Hamsey Parish Council

www.hamsey.net
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Minutes of a meeting of HAMSEY PARISH COUNCIL
held at BEECHWOOD HALL on 10th November 2011 from 7.30pm

Present: Cllr. J.Harmer (chair)
Cllr.Ian Ginn
Cllr. M.Dodd (vice chair)

Apologies:
Cllr. R.Armstrong
pcso Sally-Ann Reed

In attendance: Mrs J.Toomey - Clerk to the Council.
Kevin Froude, 7 members of the public

71	**Apologies for absence** Were received and accepted from Cllr.Armstrong who had business commitments and from pcso Sally-Ann Reed.	**Action**
72	**Questions from the public** Residents were concerned that the draft core strategy from LDC includes a proposal to increase the pitches at the Offham traveller site by another three. Whilst the consultation has been advertised on the parish boards, residents had mostly been made aware of it through the Argus. Clerk was asked to put the details on the website. Residents felt there should not be planning permission for the site which is within the national park and that LDC are considering an extension of the site because they have failed to identify more suitable alternatives. The parish council was asked to arrange a public meeting. Residents would alert others to the proposals. It was felt that the SDNP authority should look at the proposals and maybe Natural England as there is a dewpond on the site.	Clerk
73	**Declarations of interest** and update of interests. Cllr.Dodd declared an interest in item 6cii as he is a Beechwood trustee.	
74	**Minutes of the last meeting** Minutes of the meeting held 8th September were agreed and signed by the Chair	
75	**Council considered co-option to fill the vacancies on the council.** The chair explained that as well as the two vacancies left by the resignation of Cllrs. Pinder and Squires, sadly Cllr. Baughan had also resigned due to work commitments. Council agreed that he too, would be greatly missed and was grateful for the work he had put in to expand the train service. Two residents offered their services to the council. Council agreed unanimously to co-opt Bill Rendall and Brian Bates to fill two of the vacant seats. They were welcomed, and having signed the Acceptance of Office forms, joined the table.	
76.0 76.1 76.2 76.3 76.4	**Update on any matters arising from last meeting** Council noted actions taken and noted any further action: *min.no.53.1 The chair has organised the purchase of a new oak noticeboard at Offham, paid for by the waterboard.* *min.no.57.2 Clerk has contacted environmental health re: noise from Lower Stoneham Farm and model aircraft and replied to a concerned resident.* *min.no.61.0 Clerk has contacted the police regarding vandalism at the petrol station. The reply is attached to the agenda.* *min.no.65.0 Clerk has asked Cllr.st.Pierre to investigate the proposal – could Hamsey Lane become 'Access Only'?. No report as yet.*	
77.0 77.1	**Financial matters** *Council approved the following payments (including VAT):* Cheque no.22004 £88.92 LDC Dog bin empty Cheque no.22005 £20.00 LDALC subscription Cheque no.22006 £162.00 Mazars – audit fees Cheque no.22007 £464.77 Clerk – wages/exp. September Cheque no.22008 £94.30 LDC election expenses Cheque no.22009 £467.70 LDC Clerk – wages/exp. October Cheque no.22010 £140.00 Sussex Print – Autumn newsletters	

	Cheque no.22011 £19.00 Offham church – poppy wreath s.137 Cheque no.22012 £15.00 Ouse and Adur trust – subscription Cheque no.22013 £244.80 Barcombe landscapes - mowing	
77.2	**Current financial position:** Council noted the current financial situation.	
77.3	**To consider any items of expenditure which may need to be accounted for in the 2012/13 precept.** ci) Budgeting for the neighbourhood plan - Cllr.Armstrong was absent so this item was not discussed cii) Support for Beechwood Hall grounds committee- to consider a grant request – Cllr. Dodd gave an overview but took no part in the discussion. A grant of £834.50 was requested to pay half the cost of consultants that trustees will commission to run a workshop day, which will discuss proposals for Beechwood grounds development with residents. The chair felt that council would be more inclined to financially support any proposals after residents had been consulted. Cllr.Ginn proposed that the parish council give the grant of £834.50. This proposal had no second. Two councillors abstained and the chair voted against. The proposal was not carried.	
77.4	**Council considered the parish precept for 2012/13.** Clerk had prepared an updated budget which showed the finances to be very healthy. Council agreed that the precept would be reduced by 10% for 2012/13.	
78.0	**Planning matters - to receive any report from the planning committee:** The planning committee had considered the following application:	
78.1	**LW/11/1294/NP** 89 Highdown Road, Lewes – Application to replace extant planning permission for two storey extensions – *no comment*	
78.2	**Council noted decisions by LDC:** **LW/11/0571/NP** Pine Barn Old Church Lane - Section 73A Retrospective application for conversion of garage/office to guest annex – *refused* **LW/11/1095/NP** The Fish Gate, 10 Offham Listed Building Consent Application - Installation of a flexible chimney liner and chimney cowl and pot – *granted* **LW/11/0687/NP** Coppins, Offham - Installation of 12 Solar PV panels on low level A frames on rear flat roof – granted **LW/11/0629/NP** Great North Barn Old Church Lane - Insertion of four roof lights to the north west and replacement of an existing roof light to the north east . - *granted*	
78.3	**7c** Council noted that the parish tree warden (Bill Rendall) had no objections to an application for works to a beech tree at the Blacksmith Arms, Offham - *granted*	
79.0	**Recreation ground, Beechwood Hall and update on Beechwood Lane footpath** A report from the secretary to the trustees was attached to the agenda and noted by council.	
80.0	**Council noted correspondence received since the last meeting**	
80.1	Council had received details of the Queens Jubilee beacons and agreed that the Hamsey Beacon should be registered. Cllr. Rendall will see to this.	Cllr.Rendall
80.2	Council noted an email regarding remembrance Sunday and a number of councillors will be able to attend.	
80.3	Clerk was asked to reply to a resident concerned about parking at Cooksbridge station	Clerk
80.4	There were no councillors interested in attending a conference on improvement to broadband provision in rural areas. Clerk to get papers from the meeting.	Clerk
80.5	Council noted emails received from two residents covering responses to the core strategy.	
81	**To receive any reports from meetings attended by Councillors or Clerk:** Clerk had attended the LDALC meeting 12th Sept. Minutes were sent to all Cllr.Ginn and the clerk had attended the annual council's conference - 20th October	
82	**Youth issues** Fiona Morton had informed council that due to a complete lack of any volunteers wanting to take over organising the group, there was no option but to disband.	
83.0	**Website**– www.hamsey.net & **Newsletter.** Clerk is trying out some free software from the internet. The Autumn issue just printed was the last that Donna Edmunds is able to help with for a while. Council wanted to thank her for her past involvement and assistance and wished her well.	

84	**Police & NHW issues** Clerk read out the report from the pcso (attached) Cllr.Ginn had asked the clerk to chase Inspector Maloney for a reply to an email enquiry he had sent. This had been done but there was still no reply.	
85	**Traffic issues including footways and parking** A reply from Sussex Police regarding speeding on A275 was attached to the agenda An update regarding Landport fork was attached to the agenda	
86.0 86.1 86.2	**Council considered rail services to Cooksbridge.** Cllr.Baughan had sent in a full report attached to the agenda. It seemed unlikely that the hedging removed during the cutting works, would be replaced. Growth will eventually soften the new safety fence. Council wanted to thank Cllr.Baughan for his efforts in the past. Cllr.Ginn would now take on this project. **Council considered a grant request** from the Cooksbridge station Partnership. £38.45 was requested to pay for materials to paint the fencing. This was agreed.	
87	**Council considered issues from the South Downs National Park.** Cllr.Ginn had attended the SDNP meeting in Eastbourne but felt that his views were not really listened to. Resident Richard Winter had sent report from SDNP meetings he had attended on behalf of the council. These are attached to the agenda.	
88.0 88.1	**Rights of Way issues –** there was no report from Jenny Millington. **Council considered a request** from a resident asking if the Parish Council would support a request to SDNP to establish a right of way on Highways land, between Picketts Corner and Courthouse Farm. The resident would be prepared to move it forward,subject to that support, re-enlisting support from Cllr.St Pierre and hopefully involving Meg Stroud as well. The council gave their support for provision of a path within the parish boundary. They were unable to comment on neighbouring parishes but recognised that there was a need for a safe route for pedestrians.	
89.0	**Council considered problems with 'fly tipping'** Cllr.Baughan had sent in a report. The chair has contacted the landowner regarding tipping in Hamsey Lane.	
90.0	**Council could not consider a request from Cllr.Armstrong for a discussion on Village signs or 'Gateways' but** Clerk has spoken to ESCC. Costs for 'gateways' like those at Laughton – they cost between £2,500- £5,000 depending on limitations of the site. Clerk to ask Cllr. Armstrong if this should be carried over to January.	Clerk
91	**C**llr. Dodd gave an update on preparations for the Village Day 2012. The date will be 14th July. There will be an Olympic theme with races, football, tug-of-war and games. There will be music and dance and more entertainment than 2011 but more people are needed to volunteer both on the day and with planning the event.	
92.0 92.1 92.2	**Items for noting or inclusion on a future agenda** Council noted that Cllr.Harmer and Cllr.Armstrong have agreed to assist the BBC who wish to feature the beacon in a TV programme. Filming is scheduled for 18th Nov. at dusk. Council noted the comments made by residents regarding the LDC Draft Core Strategy and asked the clerk to find a suitable date for a public meeting followed by an extraordinary council meeting to decide on any response. The meeting needs to be widely advertised. Clerk to contact Parish Pump.	clerk
93	**Council moved to a closed session to discuss staffing matters**	
94.0	**Date of next meeting – 12th January 2012** Meeting closed at 9.25 pm.	

JT 14/11/11

Signed……..(Chairman) Dated……

Min. No. 84 - Hamsey Parish Council PCSO Report

For the period of August to October there were 14 recorded crimes

	August	September	Oct	TOTAL
THEFTS		5	2	7
VEHICLE CRIME			1	1
BURGLARY		3	1	4
CRIMINAL DAMAGE				
VIOLENCE			1	1
OTHER		1		1
TOTAL		9	5	14

UPDATES:
The burglary in Oct occurred on the 5th & was to an insecure caravan, there are no lines of enquiries at present. The 2 incidents of theft were earthing wire from The Drove & Ivors lane that occurred on the 7/10 & 16/10. The vehicle crime was a break in to a vehicle in a very rural area in Cooksbridge on the 10/10. We are getting a lot of reports of suspicious vehicles in the very rural area, with the reported incidents in mind can I remind residents to report any suspicious vehicles to us, ideally with the vehicle registration details.
SPEEDWATCH:
Speed checks done in Cooksbridge on the 29/9 resulted in 2 drivers being sent letters with regard to their speed, checks done again on the 13/10 resulted in 4 letters being sent.