



Established 1894

## Angmering Parish Council

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### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ANGMERING PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE KING SUITE OF THE ANGMERING VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 11 JULY 2016

**Present:** Councillors Bill Evans; Susan Francis (Chairman); Lee Hamilton-Street; Nikki Hamilton-Street; Norma Harris; Mike Hill-Smith; Mike Jones; Steven Mountain; John Oldfield; Roger Phelon; Peter Thompson.

**In Attendance:** Rob Martin, Parish Clerk; Paul Barley, Deputy Clerk; District Councillor Andy Cooper; three members of the public.

#### Action

**16/053 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received from Councillor Bicknell (personal business).

Apologies for absence had also been received from County Councillor Deborah Urquhart, District Councillors Andy Cooper and Dudley Wensley, and from PCSO Rebecca Bernier, who was not on shift.

**16/054 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

The Chairman declared a pecuniary interest in agenda items 11 and 12 (minutes 16/063 and 16/064).

**16/055 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2016**

The Chairman noted that Sylvia Verrinder had asked it to be clarified that she had retired, not resigned, from the Parish Council. This was duly noted.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 June 2016 were then **AGREED** as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**16/056 REPORT FROM SUSSEX POLICE**

The Chairman noted that, once again, no report had been received from Sussex Police this month. It was noted that, effective from 4 July 2016, the PCSOs in Arun policing area were working under a new deployment system and it was therefore unlikely, on present information, that any PCSO presence would be possible at future Parish Council meetings.

The Clerk regretted that very little information was coming out from the Police, and that as a result the Parish Council was unable to publicise any particular initiatives being undertaken by the Police. The lack of a Police presence at Parish Council meetings meant that Councillors and the public were not afforded the opportunity to ask questions of the PCSO.

Councillor Mountain noted that the neighbourhood bulletins were being received reasonably regularly.

After discussion it was agreed that an item for police matters should be retained on the agenda.

16/057

**THE CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS, BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA, WHICH WILL INCLUDE SPECIFIC UPDATES ON:**

- a) *Traffic Management Scheme* – the Clerk noted that further consideration had been given to suggesting revisions to the scheme, in time for them to be incorporated by WSCC in the formal consultation process, and that the intention was that a meeting would be held with WSCC highways officers in early course. Details would be published on the Parish Council website.
- b) *Community Centre Car Park* – the work was now largely complete bar the line painting. Councillor Thompson queried whether the soil had been feathered properly for ease of mowing. The Clerk noted that he would have to inspect the site before this could be determined.
- c) *Community Land Trust* – a few matters had been raised by CALA Homes, which had been expected, but the Board remained hopeful that these could be overcome.
- d) *Bewley Road Post Box* – work was due to start on 18 July 2016, now that the Post Office had finally agreed the details and had supplied the metal box.
- e) *Telephone Box* – there had been no further progress on this, but the Parish Council would continue to pursue this.

In addition to the above, the Clerk noted that there were still a number of newsletters requiring to be delivered. Following discussion, it was noted that the volunteer method of delivery remained the most cost-effective, due to the difficulty in identifying distribution agents who were both reliable and inexpensive.

The Clerk also noted that there was an update regarding the Parish Council's investment strategy. The CCLA Property Fund, as with all other investment funds, had been negatively affected by the EU referendum result, which had involved a downward revision to the fund's net asset value to slightly below its July 2015 figure.

This meant that, although dividend yields were being maintained at 4.99%, the £200,000 investment made into the fund would now show a slight shortfall if redeemed. Whilst this was obviously unwelcome news, it was only to be expected as a result of the uncertain economic outlook. The investment in the fund had been intended as longer-term in any case, so no action was proposed at the moment.

16/058

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman referred to her report, circulated prior to the meeting, and reproduced below:

"It certainly has been a historical time from the nation's point of view with the referendum to exit the European Union. As we all hold our breath to see what now happens, and how it will affect us as a nation and more specifically the Parish, we must carry on as usual.

"The initial meeting of Speed Watch has taken place and we are moving forward with enthusiasm. More volunteers are needed and all the volunteers now need to be trained.

"The Library continues to tick over but we really need more volunteers, July and August are proving to be a problem with holidays. So if anyone can spare time to help please let us know, we have fun and it is also an opportunity to have some peace and quiet.

"On 26<sup>th</sup> June I attended the BBQ at St Margaret's Church to welcome the new curate who should be arriving very shortly. It was a lovely time and an opportunity to spend more time talking to some wonderful people. I may also have found a published writer to run out writer's club in the library, watch this space!

"The Cricket Club made me very welcome on 26<sup>th</sup> June. The grant from the Parish Council had been very gratefully received and the pitch had been improved. More players are needed and some supporters would be appreciated.

"The village commemorated the Battle of the Somme on 30<sup>th</sup> June. This was organised by Roger Miles with an explanation of the four from Angmering who fell the night before the start of the battle. A solemn reminder of the tragic loss of life defending our country.

"Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July was the St Peter and St Paul Fair. It all went very well, an excellent job done by all, especially Claire Fullman and Danni Mariner. A big thank you to all the councillors, volunteers, Paul Barley and Rob Martin for their hard work. It was good to see the tug of war teams and Angmering Social Club who won so spectacularly. Well done to both teams and I am sure that The Lamb will want to get their own back next year.

"In the evening I attended the summer concert of Angmering Chorale at Angmering School. A brilliant evening, well sung and great fun. As always I thoroughly recommend their concerts."

*The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public consultation.*

**16/059**

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Mr Gibbs wanted to comment further the proposed Traffic Management Scheme and the A259 route improvement scheme. The roundabout calculations had not been provided by WSCC. His concern was that the roundabouts would be congested as they had not been properly redesigned. The consultation feedback that had eventually been published by WSCC had not addressed any of the questions that had been answered.

Mr Gibbs noted that at the drop-in sessions, it had been useful to hear the views of other members of the public. In his view, average speed cameras were clearly the answer rather than humps. The initial Highways Sub-Committee meeting on 8 June 2016 had been useful and Mr Gibbs felt that the members of the public who had been present at it had received a fair hearing. The suggestion made at the meeting of waiting to ascertain the impact of the A259 scheme before carrying out the Traffic Management Scheme was a sensible one. The Parish Council needed to make sure that the best interests of the village were upheld.

Mr Gibbs was happy to add his name to the list of delivery volunteers.

Mr Birks wished to raise a concern about parking in the north of the village. This was becoming a serious problem. At the junction at Meadowside and Chantryfield Road, there was now regular congestion due to inconsiderate parking, which was becoming particularly bad at weekends. Was there anything that could be done?

The Deputy Clerk noted that the standard advice from Sussex Police was that they should be called in any instance of a vehicle causing an obstruction to the roadway. Repeat offenders should be reported to Operation Crackdown. Obviously this was not an ideal solution, but was the best that was available.

*The meeting reconvened.*

**16/060**

**REPORT FROM THE WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

County Councillor Urquhart had presented her apologies for the meeting.

**16/061**

**REPORTS FROM THE ARUN DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

All three District Councillors had presented apologies for the meeting.

**16/062**

**PALMER ROAD STORAGE FACILITY**

The Chairman referred to the report prepared by the Clerk and circulated prior to the meeting, and noted that Councillors' views were sought on the possibility of working with ASRA to solve storage problems for both organisations.

The Clerk explained that, regrettably, confidence in the existing contractor had now been lost, and that the solution proposed was considered to be the best alternative at present available.

Following brief discussion, matters proceeded to a vote.

On a proposal by Councillor Mountain, seconded by Councillor Jones: That the proposals contained in the Clerk's report be adopted as they stood – unanimously **AGREED**.

**16/063**

**PARISH COUNCIL & TWINNING**

The Chairman referred to the report circulated prior to the meeting.

The Clerk explained that the purpose of the exercise was to formalise the existing arrangements for support of both the twinning arrangements with Ouistreham-Riva-Bella, and the Twinning Association itself. Attempts to work more closely with the Twinning Association and with the Parish Councils counterparts in Ouistreham had been started during Albert Mariner's chairmanship and had been continued by the present Chairman. The Clerk noted that his report had been prepared prior to the EU referendum.

Councillor Thompson asked what the community at large gained from the twinning.

The Chairman noted that the idea was to get more community involvement in the Twinning Association, which had been promoted heavily in Leslie Baker's time. The twinning organisation on the French side was firmly Anglophile and were keen to promote links on this side of the English Channel.

The Clerk noted that there was a significant amount of EU funding available for twinning-related projects, although given the referendum result, it would remain to be seen how much longer this would be available.

Councillor Evans asked whether it would be appropriate for the Twinning Association to provide some of the funding. It was certainly appropriate for the Parish Council to support twinning-related activities, but it should not be expected to underwrite all the Twinning Association's activities.

The Chairman noted that the Ouistreham Twinning Association were in the practice of funding events and visits that they were hosting.

The Clerk noted that the question was essentially whether the Parish Council wanted its incumbent Chairman to represent the Parish in relation to twinning events. If the answer to that was yes, there was a consequent cost involved, as outlined in the report.

The Chairman noted that St Margaret's School was now involved with a school in Ouistreham, and St Wilfrid's School was looking to make similar arrangements.

The Clerk noted that there was a new Headteacher shortly taking office at Angmering School and this provided another opportunity for closer working with the community on twinning matters.

On a proposal by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Oldfield: That the Chairman be the Parish Council's representative for all matters relating to twinning – unanimously **AGREED** with the abstention of the Chairman.

**16/064**

#### **CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE**

*The Chairman withdrew from the meeting while this item was being considered. Control of the meeting passed to the Vice-Chairman for this agenda item.*

The Vice-Chairman noted that there were certain rules regarding Chairmen's allowances which were particular to parish councils generally, and that the Clerk's report gave the necessary detail on what was proposed.

Councillor Mountain asked whether expenditure in respect of items covered by the Chairman's allowance would be itemised in the monthly expenditure analysis. The Clerk confirmed that it would, and that this would enable the limit of the allowance to be adhered to.

Following brief further discussion, the matter proceeded to a vote.

On a proposal by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Hill-Smith: That the Chairman be granted an allowance in accordance with the proposals contained in the report laid before the meeting – **AGREED** by 9 votes in favour. Councillor Nikki Hamilton-Street abstained.

*The Chairman returned to the meeting.*

**16/065**

#### **ST PETER & ST PAUL ANNUAL FAIR 2016**

The Clerk noted that this was an opportunity for Councillors to provide feedback on this event. Pleasingly, the Parish Office had already received enquiries as to what the plans were for the next year's event.

It was noted that there needed to be greater publicity of the event for the following year. The Chairman noted that, following enquiries, it would be possible to display a banner on the Vestry Hall advertising the fair, in the days leading up to it.



Councillor Nikki Hamilton-Street proposed that an informal planning committee ought to be set up to organise the fair for next year, to reduce the organisational burden on the parish office. This was seconded by Councillor Oldfield and was **AGREED** unanimously.

Following discussion it was **AGREED** that the informal committee would consist of Councillors and office staff, as follows:  
Councillors: Francis, Harris, Hill-Smith, and Jones;  
Staff: Claire Fullman and Danni Mariner.

**16/066**

**COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS**

No grant applications had been received since the last meeting. The 2016/2017 budget for Community Grants was £3,000 and grants allocated to date amounted to £421, leaving a balance available of £2,579.

**16/067**

**QUESTIONS ON THE ALREADY CIRCULATED NOTES OF MEETINGS OF PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

- a) The ASRA Joint; Library; and St Nicholas' Working Parties, and
- b) JDAC; JEAAC; ADALC; ASRA; JEAAC H&T; Twinning Association; Angmering Village Hall Committees & Littlehampton Health Services Advisory Group

The Chairman noted that it was appropriate for the Vice-Chairman would to assume responsibility henceforth for attendance at meetings of the Joint Downland Area Committee. This was put to a vote.

On a proposal by Councillor Lee Hamilton-Street, seconded by Councillor Thompson: That the Vice-Chairman be appointed as the Parish Council's representative on the Joint Downland Area Committee – unanimously **AGREED**.

**16/068**

**QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEES HELD SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

An opportunity to ask questions resulting from the already circulated minutes of the meetings of the following committees:-

- a) The Housing, Transport & Planning Committee meeting held on 28 June 2016;
- b) The first meeting of the Communities, Leisure, Environment & held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

In relation to the Housing, Transport and Planning Committee, it was noted that this now had two Sub-Committees – Highways, and Major Developments.

The Highways Sub-Committee had held its first meeting on 8 June 2016, which had been well attended by members of the public.

The Major Developments Sub-Committee had not yet held its first meeting, which would be convened in early course.

In relation to the Communities, Leisure, Environment and Wellbeing Committee, it was noted that members of the Committee were due to meet informally on 13 July 2016 to discuss the Committee's priorities.

It was also noted that the Committee had resolved to set up a Resilience Sub-Committee, the members of which would be Councillors Evans, Lee Hamilton-Street, Harris and Hill-Smith.

**16/069**

**2016/2017 FINANCIAL REPORT**

The reports prepared by the Clerk were noted.

16/070

**TO CONSIDER ANY URGENT MATTERS, FOR INFORMATION ONLY,  
ARISING SINCE THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA**

None.

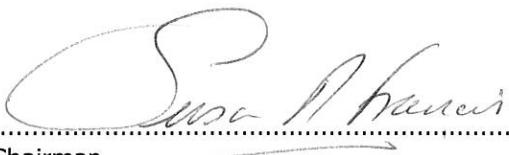
16/071

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled Meeting of the Parish Council was on Monday 8 August 2016, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Clerk noted that he would not be present at this meeting, which would be attended by the Deputy Clerk in his stead.

**The meeting finished at 20:57.**

  
.....  
Chairman

Date..... 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016