

CHALVINGTON WITH RIPE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF

4th September 2017

held at The Hayton Baker Hall, Ripe.

47. Present:

Cllr Webb (Chairman)	Cllr Brass
Cllr Dunbar Dempsey	Cllr English
Cllr Shonfeld	Cllr Ward
Cllr White	

48. Attending: District Councillor P Ede, A Stevens (Clerk) and five members of the public were also in attendance.

49. Public Session:

District Councillor P Ede said;

- the planning application for The Lamb is now with Wealden District Council. He will be asking officers to call it into Committee but pointed out his request could be denied. The agent is holding an exhibition, which if the Village Hall is free, will be on the 16th September. The exhibition will be an opportunity for residents to see and ask questions about the plans.
- The owners of Kitty Hawk Farm are understood to be submitting a retrospective planning application for the roadworks and have submitted an application for a new dwelling. District Councillor Ede's request to call the latter into Committee was rejected by Officers. Councillors and members of the public expressed their concern because the owner appears to be allowed to violate the planning rules.

District Councillor Ede then left the meeting.

The meeting then opened.

50. Apologies for absence:

County Councillor N Bennett sent his apologies for absence which were duly accepted by those present.

51. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 3rd July 2017 and 25th July 2017 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman.

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

All matters arising were included elsewhere on the agenda.

53. Disclosures of Interest:

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

54. Reports from Outside Meetings:

There were no reports from any outside meetings on this occasion.

55. Planning Applications:

The following planning application was considered;

WD/2017/1785/F - 4 Church Lane Cottages, Church Lane, Ripe, BN8 6AU - Erection of link, garage/store and residential annexe – Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

56. The Lamb:

Councillor Webb confirmed the application for The Lamb has been submitted to the District Council and the agent is hoping to hold an exhibition on 16th September at the Hayton Baker Hall. The exhibition will be a good opportunity for residents to look at the plans and ask any questions. Councillors agreed that they have an obligation to let everyone know about the exhibition and agreed the wording of a poster will read as follows;

Notice of Planning Application

A planning application has been submitted to Wealden District Council for change of use of the Lamb Public House in Ripe to residential use and also the erection of a semi-detached dwellings located in the present car park.

The agent for the owner will have the plans available for inspection in the Hayton Baker Hall in Ripe on Saturday 16th September from 10:00am to 13:00pm

If you would like to see the plans and ask the agent any questions please come along to the hall.

Also the plans are available to be viewed on the Wealden DC Planning Dept web site under the planning number: WD/2017/0466/F

The application will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 2th October at 7:30pm in the Hayton Baker Hall in Ripe.

If any parishioner is interested or would like to make any comments on this application please come along to the meeting or visit Wealden's web site.

Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council

The poster will be placed on the Parish Council's website and noticeboards once the date has been confirmed. Councillors also suggested the applicant might like to approach the Village Shop and advertise the exhibition through its mailshot.

57. Dog Mess:

Councillors noted that dog signs have already been fitted along the path between the two churches, presumably by the owners, but agreed a sign is still needed at the Chalvington end of the path. Councillor White will carry out a site visit, assess what type of sign is needed and report back to the next meeting.

57. Fencing:

Councillors resolved to provide 60m of post and rail fencing at a cost of £520.20 plus VAT. Mrs Jill Phillips will arrange for and provide the labour. Councillor Brass will order the fencing and arrange delivery once Mrs Phillips has a start date.

The meeting was then suspended to allow Ms Kate Fleming from Ripe Nursery to answer questions on the following;

58. Forest School Activities in the Parish:

Ms Fleming said that, along with Ms Michelle Aloof, she would like to start a Forest School for up to ten of the pre-school children using Jill Phillips' field as an outdoor classroom. Ms Aloof is a qualified Forest School Leader and practices at Laughton and Plumpton.

She said activities would be varied and may include lessons with hand tools, green woodwork and crafts, field games, rope work and swing building, shelter building, natural history and ecology. They would lead up to the safe building and lighting of an open fire for cooking simple snacks and hot drinks. Everything would be transported to the site for each session, and cleared away afterwards leaving no trace.

They acknowledge that the field is the responsibility of the Parish Council, and they are therefore asking permission for the Forest School to take place. Risk assessments will be provided along with a digital copy of the Forest School Handbook which explains the principles, objectives and procedures in more detail. £5 million Public Liability Insurance is also in place.

Councillor resolved they have no objections to the School which it understands links in with the National Curriculum.

The meeting was then re-opened.

59. The Conservation Volunteers:

The Conservation Volunteers in Hastings is a community volunteering charity that works to create healthier and happier communities for everyone through environmental conservation and practical volunteering tasks. They provide a range of local volunteering activities, practical projects and family-friendly events throughout the local area, working across both East and West Sussex. They have a range of skills and are able to conduct a variety of work including rebuilding dry-stone walls, managing woodlands, restoring heathlands, hedge-laying and improving public access, to name just a few.

They currently have a few days in which they are looking to undertake more conservation work within the East and West Sussex area. Councillors were encouraged to let local landowners know.

Contact details are available from the Clerk upon request.

60. Cheques for Payment:

The following cheques were approved for payment;

Mass Media Website Maintenance - £546.00	Cheque number 100981
A Stevens – Salary – July	Cheque number 100982
ESCC – Pension	Cheque number 100983
A Stevens – Salary – August	Cheque number 100984
Ripe and Chalvington Hayton Baker Hall Grant (£350.00) and Hall Hire (£143.00)	Cheque number 100985

61. Questions from Parish Councillors:

Councillors asked the Clerk to ask the County Councillor;

1. If ESCC will put formal markings or signs up to show which way is the correct way to drive round the fingerpost outside the village shop because there have been several near misses. Councillors will also consider raising this as part of the planning application for The Lamb.

2. For an update on the traffic safety measures promised for Deanland Road because there has been another accident there.
3. If vertical signs can be fitted at the road crossing in Langtye Lane before there is a fatality.
4. If signs can be fitted at each end of Langtye Lane to say the lane is unsuitable for diverted traffic.

Councillor White also asked that when development takes place in the village, developers can work together to minimise the disruption to residents.

Councillor Dunbar Dempsey said she accepts that when the planning application for the Lamb is discussed at the next Full Council Meeting, she will have to leave the room when discussions and voting takes place because she has a disclosable pecuniary (prejudicial) interest and asked why this is not the case for Councillors English and White who live nearby. The Clerk explained that the difference is that Councillor Dunbar Dempsey lives next door and has already said that it could affect the resale of her property. Councillor White and Councillor English' interest is no different from anyone else in the village in that it will not affect them financially. Councillors White and English confirmed they will not be affected financially. Councillor Dunbar Dempsey can however make a statement before any discussions take place and then leave the meeting or invite someone to attend the meeting and speak on her behalf in the public session.

There were further questions from Parish Councillors and the meeting closed at 8.25pm.