

CHALVINGTON WITH RIPE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF

3rd February 2014

held at The Hayton Baker Hall, Ripe

PRESENT: Cllr Webb (Chairman) Cllr Allcock
 Cllr Dunbar-Dempsey Cllr Shonfeld
 Cllr Ward

ATTENDING: District Councillor S Harms, County Councillor N Bennett and A Hillman (Clerk). There were ten members of the public in attendance as well as Natalie Bumpus and Joanna Tucker from Wealden District Council.

77. PUBLIC SESSION – Wealden District Council needs to identify the Parishes views on local needs on the following issues within the Local Plan;

- i: housing allocations.
- ii: boundary reviews
- iii: Gypsy and Traveller provision
- iv: Review of Conservation Areas

Ten new homes have been allocated for this parish and these will be in addition to current windfall or exception sites.

Sites for these homes will be assessed and a consultation will take place in 2015 to define the boundaries.

Conservation areas will also be reviewed and residents are asked to consider whether they would like Chalvington to be classed as conservation area.

Further details are available from jo.tucker@wealden.gov.uk or natalie.bumpus@wealden.gov.uk. The Clerk will distribute copies of the slide presentation in due course.

The Chairman thanked Ms Bumpus and Ms Tucker for their presentation and they then left the meeting.

District Councillor Harms reported that;

- Wealden District Council will freeze Council Tax for the new Financial Year.
- Keir has donated £110,000 to help compensate for teething problems experienced by residents with the new waste contract. District Councillors will consult their parish and town councils and distribute the money to projects in their wards.

County Councillor Bennett reported that;

- Residents in this parish should receive Superfast Broadband by the end of 2014.
- ESCC needs to make cuts of £78m over the next three years. The Conservatives are proposing to increase its share of the Council Tax by 1.95%. ESCC has not increased its Council Tax in the past four years.

Parish Councillor Ward asked why the rural bus service now starts at 9.30am and not 9.00am. ESCC has stopped the voluntary contribution it makes to the bus company.

County Councillor Bennett left the meeting.

The meeting then opened.

78. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Councillors English and Brass sent their apologies which were duly accepted by those present.

79. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS - The minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 2nd December 2013 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

80. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST: There were no disclosures of interest or changes to the Register of Interest.

81. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – For consideration;

There following applications were considered;

WD2013/2595CAC and 2594F – Church House, Church Lane, Ripe – Replacement detached dwelling – Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds;

- the new building is higher than the original building.
- The original footprint has changed. The new building has been brought forward and will overlook and overshadow neighbouring properties.

WD2013/2014/0006F – Bere Croft House, Deanland Road – Single storey extension to rear elevation – Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council has no objections to this application.

WD2013/2264MEA – Kitty Hawk Farm – Variation of condition – it was noted that the application for a time extension has been granted.

Councillors agreed to support the following comments suggested by Laughton Parish Council which are;

'We request that should planning permission be granted that the developer required to enter in to an agreement with East Sussex County Council to pay for the following:

1. A study to establish if the construction traffic route along Mill Lane and Darp Lane should be provided with permanent passing places as the route is not sufficiently wide to allow two way traffic without the verge being overrun. If the provision of permanent passing places is deemed desirable and of lasting benefit to the community and the environment then the developer should be required to provide these before any construction commences.
2. The restoration to grass and indigenous vegetation the remaining verges along Mill Lane and Darp Lane, using whatever techniques are required to stabilise the soil and that regular checks will be made on the progress of the restoration for a period of twelve months following completion of the project.
3. That the developer will undertake the restoration of the verges to the same standard if any construction traffic, including contractors vans, is seen to use Shortgate Lane, Park Lane or Broomham Lane rather than the agreed construction traffic route'.

Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council added that the developer is also asked to;

1. Reinstate any fingerpost signs damaged by theirs or sub-contractor's vehicles.
2. Strengthen the bridge by Lulham Cottage to cope with the vehicles using the site.

82. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE MEETINGS – Councillor Webb attended a meeting with SUSENCO and representatives from Arlington, Berwick and Selmeston Parish Councils. Work on the Solar Farms is due to start in the second quarter of 2014 and is expected to take eight weeks.

A Community Company will then be set up and a percentage of the shares will be offered for sale to the Community. The developers will need to raise £3m this way and if they do, some of the profit will go back into the community. Should they fail, the shares will be offered further afield and if they still do not sell, a S106 agreement will be raised with the District Council.

Whilst it was noted that there is no guarantee of any money, Councillors and residents agreed to think about how any money they might receive could benefit the parish.

Further meetings have been arranged for 20th February and 27th March.

Councillors Shonfeld and Webb and the Clerk attended Wealden Parish Training. Subjects covered included Solar Farm applications, the latest news on Permitted Development Rights and details of successful enforcement prosecutions.

Wealden District Council explained;

- the Lower Weald in East Sussex is a prime site for solar farms because it has higher than average sunshine levels and enough National Grid capacity. Three solar farm applications have already been passed and it is believed the grid can cope with two more in this area.
- Permitted Development Rights have been relaxed and Parish Councils will no longer be notified about changes to the size of extensions.

83. CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTER'S ARISING – New Standing Orders will be presented to the Parish Councillors at the April meeting for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

84. FINGERPOST SIGNS – Councillors deferred this item to see if money can be used from the Wealden Community Dividend to repair fingerpost signs.

85. VILLAGE PLAN UPDATE – The Consultation Period has now ended and Councillors Webb, English, Dunbar Dempsey and Shonfeld are to meet to update the Plan and incorporate any recommendations made by residents.

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

A Hillman – Wages December	Cheque Number 100857
A Hillman – Wages January	Cheque Number 100858
SALC - £11.10	Cheque Number 100859

87. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS – Councillor Dunbar Dempsey asked if councillors would like to invite PCSO Kelly Levers to the next meeting to find out what she does for the village.

Councillor Dunbar Dempsey also suggested listing village assets for the Community Asset Register at a future meeting.

There being no further questions, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.