



Mrs J.Toomey, Clerk to East Chiltington Parish Council
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EAST CHILTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
 held on **9th November 2017 at 7.00 pm in Beechwood Hall, Cooksbridge.**

Present: Cllr. E.Harrison - Chair **Apologies:** none
 Cllr.C.Funnell - Vice chair
 Cllr.J.Tingle Cllr.J.Smith
 Cllr.R. Nurse Cllr.M.Symes
 Cllr.C.Farmelo

In attendance: Mrs J.Toomey - Clerk to the Council. Sarah Osborne LDC Cllr.

| | | Action |
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| 11/17/01 | Apologies for absence -None | |
| 11/17/02 | <p>Any questions from the public A resident asked the parish council to contact ESCC to ask for devolution of verge maintenance. She felt the verges were not properly maintained and understood that £3k was available from ESCC to cover costs for the first year. She was prepared to organise the cutting. Another resident said that ESCC had a duty to maintain the verges but had no funds. Cllr.Osborne gave a district report and a county report as Cllr.Sheppard was not in attendance. Cllr.Tingle had received an enquiry from a resident who wanted the application at Gradwell to be called in. As this is not in Cllr.Osborne's ward she has no powers to do that but advised that Sharon Davy (Chailey) could do that. Cllr.Tingle asked about 2 applications for housing in Plumpton for 19 & 45 houses. How would this impact on East Chiltington? S.O. Said the 19 may be considered as the site is within the Plumpton Neighbourhood Plan but the 45 houses were unlikely to get permission. Both will go to committee. Cllr.Osborne said she has asked ESCC to ask government to insist that commercial vehicles, lorries etc. must use commercial sat.nav.systems to prevent heavy traffic on rural lanes.</p> | |
| 11/17/03 | <p>Declaration of interest on any of the agenda items and update of interests. None</p> | |
| 11/17/04 | Minutes of the meeting held on 7th September were agreed and signed as a true record. | |
| 11/17/05 | <p>Matters arising from last meeting min.no. 17/09/02 There was no update on telegraph poles in ChiltingtonLane min.no.17/09/14 Chair had contacted the Post Office to enquire about getting postcodes for East Chiltington residents in the North of the parish changed from a Chailey code (BN8) but was told it would not be possible to make these changes. min.no 17/09/15 Council considered a pre-winter litter pick but agreed that one each year in March was enough.</p> | |
| 11.17.6 | <p>Financial matters Council approved payment of the following invoices:</p> | |
| 11.17.6.1 | <p>Cheque No: 960 £584.10 Dell. Council laptop (includes vat) *Cheque No: 961 £75.00 LDC. Hollycroft rent Cheque No: 962 £523.05 Clerk salary/expenses Sept. inc. CofT funds *Cheque No: 963 £20.00 Royal British Legion – poppy wreath *Cheque No: 964 £20.00 Clerk salary/expenses Oct. inc. CofT funds *Cheque No: 965 £36.00 CPRE annual subscription</p> | |
| 11.17.6.2 | Council noted the current financial situation. | |
| 11.17.6.3 | Council discussed the precept required to operate the council for 2018/2019 and any likely upcoming expenditure. It was agreed that there would be no increase for this year. | |
| 11.17.6.4 | Council considered any grant applications that had been received for the year ending 31.3.2018 and agreed to grant £100 to the Sussex Air Ambulance and £100 to the Lewes | |

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| 11.17.6.5 | Citizens Advice service. Cllr.Nurse said there was no advantage to changing the bank arrangements at present. | |
| 11.17.7 11.17.7.1 | Planning Matters: LW/17/0765 & LW/17/0766 Upper Burrells, Chiltington Lane - Demolition of existing greenhouse and the construction of a new greenhouse – <i>The PC had no objection</i> | Cllr.Symes/ clerk |
| 11.17.7.2 | SDNP/17/05004 Birchington Farm, Novington Lane -Change of use and conversion of commercial buildings to single residential unit and demolition of redundant agricultural buildings – <i>the meeting was adjourned to hear from the applicant and his agent. Council had carried out a site visit and understood LDC officers had given advice. Council were shown the plans and advised that the proposed buildings took account of buildings already on site and attempted to be agricultural in design. Questions were asked and answered, concerning levels of exterior lighting and reflections of glass from national park and any overlooking of neighbours. Meeting reconvened and council discussed the application. The design was felt to be very good and sympathetic to the site and the application will be supported.</i> | |
| 11.17.7.2 | LW/17/0886 Kemps House, Chiltington Lane - Conversion of existing games room and studio to residential annex - <i>The PC had no objection</i> | |
| 11.17.7.3 | Council noted decisions by LDC: SDNP/17/03957/FUL Land at Wootton Farm, Novington Lane BN7 3AU - Part change of use and alterations to equestrian livery building to create a 1bed dwelling unit for manager of livery (together with removal of mobile home) - <i>granted</i> SDNP/17/04149/HOUS Novington Oak Novington Lane BN7 3AU - Proposed conversion of existing machinery store, store and garages to granny annex – <i>approved</i> | |
| 11.17.7.4 | Cllr.Symes advised that she had contacted LDC regarding the walls of Little Clears Barn being removed as these did form part of the planning consent. This is ongoing. | |
| 11.17.8 11.17.8.1 11.17.8.2 | To receive any reports: There was no report from the Chair TECT: Cllr. Farmelo said the apple pressing and Harvest supper on October 14 th was very successful. There was a meeting in the Jolly Sportsman to discuss the TECT proposal for a wildlife pond. The majority of those attending felt any pond should be sited nearest the railway in an already wet area of the field. | Clerk |
| 11.17.8.3 | Finance and staffing – Cllr.Farmelo had no report | |
| 11.17.8.4 | Communications/magazine/website: Cllr.Farmelo will report for the next P&EC News. | |
| 11.17.8.5 | Environment: Councillors had been contacted by residents concerned by the outside lighting at Wootton Farm stables. The Parish Council agreed to contact the landowner in the first instance to see if the lighting might be angled downwards or perhaps be put on a timer. There has also been concern raised about cars going too fast in Chapel Lane and around Hollycroft endangering children playing outside. The clerk will enquire about any possible signage available. | |
| 11.17.8.6 | Community events/facilities: The remembrance service takes place at EC.Church on November 12 th . No other events planned. | |
| 11.17.8.7 | Community Care: Cllr.Funnell had nothing to report. | |
| 11.17.8.8 | Highways: Cllr.Tingle said the 30mph signs on Honeypot Lane were still hidden by growth despite ESCC agreeing to clear the signs. However, a new 30mph sign has gone up on the other side of the road and this is an improvement. | |
| 11.17.8.9 | Verges: --- see correspondence | |
| 11.17.9 | Any reports from meetings attended by councillors or the clerk Cllrs.Symes and Tingle attended the SDNPA, East Sussex Parishes workshop, Lewes10.10.17 they were informed that the number of houses to be allowed within the park had been severely cut because the landscape of the park had to take priority. They felt this might put pressure on areas outside of the park. They also attended the CPRE Introduction to planning. Meeting at Haywards Heath.16.9.17 and felt this was very worthwhile. Cllr Tingle went to the S.Water workshop 20.10.17. She said S.Water will provide a free home visit to anyone wanting to save water in the home. She had a couple of posters. | |
| 11.17.10 | Council noted all correspondence received since last meeting. Council discussed another letter from a resident hoping that the parish council would take | |

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| | over responsibility for maintaining the verges from ESCC. Council was concerned that this would become uneconomic after the initial year and asked the clerk to get all the facts. | Clerk |
| 11/17/11 | Update on the Village green application / SDNP Local green spaces/ LLCA The ESCC panel will meet on November 15th to discuss the village green application. The agenda for the meeting suggests the committee should grant the application. The field is now designated a green space by SDNPA. The LLCA has lost momentum and will no longer be an agenda item. | |
| 11/17/12 | Fly Tipping – Cllr.Nurse had contacted LDC regarding fly tipping in the parish and was impressed with how quickly they responded and removed the rubbish. He will provide the contact details for inclusion in the next parish news. | Cllr.Nurse |
| 11/17/13 | To consider benefits of a defibrillator for East Chiltington Cllr.Funnell will speak to the owner of the Jolly Sportsman to ask about installing one. The parish council agreed that they would take on the maintenance costs and thanked Cllr.Funnell for her work on this topic. | |
| 11/17/14 | Update on boundary sign in Honeypot Lane ESCC have erected a new boundary sign for East Chiltington in Mill Lane Chailey. This was not requested by ECPC. The sign is actually in a position that ECPC rejected since it is not on the actual boundary but nonetheless they were pleased to see a sign erected at no cost to the parish. | |
| 11/17/16 | Items for noting or inclusion on a future agenda None | |
| 11/17/17 | The next meetings of the PC will be : Jan.4th, March 1st 2018 | |

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

JT 13/11/2017

Signed.....(Chairman) Dated.....

Glossary:

LDC – Lewes District Council
SDNPA - South Downs National Park Authority
ESCC - East Sussex County Council
SSALC – Surrey and Sussex Association of Local Councils
TECT – The East Chiltington Trust
LDALC – Lewes District Association of Local Councils
CPRE – Campaign for the Protection of Rural England
RPA – Rural payments agency
AIRS – Action in Rural Sussex
ECAG – The East Chiltington Action Group

County council Report from Cllr.Osborne

Sadly we are facing a grim future

The paper for Cabinet on 10th October, published by the Chief Executive (Becky Shaw), envisages further cuts (“savings”) during 2018/19 of £21.9 mn, then of £36.2 mn over the two years 2019/2020 and 2020/21. This amounts to an average of £19.4 mn additional cuts in each of three years, or just over 5% per year on the revenue budget for 2017/18 (that’s the budget excluding capital, and excluding direct education expenditure transferred from central government).

Two quotes from the Chief Executive’s report sum up the challenges.

(Paragraph 7.2): "The reductions being put forward for 2018/19 and beyond will increase the longer-term demand and costs facing the East Sussex public sector. They are, therefore, not those Chief

Officers would choose to make if resources were no object, but those likely to be least damaging to those we serve from remaining services. They seek to make the best use of the available resources to meet the evidenced needs of the residents of East Sussex.”

(Paragraph 8.2): "If there are no new resources from Government, by 2021/22 the Council will be left with a minimum service offer. It will provide safeguarding for all ages, will still meet critical and substantial need in ASC and will deal with the highest level of need and risk cases in Children’s Services. We will continue to use our influence to assist with the economic development of the county, but will not be able to invest directly in the way we have in the past. We will be able to carry out maintenance on our roads so that they are safe for users. Central services will be reduced to a democratic core with minimum support for departments and more self-service. We will not be able to fund early intervention or prevention services in Adult and Children’s Social Care or support to schools to improve attainment. We will have to move away from assets management in highways towards more reactive maintenance, leading to long-term deterioration of condition.

The Chief Executive also points out that any lifting of the 1% cap on public sector pay is not funded from central government, and that the future of health and social care funding from central government is uncertain. In repeating that central government plans for the Councils to be self-sufficient from Council Tax and Business Rates by 2010/21 - that is, no further government grant - she queries whether property taxes provide a suitable long-term base for funding local government.

Given this terrible situation at the Full Council meeting I spoke out and voted against the proposed pay increases for the Leader of the Council (approx. 37%) and increases of allowances to all councillors of just under 9%. I said I could not take a pay rise whilst desperately needed services are being cut. As the proposals were passed I will be giving the rise I will receive to Charity,

I also spoke up for a petition that was presented at Full Council on the A259. They were calling for;

1. A new and joint traffic evaluation studies on the A259 South Coast Road between Newhaven and Brighton Marina.
2. The councils to carry out an economic impact study of the detrimental effects caused by traffic congestion on the A259 from Newhaven to the Brighton Marina, (particularly at peak times) on the local economy for this area as well as looking at air quality and the quality of life for residents in this whole area.
3. And once the results of these studies have been reviewed we call upon the councils to clearly identify what new physical road infrastructure improvements will be required to meet any identified capacity shortfall, along with a schedule of works for when those improvements will need to be implemented before any further development takes place.

I am going to submit the following motion to the next full council meeting which I hope will be of help to the residents and would welcome any comments.

Draft Motion -Keeping HGVs off unsuitable roads

Council notes:

-The damage done to many smaller roads, especially villages and rural areas, by HGV lorries using roads that are too small for them and the work done by the Local Government Association to highlight this problem

-Lorry satnavs are like normal car satnavs, but they include bridge heights, narrow roads, and roads unsuitable for trucks. In addition, they allow the driver to enter the lorry’s dimensions - height, width, weight and load – so they are only guided along suitable roads.

-That Councils outside London and Wales are currently prevented from taking enforcement action for the minority of lorry drivers who flout weight and width restrictions, as the Government have failed to bring Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 into force for Councils in the rest of England.

-That recent incidents in our area (I will include local examples]

Council calls for:

-The Government to bring Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 into force for English councils with immediate effect so enforcement action can be taken against lorries who use unsuitable roads

-The Government to legislate so all HGVs and large vehicles install suitable sat-navs designed for lorries

-The Chief Executive to write to our local MP[s] and the Secretary of State for Transport to bring Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act into force and to support mandatory use of suitable satnavs for HGVs and other large vehicles.