



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 12 SEPTEMBER 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. *Paul Bicknell*

In Attendance: Rob Martin, Parish Clerk; Paul Barley, Deputy Clerk; two members of the public.

Action

16/090 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies for absence had been received from County Councillor Deborah Urquhart, and District Councillors Dudley Wensley and Andy Cooper.

16/091 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA
None.

16/092 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8 AUGUST 2016
The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 August 2016 were **AGREED** as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16/093 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR
The Chairman was pleased to note that four applications had been received, although two had subsequently been withdrawn. The Chairman expressed thanks to all those who had taken the time to submit co-option applications, and to the selection panel who had interviewed three of the four applicants.

Councillor Oldfield noted that it had become apparent from the selection panel's discussions with candidates that one candidate in particular had expertise in youth matters and the selection panel had reported to Councillors on its findings prior to the meeting in accordance with that.

On the basis of this, it was proposed that David Marsh be co-opted as a Parish Councillor and on a show of hands this was unanimously **AGREED**.

Councillor Marsh proceeded to sign the Councillor Code of Conduct and took his seat among the Councillors.

16/094 THE CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS, BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA
The Clerk referred to the action list drawn up following the previous month's meeting and noted that this would form the substance of his

report henceforth. Questions and comments were invited.

Councillor Mountain noted, in connection with minute 16/063 from the 11 July Parish Council meeting, that he would be meeting the new Angmering School headteacher in the coming week and would follow up the suggestion made with regard to the school's involvement.

16/095

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

"The Twinning Association celebrated its 40th anniversary last month with a visit from Ouistreham Riva Bella's Mayor and Twinning Association. I had the privilege of being part of this celebration weekend.

"All the shops and the Lamb Pub joined in to welcome the French by hanging out the bunting, the two village flags flew from the flag pole, thank you Roger Miles, the library and community centre had exhibitions for everyone to see, compiled and presented by Gill and Guy Partington, a great deal of hard work had gone into these.

"The weekend was excellent, with a formal meal at Ham Manor Golf Club on Friday where the Parish Council presented a cut glass vase to the Mayor and his wife for their recent marriage and a Red Standard Rose, called Ruby Anniversary, for the civic celebration. The rose will be planted in 'Square Angmering', the area that celebrates the Twinning with Angmering. Angmering Twinning Association presented a special celebration paperweight to all the members from Ouistreham Riva Bella and one to the Parish Council. The Mayor and President of Ouistreham Twinning Association presented a spectacular trophy to the Parish and Twinning Association, that had been specially made showing England and France, Ouistreham and Angmering and two figures symbolising friendship: this was placed in the library for all to see.

"On the Saturday a lunch for everyone was held at Ecclesden Manor, by kind invitation of Mrs Sue Holland, to which were also invited two signatories of the original Oath (now on permanent display in the library) and past officers of the Association. A celebration cake was cut by the oldest and youngest members and a toast drunk with a glass of Cava.

"In the evening there was a boat trip from Itchenor around Chichester harbour, up the Bosham channel and down to Thorney. The sunset gave a perfect setting for the guests, just as if it wanted to impress.

"Finally, on Sunday morning, twinning members and a large number of specially invited guests from all around the parish met on the Green for the Presentation of the planter by the Chairman of Arun District Council on behalf of the Angmering Twinning Association to the Parish. The Twinning Association thanked Angmering Parish Council and JEEAC Community Funding for grants towards the cost of the planter and Lower Trees Nursery for the plants. Back to the village hall for tea and cakes and St Margaret's church bells rang in celebration.

"The French departed exhausted but very happy with old friendships renewed and new friendships made, the associations expanded and cemented for the future.

"Many congratulations to the Twinning Association for all their hard work and for achieving such a successful weekend.

The Chairman noted that since the preparation of her report she had

attended the JEEAC Committee meeting, from which there were various key matters to report.

A284 Lyminster bypass: The funding for this was coming in part from Section 106 monies from nearby new housing developments. These developments had encountered technical difficulties in that the sewerage provision had been found to be inadequate, and as a result no further building would be permitted until this had been resolved with Southern Water.

As a consequence, construction of the southern section of the A284 would now be delayed by at least 12 months, and the commencement of works on the northern section would also be pushed back. The A259 works had been timetabled so as to link with the A284 works but that would now need to be revisited.

A259 route improvement scheme: A presentation had been given on the A259 route improvement scheme, which had focused on the changes made as a result of the consultation – these were such that a revised scheme would be consulted upon early next year, with a view to construction starting in the 2017/18 financial year.

One of the most significant changes was that a left-turn filter lane was now being proposed for the A259/A280 roundabout, to facilitate traffic movements from the westbound A259 into Old Worthing Road. This had previously been ruled out.

Area Committee rationalisation: the three current Area Committees were to be reduced to two, and it was currently believed that the Joint Downland committee would be absorbed into the Eastern and Western Arun committees. A north-south division had been proposed by WSCC but this had been unanimously rejected by those present.

The Chairman noted that County Councillor Urquhart had urged support for the campaign to retain West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service within WSCC, as opposed to control of the Service passing to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex.

The Chairman advised that the Village Hall Trustees Meeting had been postponed to 27 September 2016. Councillor Nikki Hamilton-Street asked that the Chairman please pass on appreciation for the new benches outside the Hall, which looked very good.

The Chairman noted that she and Councillor Harris had attended the Rustington Thanksgiving celebration in the week prior to the meeting.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public consultation.

16/096

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The members of the public present had no questions.

The meeting reconvened.

16/097

REPORT FROM THE WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Urquhart had presented her apologies for the meeting. She had e-mailed the Parish Office to advise of the following:

The Traffic Management Scheme (in whatever form it finally materialised) was now scheduled for the 2017/18 financial year, when developer contributions should have been received, and prior to any work being done on the A259.

As for other WSCC issues, the big two were:

- 1) The A27 consultation response to the Chichester section upgrade. It is currently anticipated that there will be a consultation on Arundel and Worthing sections in the Spring of 2017.
- 2) The 'Safer In Our Hands' campaign to keep the Fire & Rescue Service as an integral part of the County Council and not be transferred to the Police & Crime Commissioner (as noted by the Chairman).

Councillor Lee Hamilton-Street confirmed that a Bill was currently going through Parliament to allow Police and Crime Commissioners to take over fire services.

16/098

REPORTS FROM THE ARUN DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Councillors Wensley and Cooper had presented their apologies for the meeting.

16/099

MATTERS OF CONCERN FOR SUSSEX POLICE

The Chairman noted that it was now apparent that the Parish Council would no longer have a Police presence at monthly meetings. Consideration needed to be given to what the Parish Council wanted to do about this.

The Clerk noted that it might be worth setting up a meeting with the Anti-Social Behaviour team, based in Bognor, and asking questions.

Councillor Nikki Hamilton-Street noted that public safety came under the remit of the CLEW Committee; as regards the Anti-Social Behaviour Team, there was an action point in this regard from the 8 August meeting.

The Chairman noted that Sergeant Chris Pipkin had been present at the last JEAAC meeting and the questions that had been put to him by those attending the meeting had been, put bluntly, a complete waste of his time.

The Clerk noted that a primary area of concern was the number of crimes that were reported but not actioned, being closed down on the initial telephone call to 101, or shortly thereafter.

Councillor Bicknell noted that meetings used to be held between Parish Councils and all the blue-light services. Was it possible to look at re-establishing those?

The Chairman noted that this had previously been a matter for ADALC.

Councillor Jones stated that the Police needed to explain why they were downgrading crimes. Our reports were not even getting on the neighbourhood bulletins. Patrols that were ostensibly being made to the skate park consisted of officer driving to the bottom of Rowan Way, not even getting out of the car, and driving away again. This was not sufficient.

The Clerk noted that the Parish Council needed police support in order access the Police and Crime Commissioner's crime prevention fund. This was a matter for the CLEW Committee to take forward. The Parish Office was more than happy to discuss matter with the Anti-Social Behaviour Team but they had already made it very clear that they were not keen on going to evening meetings.

SNK

Following brief further discussion, on a proposal by Councillor Bicknell, seconded by Councillor Thompson, it was unanimously **AGREED** that Police matters be removed for the time being from the Parish Council's meeting agendas and referred to the CLEW Committee.

Office

16/100

2017/2018 BUDGET & PRECEPT

The Clerk referred to his detailed report, circulated prior to the meeting, and noted that the Parish Council had to provide a precept requirement to ADC by mid-January 2017. A fair amount of work was required on the detail of the numbers, some of which had been done in collaboration with the Governance and Oversight Committee and Councillors Thompson and Lee Hamilton-Street.

The Clerk explained that the suggestion for the Parish Council was that at the October meeting of the Parish Council, a presentation would be given on the current position, with suggestions for future requirements, with a view to getting something more detailed in front of the Governance and Oversight Committee at its next meeting on 2 November. This would give the Parish Council two months after that to put the detailed budget and precept requirements together. The idea was that everyone would be happy by mid-January 2017 that the precept figure proposed was the right one.

Councillor Thompson noted that it might be worth bringing the Governance and Oversight Committee's meeting forward.

The Clerk noted that this could be discussed in due course.

Councillor Bicknell asked what steps would be taken to ensure that the Parish Council would be working on the right tax base figure.

The Clerk noted that the new tax base figure would be known in November 2016. The slight complication was that there would obviously be new occupations of newly-completed houses between November 2016 and the end of March 2017, but that there was no mechanism for adjustment of the tax base to take account of this.

Following brief further discussion it was unanimously **AGREED** that the matter be referred to the Governance and Oversight Committee for further consideration.

Office/GOC

16/101

2015/2016 CLOSURE OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk noted that the rules had been changed retrospectively so that investments for 12 months were now shown as long-term rather than short-term. It was noted that this ran entirely contrary to established accounting principles, but that fact appeared not to have troubled HM Government.

The position was noted.

16/102

PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT

Councillor Phelon, as Chairman of the Communities, Leisure, Environment and Well-Being (CLEW) Committee explained that the Committee had considered a quotation for work said to be required on the play equipment in the Parish Council play areas.

The quotation had come from Vita Play, following the annual inspection by a separate company, and amounted to more than £50,000. The CLEW Committee had taken the view that there were only some items on the list that needed to be carried out now, which incorporated all identified health

and safety issues, the replacement of broken nets on the Russet Play Area and rot damage to swings on the Braeburn site.

In the Vita Play quotation these items amounted to around £5,000, but the general belief was that these quotations were higher than needed. Councillor Thompson had carried out a separate exercise for a report to the Governance and Oversight Committee on the financing of such work, and had independently reached a similar conclusion about the items that need attention now.

The proposal was to look to replace the large items detailed in the report already circulated to Councillors, but to undertake this work only after further quotations had been obtained, and having ensured that the other smaller matters were dealt with either by contract or by other local means.

The Clerk noted that in order to achieve this, authority was sought to use up to £5,000 of the maintenance reserve to do the larger items, with the normal ongoing budget being used for the cost of the minor items.

The Deputy Clerk noted that comments were now being received from members of the public about the state of repair of certain items of equipment.

On a proposal by Councillor Phelon, seconded by Councillor Thompson: That the CLEW Committee be given powers to expend up to £5,000 on repairs to play equipment – unanimously **AGREED**.

16/103

COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Chairman noted that there were two matters requiring consideration:

- a) A grant application received from Arun Co-ordinated Community Transport in the sum of £600;
- b) A letter from Mrs Booker, formerly the Chairman of the Angmering Royal British Legion Women's Group asking about the future arrangements for providing flowers on the War Memorial.

The 2016/2017 budget for Community Grants is £3,000 and grants allocated to date amount to £421, which would leave a balance available of £1,979 if the application above is accepted in full.

Concerning grant application, Councillor Nikki Hamilton-Street queried the passenger numbers provided – it appeared that these had dropped quite significantly in the past 12 months.

Councillor Phelon noted that this was down to more sophisticated (and hence more accurate) methods of calculation.

Councillor Bicknell noted that he was happy to award a grant but the amount requested needed to be clarified – the supporting paperwork indicated that the amount sought was £500, rather than £600.

Councillor Mountain noted that the passenger numbers should henceforth record total journeys.

On a proposal by Councillor Mountain, seconded by Councillor Bicknell: That a grant be awarded to Arun Co-ordinated Community Transport in the sum of £500 – **AGREED** by 12 votes in favour, with the abstention of Councillor Nikki Hamilton-Street.

With regard to the war memorial flowers, the Chairman explained the

background to the current positions, which was that the Parish Council had, some number of years previously, asked the Royal British Legion women's section to arrange for flowers to be displayed on the war memorial, and an allowance of £300 per annum had been made, paid retrospectively. However, the Legion's women's sections were being disbanded nationwide. The Parish Council needed now to agree on how this matter was to be taken forward.

Councillor Mountain noted that there was a need to ensure that the Parish Council followed the correct procedure. Whatever successor body it was that might take over from the Legion might well need to fill out a grant application.

Councillor Bicknell noted that, historically, the Legion had been funding the flowers themselves but could no longer afford to do so, which was why the Parish Council had become involved. It had been established that the value received was considerably greater than the outlay, when compared with the cost of approaching a florist.

On a proposal by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Harris: That funds be allowed in the sum of £300 for maintenance of flowers on the war memorial, in accordance with the request from Mrs Booker – unanimously **AGREED.**

It was noted that the budget for Community Grants would need to be adjusted for the following year in order to take account of this decision.

16/104

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

ADALC: the Chairman noted that the Association was due to meet this coming week, as per documentation circulated by the Parish Office.

Councillor Bicknell expressed dissatisfaction with the typeface used for the documents, and noted that this did not accord with generally accepted standards for legibility.

ASRA: Councillor Phelon's report was noted.

JEAAC Highways & Transport: Councillor Mountain noted the following:

- 1) County Councillor James Walsh was apparently most unhappy about the linkage of the A284 and A259 projects – this had not been agreed by County Councillors. It has been agreed that the A259 route improvement scheme was by far the greater priority.
- 2) Concerning the proposed Traffic Management Scheme, Ben Whiffin had promised to chase up the amendments discussed and agreed at the Highways Sub-Committee's meeting on 11 August 2016.
- 3) Windmill Bridge junction – the additional signage installed to dissuade motorists for making illegal right turns onto the eastbound A259 from the left-hand lane had been noted as being wholly inadequate and was to be revisited.

SWF

4) Pedestrian crossing lights at South Drive – these had been requested to be looked at following a series of near misses. Work had been done to reposition the lights controlling the right turn lane into Sainsbury's and the retail park. The lights had also been linked so that the crossing would not go green for pedestrians if the turn lane lights were green. The traffic light engineers had acted quickly on this, which was good.

Councillor Bicknell noted that consideration ought to be given to installing spiral markings at the Windmill Bridge roundabout.

Councillor Evans noted that similar considerations applied at the Station Road roundabout.

Councillor Mountain noted that the working group had asked for a yellow hatched box at the bottom of Station Road, in place of the widely-ignored "keep clear" markings. This was due to be put in place soon and did not require a TRO.

Councillor Bicknell asked if there was any further progress on completing the double-yellow lines in Station Road double yellows.

Councillor Mountain noted that there was, for some reason, a county-wide moratorium on these at the moment. Apparently a plan was to be drawn up to cover all requests and suggestions for these across the county. Nothing would be done in the meantime.

Health Services Advisory Group – it was noted that this was next due to meet on 24 September. There was to be an agenda item to ask how the money from developers was to be spent.

Councillor Mountain noted that the list at Angmering Medical Centre was now closed as it was full. There were not enough doctors in the practice. This itself followed the closure of the Arun Medical Group's surgeries in East Preston and Littlehampton.

Councillor Oldfield noted that there was at least £1m available from developments all round the District. Some of this money could have been used to recruit, but had not been.

16/105

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 meetings held on 9 and 30 August 2016;
- b) The meeting of the Communities, Leisure, Environment & Well-Being Committee held on 31 August 2016.

Councillor Phelon repeated his earlier request for volunteers to look at for the Palmer Road sports hub scheme that had been suggested by Arun District Council. A meeting to discuss this had provisionally been scheduled for 13 October at 19:30, with the venue most likely to be Angmering Library. Councillors Lee Hamilton-Street and Thompson expressed an interest in this.

Councillor Bicknell asked whether there was any update on the recent vandalism suffered at Mayflower Park and the Recreation Ground. The Clerk noted that a group of individuals from Worthing were believed to be responsible; their identities were known, but the Police were not prepared to take any further action. It was apparent that the two locations had been targeted deliberately.

16/106 2016/2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

There were no questions.

**16/107 TO CONSIDER ANY URGENT MATTERS, FOR INFORMATION ONLY,
ARISING SINCE THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA**

None.

16/108 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled Meeting of the Parish Council was on Monday 10 October 2016, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting finished at 21:06.


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Chairman

Date 10th October 2016
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