



55. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – The following planning application was considered;

WD/2016/2202F – Old Rectory, Church Lane, Ripe – Taking down of small first floor extension. Removal of first floor partitions. Removal of cupboard in bedroom. Re-hanging of existing door. Glazed screen, shower, basin and WC plus bath fitted in bedroom – Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council has no objections to this application which Councillors feel will improve the property.

56. FINANCE UPDATE – Councillors read and approved the accounts to 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

Councillor White asked how much the Clerks gross pay is as he needs a figure for his pension report for the next meeting. The Clerk explained that her contract is a confidential matter but agreed to look it up and give it to him after the meeting.

Councillors also discussed the request from Mr Smith to purchase some corms to plant in the Parish and agreed to buy 10 bags @£6 each. The Parish Council will apply for a licence and add Mr Smith to their insurance. ESCC point out there is a power line beneath most of the triangles where the corms will be going and advise Mr Smith to dig with caution.

57. TRAFFIC SURVEY – At the last meeting, Councillor Dunbar Dempsey asked if a traffic survey can be carried out now, so that traffic flowing through Ripe can be compared with the amount of traffic flowing through Ripe in say 5 years' time to monitor the impact of the new housing. After the meeting the Clerk contacted County Councillor Bennett who said that he is not sure County would undertake the work on this basis as they already have a pretty good estimate of the consequences for roads but if the Parish Council contributes £250 towards the work it might be possible.

Councillors discussed whether to carry out the survey themselves but felt a County run survey will carry more weight. They asked the Clerk to find out more detail.

Councillors also agreed that lorries are the main problem traffic-wise in the Parish because the roads are not suitable and asked the Clerk to find out if it is possible to have weight restriction signs on Firle Road near Middle Farm. The Clerk will find out and report back to the next meeting.

58. SAVE WEALDEN FROM OVERDEVELOPMENT TEAM (SWOT) -

A Campaign Group (SWOT) has been set up. SWOT is understood to be an umbrella organisation which wants to stop what it sees as overdevelopment in Wealden. Councillors considered whether they should join because they feel local views are not being taken into account but were advised by the Clerk not to join any protest groups because it could prejudice them in future applications. They agreed instead to write to their local MP, both individually and collectively as the Parish Council, to voice their objections.

Councillor White will circulate the contact details of the MP after the meeting and the Clerk will draft a letter from the Parish Council which summarises the individual responses. Councillors also agreed to form a collective response to the revised Wealden Local Plan as part of the newly reformed Arlington Ward

59. DEFIBRILLATORS – Councillor Ward has spoken to the Shop Manager for permission to put a defibrillator on the outside wall of the shop. The request has been put to the shop's committee.

60. CHEQUES FOR PAYMENT – The following cheques were approved for payment;

WDALC – Subscription - £20.00	Cheque number 100944
A Stevens – Salary – September	Cheque number 100945
HMRC – PAYE - £394.60	Cheque number 100946
S Goacher – Payroll - £22.50	Cheque number 100947

Littlejohn – Auditors - £120.00  
Mass Media – Website - £290.40  
J Ward – stationery - £3.00

Cheque number 100948  
Cheque number 100949  
Cheque number 100950

#### 61. QUESTIONS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS –

Concerns were raised about the amount of dog mess on the path behind Mill Farm in Ripe and Councillors discussed ways to reduce it. They agreed most ways were either ineffective or undesirable.

There being no further questions from Parish Councillors, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.