



Established 1894

Angmering Parish Council

The Corner House
The Square
Angmering
West Sussex BN16 4EA

Telephone/Answerphone: 01903 772124
E-mail: admin@angmering-pc.gov.uk
Website: www.angmeringparishcouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ANGMERING PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE KING SUITE OF THE ANGMERING VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 16 JULY 2018

Present: Councillors John Oldfield (Chairman); Rhys Evans; Lee Hamilton-Street; Mike Hill-Smith; Norma Harris; Steven Mountain

In Attendance: Rob Martin, Parish Clerk; David Hussey, Assistant Clerk; District Councillor Andy Cooper; four members of the public

Action

18/037 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Roger Phelon, David Marsh, Nikki Hamilton-Smith, Paul Bicknell, District Councillor Dudley Wensley and County Councillor Deborah Urquhart.

18/038 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS
No declarations were made.

18/039 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2018
The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11 June 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

18/040 THE CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS, BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA
The Clerk said that attendance at a recent training day for councillors had been disappointing (only two councillors attended). The Clerk explained that refunds would not be made for the places which had been booked for councillors who did not attend. He suggested that the matter should be taken up by the Governance and Oversight Committee to look at how the issue of councillor training might be better dealt with in future.

Councillor Evans said that the trainer was excellent, and suggested that perhaps there might be better attendance if the trainer could be brought to a venue in Angmering in the future.

WS

18/041

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that he had been pleased to represent the Parish Council at the Littlehampton Armed Forces Day on 30 June. He said this was a magnificent and enjoyable day.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public consultation.

18/042

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Pippin Open Space

A member of the public tabled two papers which summarised his concerns about the removal of a gazebo, anti-social behaviour, and the consumption of illicit drugs in the area.

The member of the public felt that the Community, Leisure, Environment and Wellbeing (CLEW) Committee did not have the authority to make the decision it had to remove the gazebo. He felt it should have made merely a recommendation which should have been put before a full Parish Council meeting for a decision. He felt it was a decision of significance. He said that the terms of reference for the CLEW Committee did not include an authority to act on recommendations.

The member of the public said that the gazebo had been built at the same time as the housing development, and was provided for the benefit of residents; so the Parish Council should have put the matter to public consultation. He noted that residents were given only a twelve hour notice period that the gazebo was to be removed.

The Chairman stated that if the Parish Council did not disagree with the CLEW Committee recommendation (which was the case regarding removal of the gazebo) it would be enacted. The Clerk reinforced this view and said that the Council did not wish to waste time waiting for the next Parish Council meeting to discuss issues which had already been discussed and agreed at committee level. This would be inefficient.

The Clerk stated that the Parish Council had been finding illicit drug taking paraphernalia at the site of the gazebo over a period of approximately two years prior to the removal. It had sought advice from the police and the anti-social behaviour team at Arun District Council regarding the best course of action. Both organisations had been unanimous in their support for the suggestion of the Parish Council that the gazebo be removed.

The police were the first to raise the problem at the site of the gazebo, stating that there was a health and safety risk for children playing at the site. The member of the public disagreed with this reasoning and felt that the decision to remove it had been taken on the basis of nothing at all.

The Clerk said that the Parish Council had a duty of care to the children playing in the nearby play area and the Clerk had a delegated responsibility to act. The member of the public stated that removing the gazebo had



merely moved the anti-social behaviour and illicit drug consuming problem from the gazebo site to the play area.

The member of the public said he did not wish to argue about the issues and reasons for the decision; merely the appropriateness of the decision and, as he saw it, the lack of authority of the CLEW Committee to take it.

The Chairman said that neither he nor any other member of the Parish Council were in any doubt about the correctness of the decision. The member of the public requested that the item be included on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting and discussed in retrospect. The Clerk stated that he would not do this, but instead undertook to provide a written response to the member of the public who had tabled the two papers.

Clerk

The member of the public said his second point was that the effect of removing the gazebo had been to move the anti-social behaviour to the play area. He felt that youngsters from outside the area were travelling in to buy and consume illicit drugs. He said that he and a small group of neighbours were regularly picking up drug detritus and chasing anti-social people out of the play area. He said that he and his neighbours were the only people trying to do something about the problem. He said it saddened him to see that Angmering appeared to have developed a serious problem with illicit drug dealing and consumption. Councillor Evans requested that residents be careful when tackling these individuals, due to recent knife crime in the area.

Another member of the public stated that he had witnessed drug dealing at the site. He felt that improved signage at the site of the play area may help. A third member of the public felt that the cost of removing the gazebo had been high compared to the time taken to do it (ninety minutes).

Councillor Hamilton-Street asked if the behaviour had been reported to the police and / or the anti-social behaviour team. The first member of the public to speak said that he had not done this. Councillor Hamilton-Street stated that all incidents must be reported if any progress is to be made. The Clerk concurred with this and said that Angmering residents were known for not reporting crime when they should. There was currently nothing on police records to suggest that Angmering had a problem with illicit drug taking, so if there is one, residents must report it.

Councillor Hamilton-Street said that the more reports received by police, the bigger the crime 'hot spot' will become and the more likely it will be that the police will visit the location. The member of the public said he had collected a bag of detritus which he had been assured would be collected by police. They had not done so. District Councillor Cooper offered to take the bag to the anti-social behaviour team at Arun District Council.

The first member of the public to speak requested that the Parish Council work up a strategy to tackle the illicit drug taking problem in Angmering. The Clerk mentioned that a Public Spaces Protection Order might be suitable for the site.

District Councillor Cooper reinforced the request for residents to report every incident. He said he would highlight the issue at the next meeting of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee. All were welcome to attend including the police.

District Councillor Cooper said that if police were in the area at the time of any report from a member of the public they were obligated under 'direct patrol action' to attend the scene.

Other Issues

The fourth member of the public stated that he was attending to hear about other items on the agenda including the proposed new school, Local Plan, and Neighbourhood Plan. He asked if the latter would cover the entire parish. The Clerk said that was the intention.

The meeting reconvened.

18/043

REPORT FROM THE WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Urquhart was not present to give an update.

18/044

REPORT FROM THE ARUN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Councillor Cooper gave an update:

The Arun District Local Plan would be adopted by full council on 18 July. This will mean that our district will have more power to ensure it gets a stronger say in how developments progress and that we get the vital infrastructure required. Having the five year land supply will be a key part of that. The Plan is available on the Arun website (www.arun.gov.uk).

The Clerk asked District Councillor Cooper for confirmation of the final part of the process for adopting the Local Plan. District Councillor Cooper explained that following adoption there would be one final inspection of the plan by the Planning Inspector. He said that Neighbourhood Plans would automatically gain more authority after the Local Plan had been adopted.

District Councillor Cooper attended the topping out of the new Arun leisure facility in Littlehampton. This is going to be an excellent sports complex for our area. A gym will cater for all, large and small swimming pools, and sauna, which the public requested, and many other multi-use areas.

There is also the local election next May 2019. Further information and details of how to register to vote can be found on the Arun website (www.arun.gov.uk).

District Councillor Cooper congratulated Angmering Parish Council on the presentation for the vision of the Chandlers site and the public consultation moving forward, it is a unique opportunity for the village and residents to control and shape the heart of the village for future generations, it is a progressive, and not always easy, path, so well done to all involved.

Councillor Hill-Smith thanked District Councillor Cooper for his support with the Chandlers site redevelopment. The Clerk said that out of the first sixty completed questionnaires received, 73% were in favour of the scheme.

District Councillor Cooper asked to be copied in to any objections the Parish Council made to planning applications.

**Assistant
Clerk**

Councillor Mountain raised concerns about the recently damaged beech trees (which have Tree Protection Orders on them) at the site of the new

W

Audi garage. He said that many local residents were angry about this needless damage having been caused. District Councillor Cooper stated that all District Councillors, including himself, were monitoring the situation very closely.

18/045

HONEY LANE

The Clerk said that the Parish Council were continuing to pursue the concept of purchasing Honey Lane and the allotments. The Clerk was awaiting a reply, to recent correspondence, from the District Valuer.

18/046

CHANDLER'S SITE DEVELOPMENT

The Clerk said that, to date, sixty completed questionnaires had been received, with 73% of responders in favour of the proposal. Only five people were clearly against the development.

73% were in favour of a food retail store and 67% in favour of a community hub. The additional housing was supported by 68% and the business centre by 58%. The least favoured aspect of the development was the garden; with only 48% in favour. Only three respondents did not want car parking and 80% were in favour of public toilets.

The Parish Council have also received questionnaire results from local children, which are summarised below. The children requested more fast food outlets, a sweet shop, and a swimming pool:

The Clerk said that all comments would be taken on board. He would speak to Landspeed regarding the possibility of moving the Business Centre forward and increasing the size of it slightly.

Councillor Mountain asked for a summary of the delivery timetable for the project. The transfer of land from BMW to Landspeed (and then on to the Parish Council) needed to take place. The Clerk anticipated a formal agreement with Landspeed would be in place by autumn. Planning permission could then be requested.

18/047

ANGMERING COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

The Clerk reported that Tony Cross had been appointed Chairman, and Robin McDonald the Treasurer. A clear break from the Parish Council should now be established.

Clerk

Councillor Mountain stated that there were now only two councillors on the Community Land Trust. He requested that Parish Council email addresses be replaced with private email addresses in order to reinforce the break with Parish Council work.

The Clerk mentioned that the Community Housing Fund money had been received.

18/048

STAFFING GROUP

Office Manager

Councillor Hamilton-Street mentioned that three candidates had been interviewed for the Office Manager position. One candidate had been selected and had accepted the offer. A start date of 20 August had been agreed.

Parish Clerk

Three candidates had been short-listed and would attend an interview process on 24 and 25 July. Councillor Evans said that should an appropriate candidate be identified, it was anticipated they would start in post within a maximum of two months. Councillor Hamilton-Street thanked in advance those involved in the interviewing process. Councillor Oldfield requested name plates for the interviews.

**Assistant
Clerk**

The Clerk said that he would hand over a paper to the staffing group.

Clerk

18/049

INSPECTOR'S REPORT – ADC LOCAL PLAN

The process for full adoption of Arun District Council's Local Plan was explained (and minuted at 18/044 above) by District Councillor Andy Cooper in his regular update earlier in the meeting. The Clerk said that the importance of getting the Local Plan fully adopted was of utmost importance.

18/050

ANGMERING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REWRITE

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council would consider what issues remained live and valid from the earlier iteration, and build in information from the Development Plan Document for small sites. The new document must hold weight and be more specific than the previous version.

Councillor Mountain suggested setting up a working group to take the work forward. The Clerk agreed that this needed to be set up as soon as possible.

Clerk

Councillor Hamilton-Street mentioned that applicants for the Parish Clerk vacancy would give twenty minute presentations on how they would tackle drafting the new Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk would make a list of interested parties who may assist with guiding the Plan.

Clerk

18/051

NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL – POSITION REPORT

The Clerk advised that meetings were taking place with Rydon Homes and the Advisory Group. Serious concerns had been raised with West Sussex County Council, who appeared to have reneged on a deal to provide land. This was being vigorously pursued at the appropriate level.

18/052

COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS

No applications had been received since the last meeting.



18/053 QUESTIONS ON THE ALREADY CIRCULATED NOTES OF MEETINGS OF PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Nothing was discussed under this agenda item.

18/054 QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEES HELD SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Councillor Mountain felt that the Parish Council's Governance and Oversight Committee ought to review the way the Parish Council recorded and how widely it circulated minutes. He felt improvements could be made. He wondered if all councillors ought to be copied in to all committee minutes in future, regardless of whether or not they were members of that committee.

The Clerk felt that the full introduction of SharePoint would help with this. Consideration would be given to reverting to inviting a police representative to appropriate meetings.

18/055 2017/2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk had produced and circulated two different versions for comparison. The Clerk requested views on which was the easier to understand.

All

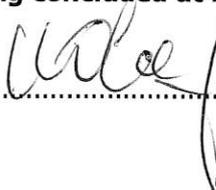
18/056 TO CONSIDER ANY URGENT MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA

No matters were discussed under this agenda item.

18/057 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on 13 August 2018.

The meeting concluded at 21:30.

Chairman.......... Date.....13/8/18.....