

CHALVINGTON WITH RIPE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF

4th June 2018

held at The Hayton Baker Hall, Ripe.

18. Present: Cllr Webb (Chairman), Cllr Dunbar Dempsey, Cllr Dashfield, Cllr English and Cllr Ward.

19. Attending: A Stevens (Clerk) and one member of the public were also in attendance.

20. Public Session:

There were no questions from members of the public on this occasion.

The meeting was then opened.

21. Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors White and Lawrence and were accepted by those present.

22. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual General Meeting which were both held on 3rd May 2018 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman

23. Clerk's Report on any Matters' Arising:

All matters' arising were included elsewhere in the minutes.

24. Disclosures of Interest:

There were no disclosures of interests nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

25. Reports from Outside Meetings:

Councillors discussed an upcoming Open Meeting about the A27 which is being held on the 12th June at Selmeston Village Hall. The meeting is being called by Cluttons, who are the Agents for Wooton Manor and is being chaired by David Quysner who is the Chairman of Selmeston Parish Meeting. The objectives of the meeting are to make sure as many people as possible have as much information as possible about changes that may affect their lives significantly and about which they are worried because of announcements that have already been made.

Chalvington Parish Council agreed to send Councillors White and Webb to the meeting with a view to forming a co-ordination strategy after so it is ready to respond to the consultation when it comes out.

26. Planning Applications:

WD/2017/2863/F - The Cabin, Darp Lane, Ripe, BN8 6BB - Removal of mobile home and replacement with a single storey dwelling. Amended plans received. Date stamped 22/05/18 – Four Councillors voted in favour of this application, one abstained.

27. General Data Protection Regulations:

It is recommended that Councillors have a separate email address for Parish Council business and do not use their own. Ideally it should be one the Clerk can delete when they leave. Setting this up would cost approximately £36 per year per Councillor. Alternatively Councillors can set up their own email address but they would be responsible for deleting them when they leave.

It is also recommended that any personal devices which Councillors have, which hold personal data should be encrypted so that if they lose them they won't have to report the loss to the Information Commissioner.

Councillors agreed to think about both suggestions for now. In the meantime the Clerk will redact any personal details she sends them.

28. Govia Thameslink Timetable

Councillor Dunbar Dempsey said she has written to Charles Horton, CEO of Govia Thameslink and raised her concerns about the new Govia Thameslink timetable.

She said 'I am extremely unhappy about the new Southern Rail timetable as are all the residents of Berwick, Glynde and surrounding villages who use this service. Many residents have already written to you but none as yet have received a reply. There are many residents and local councils in our community who are understandably concerned that they have not been consulted over this new timetable. In our household (members of whom use the Berwick service regularly) not one person has been contacted by GTR or Southern Rail in any way whatsoever regarding the new timetable changes. The proposed changes have a very bad impact on our rural community. These points I know have been well documented to you and GTR but you have chosen to completely ignore them. Residents have put forward suggestions as to how the impact of the cuts can be mitigated somewhat if these suggestions are implemented. As none of us have received replies to letters or emails I summarise below the suggestions:

1. Stop the 09.24 and the 10.24 train from Eastbourne to London Victoria at Berwick.
2. Stop the 19.16 and 20.16 services from London Victoria to Eastbourne at Berwick.

The above suggestions would go some way to help residents using the station to access London out of the core commuter period. It would also provide all users with a continuity of service, particularly for off peak use to and from London (which Southern rail promotes).

3. I welcome the news that Southern has reinstated the 22.46 from London Victoria stopping at Berwick station Mon – Sat. It needs to stop at Berwick on Sunday too otherwise how can residents get back from events held late in London?

These suggestions if implemented could alleviate some of the pain caused by the recent cuts, one of which is an increased journey time of 20 minutes to get from Berwick to London Victoria.

4. The loss of the direct service between Glynde and Berwick for much of the day on Mon - Fri is simply not acceptable. This needs to be reinstated so that on the Eastbourne to Brighton service the train stops at both Glynde and Berwick – at a minimum of once per hour (as before the new timetable kicked in). Glynde and Berwick stations are gateways into the South Downs National Park and clearly should be directly and easily linked. Please note that there is no bus service that links these villages. This cut in train services between Berwick and Glynde will have a disproportionate and negative effect on users with mobility issues. It will also lead to increased local car usage as the

train is abandoned for local car journeys, causing additional road congestion and car pollution. The Increase in pollution is currently a major issue for Wealden District Council.

It cannot be right that at a time when the government and local councils are urging people to use trains and buses rather than cars that you have created a situation where the reverse is promoted – ie by axing services to and from Berwick and Glynde you are promoting the use of the motor car.

I would urge you to listen to local residents (we do know what we are talking about) and implement these suggestions as soon as possible.

I would like a reply to my letter addressing the points I have raised.

Incidentally, I called your customer services centre to request your postal address and they were unable to give it to me so I am sending the letter by email. It will be copied to our local MP, Maria Caulfield'

She received a reply from Greg Woodrow in Customer Relations which did not address any of her concerns.

Councillors agreed with Councillor Dunbar Dempsey's concerns and added they were worried the changes would lead to the eventual loss of Berwick Station and a significant drop in house prices and asked the Clerk to draft a letter to Govia Thameslink based on the email sent by Councillor Dunbar Dempsey.

29. Emergency Plan

Councillor Ward circulated his initial thoughts on what we should include in the Parish Emergency Plan and asked Councillors for their input.

Councillors agreed to bring their suggestions to the next Full Council Meeting.

30. Litter

Councillor Webb is to meet with representatives from neighbouring parishes and establish a joint initiative to tackle the increasing amounts of litter on the A27 and A22. The group will look at all the options and will consider fitting signage at each entrance to the parish asking people not to drop litter here.

It was noted that on the East/West Sussex border there are signs telling everyone to take their litter home.

31. Clerk's Pay Review

Councillors resolved the Clerk is paid Scale 39 pro rata.

32. Cheques for Payment:

The following cheques were approved for payment;

A Stevens – Salary	Cheque number 101026
ESCC – Pension Fund	Cheque number 101027
HMRC - PAYE - £382.20	Cheque number 101028
Peter Frost – Internal Auditor - £86.14	Cheque number 101029
Ripe and Chalvington Village PCC –	

Grant - £750.00	Cheque number 101030
Hayton Baker Hall – Grant - £350.00	Cheque number 101031
Cuckmere CCB – Grant - £100.00	Cheque number 101032
British Legion – Poppy Appeal - £45.00	Cheque number 101033

33. Questions from Parish Councillors:

Councillor English asked why the bin on the side of the Village Hall has been removed because it was useful to dog walkers. The bin was removed for health and safety reasons because it was full of dog mess and it was at the entrance to the pre-school. It was noted there are two large bins on the other side of the hall that dog users can use.

Councillor Dunbar Dempsey reported the car park at The Lamb is in a bad state but the owner is understood to have had a motorcycle accident in France.

There were no further questions from Parish Councillors and the meeting closed at 8.30pm.