

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT THE ARK AT 7:30PM.**

PRESENT: Mr B Forbes (Chairman) Mrs S Hughesdon (Vice Chairman) Dr I Gibson Mrs C Jarvis Mr O O’Grady Mr A Palin Mrs C Steggle and 15 members of the public

169 The Chairman welcomed everyone and explained that the January meeting starts with the presentation of the Civic Award.

Presentation of the Civic Award Cup to Mr Jonathan Pratt

It was with great pleasure that the award was presented to Jonathan in recognition of his involvement and hard work with the Speedwatch team over the past 16 years, plus his commitment to encouraging new members and his continued enthusiastic support in the strategic placement of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) and road safety signs around the village. The Chairman also mentioned the great dedication Jonathan has shown to the community over many years including his seven years as a Parish Councillor. The Certificate and Civic Award Cup were then presented to Jonathan who thanked everyone for their support. He explained that the village now have the use of three mobile SIDs. He said that the Speed Watch Team is still functioning but is on a sabbatical until new team members and the new scheme the police are running is operational. They are meeting again in May to agree on the plans going forward.

170 Apologies Mrs T Mugridge

171 Public Participation An allotment holder reported that the fence around the allotment is in disrepair in places and needs replacing. A Member of the Council will inspect the fence and report back to the Council so that action can be taken.

Two residents of West Hoathly advised they have met with the owner of Taranas Restaurant, the landowner and Cluttons, Richard Speller from Highways and Councillor Coote from Mid Sussex District Council regarding the lack of parking at Taranas. Taranas has a capacity for 150 people and yet they only have 30 car parking spaces. Taranas would like the use of land abutting the car park, whether that is by purchase or rent and these discussions are ongoing.

A member of the public said he has a petition signed by residents of the village regarding the Hartmires planning application. The Chairman advised that petitions are taken as one comment and it would be better if all residents who were for or against the application actually wrote in separately to Mid Sussex District Council.

172 Declarations of Personal and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests None

173 Chairman's Announcements The Chairman thanked Members of the Council, Firemen and members of the public who helped with the erection and taking down of the Christmas Tree.

174 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019, as circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

175 Matters currently being pursued by the Clerk  
The Clerk has e-mailed both Colas and Tulleys Farm regarding purchase of a wrought iron WWI Commemorative Bench and is awaiting a response.  
The replacement lantern at the junction of Turners Hill Road and Church Road has been ordered and installation is expected in January.

176 Planning Applications  
It was RESOLVED that MSDC be informed that:

DM/19/4819 17 Withypitts  
The Parish Council supports this planning application.

DM/19/5134 17A Woodpecker Way  
The Council will accept what the Tree Officer recommends.

DM/19/5107 Hartmires Investments Limited, Land at Turners Hill Burial Ground, Turners Hill Road  
These proposals appear to have no legitimate merit, given the scale of the proposed operations, as articulated in our objection to a preceding application for staff parking provision. Eight places for three staff, as recorded on the application forms, still appears to be excessive. We would want there to be a physical barrier between the staff and public parking areas to avoid any conflict. We also note that this application is contrary to DP17 and DP12. Therefore, the Parish Council does not support this application.

DM/19/5100 The Parish Council does not support this planning application. We still question the need for this unit as the Natural Burial Ground is still not in operation, has no buildings and no sign of work commencing despite permission being granted in September 2015. The need for this unit in relation to a small-scale, low intensity use of the site has not yet been demonstrated and it appears to us that it is not necessary for the running of the business.

We are pleased to note that our previous comments and those of MSDC and the Inspector have been taken into account with the re-siting of this building and the reduction in size. However, we feel that the unit is still too big being 10m x 10m, 3m in height and 4.95m to the roof ridge. Are two or three large vehicles really required for cutting grass and hedges or for providing graves? With three employees this does not seem necessary. The original application for the Natural Burial Ground said that it was designed to be left with just mown paths with no formal pathways, so that visitors can experience the woodland as a natural environment.

We are concerned about the access for any large machinery as, unless the applicant intends to leave the unit and surrounding area unscreened, it appears that machines would have no access to the grounds. The plans submitted are not clear in this respect and it appears that visitors moving to the chapel would have a very open view of the unit. Should the roller door be on a different side of the building to avoid conflict with visitors and maintain separation?

If permission is granted then the area must be well screened from visitors and noise levels contained to a minimum, especially during any services. In addition, we would want to see a condition placed on the building to ensure it is only used for the storage and maintenance of operational vehicles relevant to the Natural Burial Ground.

The applicants comment on THP12 and the requirement for three-dimensional visualisations. They state that they consider this relates to residential developments in Turners Hill and not functional and operational commercial buildings. This is not the case and plans showing the visual perspective should be provided in accordance with this policy. They may actually assist in the understanding of the impact of all the buildings on this site.

We also note that this application is contrary to DP12, DP17 and DP26.

177 Report on Previous Applications

DM/19/4214	Turners Hill Garage, North Street	Permission
DM/19/3754	9 Robin Row	Permission
DM/19/4608	Land adjacent to 7 Woodpecker Way	Permission
DM/19/4692	Rashes Farm, Selsfield Road	Permission
DM/19/4497	Burleigh Arches Farmhouse, East Street	
	Certificate of Lawful Use or Development	Permission
DM/19/3312	Rowfant Sawmill, Wallage Lane, Rowfant	Refused

- 178 Responsible Financial Officer Appointment The appointment of Mrs Leanne Bannister as Responsible Financial Officer was ratified by the Council.
- 179 Signatories for the Parish Council Bank Accounts It was RESOLVED that the signatories be Mr Forbes, Mrs Jarvis and Mr O’Grady. Mrs Marsh is a signatory in order to have use of the Council debit card only and Mrs Bannister is to be a signatory in order to manage the bank accounts only.
- 180 Budget and Precept for 2020/21 It was RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be approved resulting in a Precept Claim of £77,537.00.
- 181 It was RESOLVED to receive and approve the recommendations, as circulated, for hire rates for The Ark including office space.
- 182 Allotment Rents It was RESOLVED that the allotment rents remain at £30.00 for 4 rods and £15.00 for 2 rods for 2020/21.
- 183 Free use of the Dove Suite by CAGNE It was RESOLVED that the Dove Suite would not be offered for free to CAGNE. Dr Gibson advised that the Parish Council when attending a Forum Meeting, or in any correspondence, should specify that they are a member of the Town and Parish Council Forum and do not endorse any of the wider views of CAGNE. However, the Parish Council should continue as members of the forum in order to know what is going on at the airport. Dr Gibson also advised of the CAGNE AGM being held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm at Copthorne Village Hall  
It was suggested that someone from Gatwick could be invited to the Annual Parish Assembly to give a presentation.
- 184 Action Plan 2020/22 It was RESOLVED to approve the Action Plan 2020-2022 but to omit the proposal to purchase another Speed Indicator Device (SID). It was felt that the use of three was enough, especially as the installation of the SID is being carried out by Volunteers.
- 185 Accounts Due for Payment  
It was resolved that:
1. The Accounts shown on the schedule as being due for payment be paid and
  2. The Accounts shown on the schedule as being paid since the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019, be approved.
  3. The Accounts schedule was duly signed.

186 Correspondence Following the e-mail to MSDC regarding the Council's disappointment in the way the Mid Sussex Applauds Awards were handled last year, MSDC have responded saying they were sorry to hear of the Parish Council's disappointment and they have taken their comments on board. They also advised that they can send the Certificate through to the Parish Council in future for them to hold their own ceremony at the Parish Council meeting as they do with the Civic Awards.

Ardingly Road, West Hoathly from the junction with Church Road, Turners Hill to the junction with the High Street, Lindfield is closed on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 8pm until 11:59pm the same day due to pothole repairs.

Wallage Lane, Crawley Down from the junction with Turners Hill Road to Turners Hill Road (B2028) is closed on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 9:30am until 3pm the same day due to pothole repairs.

AgeUK have two free information events at the Glen Vue Community Hub, East Grinstead on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 10:30am to 12pm the event is "My Home in Winter" and they will provide information on heating and energy efficiency and are also offering benefit checks (subject to availability). The other event is on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 10:30am to 12pm and this is an introduction to breathing and relaxation by a trained Yoga Teacher from the Mid Sussex Wellbeing Team. The previous sessions were gratefully received by all. This item will be added to the Parish News for February.

Meeting closed at 8:47pm

Signed .....Chairman

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