

# ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 7.15pm at The Village Hall, Rye Harbour

*Present: Councillors Mrs F Bates, B Chishick, J Horsman, Mrs S Lyward (until 20.05), Mrs C Merricks, T Moore, Mrs J Stanford, H Sutton, B Thompson.*

*In attendance: Cllrs. N Ramus and P Osborne (RDC), D Rosewell (Clerk).*

**08/122** Cllr. Horsman (in the Chair) welcomed those present to the meeting at 7.17pm. He explained that Cllr. Bronsdon was not able to be present.

**08/123 The Chairman will invite members of the public to comment or ask questions on any matters they wish to raise, relating to today's business of the Council (15 minutes).**

No members of the public were present.

**08/124 To receive reports and to ask questions of Cllrs. N Ramus and P Osborne concerning Rother District Council matters.**

Various questions were asked of the councillors, including refuse collection. The issues of green bin shortages and the fact that refuse and recycling appear to be collected and combined in the same truck were raised. Cllr. Ramus reported on planning problems at Icklesham. Cllr. Horsman raised the issue of the concrete blocks that have appeared adjacent to Church Farm House in Icklesham. Cllr. Ramus said that it quite probable that it was Highways Agency land. The Clerk will write to the Highways Agency, from the Council, expressing concern. Cllr. Osborne raised the issue of the local development framework. The pre-consultation issues, particularly in the area of housing development over the coming years, although it was noted that the timescale for comments on this particular document was very short. It is understood that there will be a further period of consultation in September.

**08/125** The Chairman now formally opened the meeting for business at 7.49.

**08/126 To receive and record any apologies for absence.**

These had been received from Cllrs. Bronsdon, Comotto, Hurrell and Terry.

**08/127 Disclosure of Interests and Code of Conduct.**

Cllrs. Mrs Merricks and Mrs Stanford declared personal interests in item 12.

**08/128 To consider and approve the signing of the Minutes of the Council's meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2008 by the Chairman.**

Cllr. Comotto had requested a change to item 08/111 (Winchelsea Emergency Plan). It was agreed to insert the words "of the information card" after the word "cost". With this amendment, the minutes were duly **approved**. Proposed by Cllr. Thompson, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Merricks.

**08/129 Matters arising.**

None.

**08/130 Financial Matters.**

**a) Receipts & Payments report for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 (circulated).** It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Merricks, seconded by Cllr. Thompson that this be approved. **Agreed.**

**b) To approve items for payment for July 2008.** The Clerk tabled items of expenditure totalling £4,077.79 for July which concerned a June Direct Debit for £77.47, cheques numbered 1936 to 1949 sequentially, plus £730.00 Standing Orders. Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Merricks, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford. **Agreed.**

- c) **Council is asked to approve the sum of £600 for the supply and installation of two seats at Rye Harbour play park.** Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Stanford, seconded by Cllr. Chishick. **Approved.**
- d) **Council is asked to approve the sum of £3875.00 for the second phase of the drainage project at Icklesham Recreation Ground.** It was noted that the sum of money carried forward from last year for this was £3200.00. It would therefore be necessary to vire the remaining £675.00 and a proposal for this will be brought to the September meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Thompson, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Merricks. **Approved.**
- e) **Council is asked to approve £456.00 for the supply and installation of a new gate at the Cricket Field allotments, Winchelsea.** This was proposed by Cllr. Chishick, seconded by Cllr. Moore. **Approved.** (It was noted by some councillors that there had been some problems in the past with the gate dropping and the question was raised as to whether it would be better with two gates. The Clerk will discuss with ward councillors).

**08/131 Correspondence.**

The Clerk reported on various pieces of correspondence, including the local development framework document referred to earlier. This would be discussed further again under item 23. He also reported on a reply from Trevor Elliott in response to the Council's letter to him expressing thanks for his services and wishing him well for his retirement.

**08/132 Cllr Mrs Stanford proposes the following resolution:**

*"That when councillors write to the local press they should use their home addresses, make clear that they are not representing Icklesham Parish Council, ensure accuracy and refrain from damaging remarks about fellow councillors".*

Cllr. Stanford said that residents had mentioned the recent letter in the press to her and expressed concern. She was also unhappy about remarks made within council meetings which she felt were detrimental. There was a lengthy discussion. It was concluded that the Clerk should be the only person to write to the newspapers on behalf of the Council, upon their direction, other than cases where facts needed to be corrected. Proposed by Cllr. Stanford, seconded by Cllr. Moore. **Approved.**

**08/133 Mary Stanford Lifeboat House.**

The Clerk reminded Council of the survey responses. Cllr. Mrs Stanford said that the Friends of the Mary Stanford Lifeboat House were seeking to establish whether the building could be restored. A survey was carried out by the Environment Agency indicating that around £175,000 would be required to restore the building. It was noted that the railings and artwork have been removed from around the building and it now looks considerably better. Cllr. Mrs Merricks suggested considering a grant. It was agreed to revisit this matter later in the year when the budget is discussed as the Friends may be further down the road with their project.

**08/134 Councillor Comotto proposes the following resolution:**

*(that) "Icklesham Parish Council agrees a system of numbering footpaths in the parish with the County Council in order to allow easy identification in the event of issues arising."* (it is understood that there are already some numbered paths elsewhere in the district).

**Deferred.**

**08/135 Cllr Mrs Stanford proposes the following resolution:**

*"That the see-saw at Coronation Field be moved to the play park behind the Village Hall, Rye Harbour."*

**Withdrawn.**

**08/136 Cllr Mrs Merricks proposes the following resolution:**

*"That Christine Swan, of SALC, be engaged to come to the Parish to deliver training to IPC councillors at a date and time mutually acceptable."*

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Merricks, seconded by Cllr. Thompson. **Approved.**

**08/137 Cllr. Mrs Stanford proposes the following resolution:**

*“That the council write to ESCC about the installation of traffic calming measures in the area adjacent to the entrance to Frenchman’s Beach and the main car park.”*

Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Stanford, seconded by Cllr. Chishick. **Approved.**

**08/138 Cllr. Hurrell proposes the following resolution:**

*“That the council write to ESCC requesting a convex traffic mirror at the junction of Sea Road and Willow Lane.”*

Proposed by Cllr. Sutton, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford. **Approved.**

**08/139 Cllr. Comotto proposes the following resolution:**

*“I would like the Council to invite Helen Atkin, the officer at AiRS who is in charge of the Hallmark Scheme, to speak to the Council about the scheme.”* She can make the September meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. Chishick, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford. **Approved.**

**08/140 Cllr. Mrs Lyward proposes the following resolution:**

*“That the council write to ESCC Highways expressing the view that the national speed limit currently applied to Dogs Hill Road is inappropriate and that it should be reduced to 30mph as soon as possible.”*

Cllr. Mrs Stanford proposed an amendment to this resolution that 30 miles an hour be reduced to 20 miles an hour. The amendment was seconded by Cllr. Moore. **Approved.**

**08/141 Cllr. Sutton proposes the following resolution:**

*“That due to recent security problems in Rye, all parish council recreation grounds should be padlocked.”*

After discussion, Cllr. Sutton proposed an amendment, to add “with the exception of Icklesham Recreation Ground, which should be locked at night, and Winchelsea Town which cannot be locked for practical reasons.” Seconded by Cllr. Thompson. **Approved.**

**08/142 Cllr. Mrs Stanford proposes the following resolution:**

*“That Council write to ESCC asking for the entrance sign of the Rye Harbour boundary to be re-instated and for another sign to be commissioned for positioning at the start of the built up area.”*

Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Stanford, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Merricks. **Approved.**

**08/143 Quality Council status – update.**

There was little to report this month, other than the website re-development. Investigations were indicating that work to improve the website was likely to be more expensive than originally envisaged by the Clerk.

**08/144 Reports from Council Representatives.**

Cllr. Mrs Merricks reported on various items that had arisen at the RALC AGM, including the fact that Cllr. Bronsdon is now on the SALC Committee. She also referred to the Local Development Framework Plan, referred to earlier, and it was agreed that the Clerk would attempt to obtain a copy of the document for each ward.

**08/145 Winchelsea ward councillors submit the following:**

a) Warning signs at Hogtrough Lane – see attached letter. **Deferred.**

b) Letter to ESCC about various footpath signs – see attached. Proposed by Cllr. Chishick, seconded by Cllr. Thomson. **Approved.**

**08/146 Risk Assessments.**

The Clerk reported on risk assessments received.

**08/147 Date and venue for the next meeting.**

Meetings at The Court Hall, Winchelsea, on Monday August 11th and at the Winchelsea Beach Community Hall, on the 8<sup>th</sup> September, commencing at 7.15p.m. were confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.