He said that 48 volunteers were available to operate the (handheld) SID equipment and asked the Council to act as sponsor to borrow this from the County Council and to meet the one-off insurance cost of £20. **This was agreed.** In response to further questions, Cllr. Comotto explained that VAS equipment was of the fixed type; he was in favour of purchasing this in the longer term, at an approximate cost of £5000 – but for the present would like provision of £550 in the budget for a safety review. **This was agreed.**

06/147 Financial Matters

- a. Receipts and payments. The Clerk explained the receipts and payments to 31st October to the Council, and asked for approval of the virements and adjustments described in the report that had been circulated to Councillors. **Proposed by Cllr. Bronsdon, seconded by Cllr. Alsford that the report and recommendations be accepted. Approved.**
- b. Approval of expenditure for October. Items of expenditure totalling £5,755.26, from cheques numbered 1668 to 1685, plus standing orders for £730, had been tabled and the Clerk briefly summarised the various items. **Proposed by Cllr. Turner that these items of expenditure be paid, seconded by Cllr. Moore. Approved.**
- c. Bank Mandate.
"This Council resolves to amend our Lloyds TSB mandate for both IPC accounts as follows:
Remove signatories A.M Cox, retiring Clerk/RFO and past Councillors Messrs D J Ransome, M Melvin and B A Pope. Add signatories D. Rosewell, incoming Clerk/RFO, and Vice-Chairman Councillor C. Bronsdon. In addition the standing order for salary in favour of Mr. A M Cox will cease and be replaced by a standing order for salary to the new Clerk, Mr D. Rosewell." **Proposed by Cllr. Turner, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Chetwood. Approved.**
- d. Grant applications.
- i) RH Youth Action Forum . This was referred back due to incorrect name on application form.
 - ii) RH Village Hall Committee £300 C.P. fence. (Cllr Alford left the room due to interest.) **Proposed by Cllr. Turner, seconded by Cllr. Comotto** that this be reduced to £260 as that is the stated cost. **Approved.**
 - iii) Icklesham C/E Primary School. Up to £5,000 for community room equipment. (Cllrs. Mrs Merricks and Thompson left the room due to interest. Cllr. Bronsdon in the Chair). Cllr. Bronsdon suggested that the school be invited to send a representative to the next meeting to tell us more about the project before the Council commits to expenditure. This was agreed. The Clerk will write to the school.
- e. Items of expenditure for consideration and approval.
- i) RH Pound Field clearance, levelling and turf, quotation £600. **Proposed by Cllr. Thompson, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Carter. Approved.**

- ii) Winchelsea Cricket Field Allotment fencing. Retrospective approval requested circa £400 for fencing materials for the UWT. **Approved.**
- iii) RH land behind Hall. £3,100 for clearance and turfing. **Approved.**
- iv) Playground equipment. See 2nd minute 06/134; report to October meeting and as detailed in the agenda. Approval sought for expenditure of £9,579 for 3 items. This was discussed and some concern was expressed at the level of expenditure requests for playground equipment. **Proposed by Cllr. Bronsdon, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Carter. Approved.**
- v) Monitor screen for Clerk. Up to £150. **Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Carter, seconded by Cllr. Bronsdon. Approved.**
- vi) The Clerk asked for approval of £841 expenditure on a new notice board at RH. **Agreed.**

f. Budget Proposals for 2007/08.

The Clerk, as RFO, had circulated the revised budget proposals with a total precept requirement of £86,947. This was discussed on a line by line basis and the following amendments were agreed:

Contingency – reduce to £7,500.

Playground equipment – reduce from £7200 to £5700.

Tree works - reduce from £3000 to £2500.

2240 Verge repair (Back Lane) £500.

2301 Reduce to £500.

2402 Delete

1401 No change but the Council should write to the Icklesham Memorial Hall committee for an update on progress with this project.

Tree Survey. It was agreed that a quote should be obtained for a proper, comprehensive survey of the entire parish. Increase provision from £500 to £2000.

SID Winchelsea. This should read VAS. Reduce to £550.

The Budget document will be re-circulated with amendments for approval at the December meeting. It was agreed that there should be no additions to the budget.

06/148 Councillor Comotto submits the following:

- a. **Winchelsea notice board.** Permission for the Winchelsea E-Guide Partnership to attach a 'tag' to the leg of the Parish notice board in Winchelsea. **Approved.**
Items b, c and d were deferred to the next meeting due to lack of time.

06/149 Ward Risk Assessments. Councillors were urged to send in any outstanding reports. It was confirmed that Risk Assessment lead councillors should continue to inspect and report monthly. The Clerk will report progress quarterly.

06/150 Correspondence to date. The Clerk had circulated the following:

- a. RDC Notice of the meeting of the Licensing and GP Committee commencing at 5p.m. that will consider the outcome of the review at Bexhill Town Hall on 16th November. Noted.
- b. RDC Annual Parish Conference. Advance notice that this will be held on 20 March 2006. Noted.
- c. RDC Recycling notification. Noted.
- d. ESCC Bus Stop, German Street, Winchelsea. Winchelsea Councillors confirmed that they had been in touch with ESCC about this matter.
- e. The Clerk informed the Council that he had been handed a letter by Mr & Mrs Miers. They wish to file a complaint against the whole council and have asked a ward representative to pursue the complaint on their behalf.

06/150 Date and venue for next meeting

This was confirmed as 11th December at Winchelsea New Hall commencing at 7.15 pm.

The meeting concluded at 10.20pm.