

13-Jul-2009

ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th July 2009 at 7.15pm at the Winchelsea New Hall

Present: Councillors Mrs F Bates, C Bronsdon, B Chishick, J Horsman, Mrs C Merricks, T Moore, Mrs J Stanford, H Sutton.

In Attendance: Cllr. N Ramus (RDC), D Rosewell (Clerk). Members of the public were also present.

09/141 The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting at 7.23pm (the delay was due to the preceding police priority panel setting meeting).

09/142 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).

There were none.

09/143 To receive reports and ask questions of Cllrs. K Glazier, N Ramus and P Osborne concerning County Council and Rother District Council matters.

The Chairman invited Cllr. Ramus to report. Cllr. Ramus said his report was very short. He mainly referred to the Tourism Future Committee which had been set up by Rother to expand tourism in the area with the ultimate aim of assisting the local economy. There were no questions.

09/144 The Chairman now opened the formal part of the meeting at 7.26p.m. and reminded all present that recording of the meeting would commence from this point.

09/145 To receive and record any apologies for absence.

These had been received from Cllrs. Comotto, Mrs Lyward, Terry and Thompson.

09/146 Disclosure of interests.

Cllrs. Mrs Merricks declared interests in items 15 and 21, Cllr. Moore declared an interest in item 20 and Mrs Stanford declared an interest in item 9(d).

09/147 To consider and approve the signing of the minutes by the chairman of the meeting of the 8th June 2009.

Cllr. Chishick brought proposals for amendments on behalf of Cllr. Comotto. These were as follows: that items 9(i), (ii) and (iii) be expanded to include all communications and responses referred to therein. Also, in the second paragraph of 09/123 this should include the fact that Cllr. Comotto referred to the Winchelsea experience and a plea that different authorities do not

duplicate each other. Both of these were proposed by Cllr. Chishick and seconded by Cllr. Bronsdon and were approved. As a result, the minutes could not be signed off at this meeting and they would be brought to a subsequent meeting.

09/148 The co-option of a councillor to fill the vacancy at Winchelsea Beach ward.

William Drew was in attendance and expressed an interest in being co-opted. He gave a brief talk to council on why he was interested in the post. There were no other applications. Cllr. Bronsdon proposed, and Cllr. Mrs Stanford seconded, that Mr Drew be co-opted onto the council to represent the Winchelsea Beach ward. This was approved.

09/149 Matters arising.

- a) Current Activity & Programme of Works Schedule (list previously circulated). The Clerk went through this in some detail.
- b) Financial Risk Assessment. This was enclosed with papers and was accepted by council. Cllr. Bronsdon requested that it be noted in the minutes that he considered the assessment to be an excellent piece of work.
- c) Donated bench, Winchelsea Beach. The Clerk updated council on correspondence with the donor. It was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with the donor and ward councillors to come to agreement on the type of bench and its location.
- d) Harbour Field Covenant and insurance. Again, this had been discussed under the programme of works. The Clerk stated that it was most unlikely that the covenant would be prohibitive in respect of the parking of cars for a short duration. He would continue to try to locate the document and would advise those concerned in the event of there being a problem.
- e) Signage at Icklesham. This had already discussed under the programme of works. The Clerk is in communication with the Highways Agency about this.
- f) Pear Tree Marsh water supply. The Clerk informed the council that he was waiting for a response from a plumbing contractor as to potential ways of meeting the needs for a supply at Pear Tree Marsh and the potential costs.

09/150 Financial Matters.

- a) Receipts and payments report for year to 30th June 2009 (enclosed). Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Stanford, seconded by Cllr. Bronsdon, that the report be approved. Agreed.
- b) To approve items of payment for June 2009. The Clerk tabled items of expenditure totalling £23,315.74 for July which concerned cheques numbered 2115 to 2138 sequentially, a Direct Debit for £73.87 plus £730.00 Standing Orders. Proposed by Cllr. Bronsdon, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford, that the payments be approved. Agreed.
- c) The Clerk seeks approval to proceed with purchasing 2 benches for Winchelsea Beach within the limits of the budgeted figure of £1,000. Proposed by Cllr. Sutton, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford. Approved.

- d) The Clerk seeks approval to proceed with purchasing 2 waste bins for Icklesham Recreation Ground within the budgeted figure of £2,000. Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Bates, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Merricks. Approved.
- e) The Clerk seeks approval to proceed with a survey of trees in the parish. Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Merricks, seconded by Cllr. Moore, that the Clerk will obtain a third estimate, to be compared with the two received, for a tree survey.

09/151 Grant Applications. Winchelsea Methodist Chapel seeks a grant of £250.00.

There was some discussion on this and the view was expressed that donations to a church were not considered to be appropriate for funding from parish councils. It was proposed by Cllr. Bronsdon and seconded by Cllr. Drew that the grant application be refused. Agreed.

09/152 Correspondence.

The Clerk referred to various letters of thanks from organisations that had received funding from the council recently.

09/153 Speeding issues at Icklesham (letter enclosed with papers).

There was a general discussion about the issues raised and reference was made to an earlier discussion at the police priority setting meeting, which had taken place immediately before this meeting, where issues of speeding at Winchelsea had come up as well as the current matter of speeding at Icklesham. Both concern the A259. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the Highways Agency, and the police authorities, raising the concerns about speeding issues in both villages and that the correspondence letter from the Icklesham resident would be forwarded to them as part of that correspondence.

09/154 Ward Meetings.

Cllr. Horsman said he would like to organise ward meetings in September and October. There would be four meetings, one in each ward, to consult with residents about their desires, or their suggestions for provision in the coming year or potentially over several years as a rolling programme. All would be welcome at the meetings but issues would be restricted to local ward matters. The meetings would be chaired by Cllr. Horsman. Only ward councillors would be present in their official capacity. The Chairman proposed formally that the meetings be held and appropriate funding provided for hall hire and for the Clerk, or Assistant Clerk's, time. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford and approved.

09/155 Parish Newsletter.

Cllr. Mrs Merricks declared a personal interest. The council were happy with the proposals so far and it was agreed that the Icklesham School would be contacted with the parameters for children to work to in respect of the log

09/156 Procurement of goods and services. This was deferred at Cllr. Comotto's request in view of his absence from the meeting.

09/157 IPC Audio Policy. After discussion about the technical issues involved in keeping recordings of the council's meetings, the Clerk advised the meeting that the technical details would be for him to deal with. He simply required council to express their wish for the length of time the recordings should be kept. Accordingly, the Chairman proposed that recordings be kept in perpetuity. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford and approved.

09/158 Cllr. Bronsdon seeks approval to purchase an additional waste bin at Pound Field to be sited next to the Youth Shelter. Cllr. Bronsdon introduced this matter by explaining that since the provision of the shelter there had been a considerable increase in the amount of litter in that area, therefore he requested that council provide an extra litter bin. Proposed by Cllr. Bronsdon, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanford. Approved.

09/159 Risk Assessment and Risk Register arrangements.

The Clerk reported to council that, in his view, the best way to put in place working arrangements was to link the monthly risk assessments from councillors with the programme of works in order that all issues raised by risk assessments would become part of the work programme and subject to regular monitoring. He emphasised that monthly risk assessments from ward councillors were essential and urged councillors to keep supplying them.

09/160 Rye Bay Youth Action Group seeks permission to use Pound Field on 12th August between 12.00 - 16.00 to hold a fun day. Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Stanford, seconded by Cllr. Bronsdon that permission is granted. Agreed.

09/161 Cllr. Horsman seeks approval from council for Icklesham Trusts Committee to approach SALC to ask that the Memorial Hall be added to their list of venues since this would inevitably involve greater use of the car park for which the council is responsible. Cllr. Mrs Merricks left the room while this matter was being discussed. The Chairman explained that this was a matter of courtesy as the addition of the Icklesham Memorial Hall to SALC's list of venues would, in all likelihood, mean greater use of the car park for which the council is responsible. Proposed by Cllr. Bronsdon, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Bates, that this be approved. Agreed.

09/162 Crimestoppers.

There was considerable discussion about this matter, with some councillors not clear as to whether Crimestoppers was a charity, and some opposition to any support for them with the view being taken by some that this should be a police or government responsibility. Ultimately, the council instructed the Clerk to invite Crimestoppers to address a meeting with a view to potentially supporting them in the future.

09/163 Parish Walkabouts.

Cllr. Mrs Merricks introduced this matter by saying she felt the walkabouts that had taken place in the past had been valuable and that council should consider doing them again. Ultimately it was agreed that they would be and that the first one would take place after the August council meeting in Winchelsea. The Clerk agreed to email councillors to make sure they were aware.

09/164 Reports from Council Representatives.

Cllr. Horsman reported at length about his recent attendance at a RALC meeting. Cllr. Mrs Stanford is now on the SALC committee. Cllr. Mrs Merricks reported on the recent trip around the Nature Reserve which had been enjoyed by a number of councillors as well as the Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

09/165 Matters to be referred to the next agenda.

There were none.

09/166 Date and venue for the next meeting.

This was confirmed as Monday 17th August at the Court Hall, Winchelsea (for cheque signing only), commencing at 6.45p.m. The next full council meeting was confirmed as Monday 14th September at Icklesham Memorial Hall, commencing at 7.15p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.15p.m.

Unapproved