

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT
BEECHWOOD HALL ON 18th MAY 2017**

Present: Cllr. Ian Ginn (Chair)

Apologies:

In attendance:

Mrs J Toomey – Clerk to the Parish Council

5 members of Hamsey PC 5 members of the public Cllr.Isabelle Linnington LDC

Meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

1)Apologies for absence – None received

2. Welcome and overview by the chair of the Parish Council.

Parish Council chair, Ian Ginn welcomed residents and gave an overview of the council year. He felt that in the last year the parish council had achieved some significant results. He thanked Cllr.Suttie for helping with the parish newsletter, website and litter initiatives and thanked Cllr.McBrown for helping with the Beechwood Hall and the new play equipment project. Cllr.Baughan was thanked for his continuing assistance on matters concerning the rail service and litter and waste alongside Cllr.D'Arienzo who also covered many items of concern to residents, the old Hamsey Church appeal, Speedwatch, the book box in a phone box in Cooksbridge and many others. Finally he thanked the clerk for her assistance to the smooth running of the council. He especially wanted to mention local resident Jim Redwood who has offered advice and assistance to the council on planning issues. The chair wanted to point out that despite his campaign to get the parish council voice taken more seriously by LDC planning he had noticed at a recent LDC planning committee meeting the applicants agent was involved in the discussion when the PC had been refused the opportunity to take part, something Mr Redwood had advised was quite out of order.

3. Minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting were agreed and signed

5. There were no matters arising from the 2016 meeting.

5. Report from the Beechwood Hall trustees

There was no report as the chair of trustees was unable to attend.

6. The Lewes District Councillor gave her report (attached below)

She said the new County Councillor, Jim Sheppard had probably not replied to the council or sent any report as he has been in hospital.

7. The clerk/financial officer to the council gave the financial report.

8. Questions from the floor

A resident wanted to thank the parish council for supporting her with regard to planning matters.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm

Report From Lewes District Councillor Isabelle Linington

Cllr Linington started by highlighting some of the main LDC achievements during the past year.

- Joint Transformation Programme – work was progressing on the joint working with Eastbourne Borough Council. Senior officers had been appointed and joint systems were in place for some Council services. The next stage will be the second phase of the staff restructure and the delivery of joint IT systems.
- North Street Quarter in Lewes – this was progressing and a Project Manager had been appointed.
- Newhaven Flood Alleviation Scheme – work has now started which will allow future development and reduce the flood risk to 431 houses and 387 businesses.
- Housing Investment Company – the formation of this has been agreed and will enable development of housing to meet local needs.
- Newhaven Enterprise Zone – the Enterprise Zone status has been secured.
- Neighbourhood Planning – 4 NPs had been adopted and 6 more in development.
- PV Panels – 595 Council homes fitted with panels with average annual energy saving of £50 per home.
- Community Facilities – new Skatepark in Lewes with official opening on 20 May; new Skatehouse for Newhaven.
- Street Cleaning events in Seaford, Lewes, Newhaven, Plumpton and Newick. Also clean-ups along the A26 and A27. Fly tipping reduced.
- Waste Strategy – new recycling system being developed with no need for sorting.
- LDC Systems – new phone system, e-mail alert system, Dementia Awareness, social media channels for customer service enquiries, supporting voluntary organisations through which around 6000 individuals and organisations have been helped.

Cllr Linington reported that she was now a member of the Cabinet with the Environmental Impact portfolio. Her portfolio covers parks and gardens maintenance, cemeteries, Newhaven Flood Alleviation Scheme, coastal erosion and flooding, environmental health, dog fouling, fly tipping, contaminated land, pest control, air quality and licensing.

In the Hamsey Parish Council area most of the queries had been to do with planning. Cllr.Linington had spoken at the LDC Planning Committee meeting on the Chatfields Yard development and had secured a review of the location of the sub-station. At the same meeting Cllr Linington spoke in support of the Hamsey PC's opposition to the Knights Court development.