

## PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH MARCH 2014 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr K Lintill (Chairman) Cllr D Burden, Cllr R Chandler,  
Cllr A Copus, Cllr J Fynes, Cllr C Goldthorp,  
Cllr E Hodgkins, Cllr C Kemp, Cllr R Pawsey  
Cllr A Simmons, Cllr A Sneller and Cllr B Walsh.

Cllr E Lintill (District Councillor).  
Cllr J Duncton (County and District Councillor).

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

1. Apologies were received from Cllr N Fox and Cllr J Robbins.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Vacancy: Due to promotion which involves more time in Germany Cllr Shepherd has resigned from the Council. The notice of the vacancy has been posted on the board. If no one contacts the District Council by 9th April the Council can co-opt.

Flag in Rosemary Gardens: The flag in Rosemary Gardens is a disgrace and need to be taken down as soon as possible. Cllr Sneller and Cllr Kemp said they will do so but it will mean taking the flag pole down. This was agreed.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 20th February, having been circulated, it was proposed by Cllr Sneller, seconded by Cllr Hodgkins, that they be passed and signed, subject to the following amendment.

10 (c) Petworth Business Association. Meeting. Delete paragraph 1 and insert 'New aims were circulated at the Networking evening and will be discussed at the next Networking evening with the new marketing plan and the first glimpse of the Discover Petworth website, then an EGM will be held to alter the constitution.'

5. POLICE/PCSO REPORTS

In PCSO Luxford's absence there was no report.

6. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Website: Cllr Pawsey said the website is up and running, the Assistant Clerk will be keeping it up to date, and she will be learning from her how to do this. The Terms and Conditions, a Privacy Statement and a Cookie Policy are now on which explains all to the public. Under the Data Protection Act the information cannot be passed on. The website address needs to be publicised. Cllr Sneller said he will link it in to the Community Association's website, it should also be linked to the PBA and its 'Petworth at Home' twitter hour. On behalf of Councillors the Chairman thanked Cllr Pawsey for all her time and work in producing the website.
- (b) Horsham Road Chapel: Cllr Sneller said talks are going on with the Diocese about ownership.
- (c) War Memorial: Cllr Walsh said as CWO has gone into administration he is obtaining another estimate. He has put the grant on hold until this arrives. He and the Chairman had met Mr Riley from CDC about the wall behind the memorial. A verbal estimate of the cost to repair it, £30,000/£40,000, has been received from Mr Sargent which he has passed on to Mr Riley.

7. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

(a) **District Council**

Cllr E Lintill reported on the following:

The Grange: The new Grange building opened on 3rd March, it has been received really well and is buzzing with activity. It is not only for Midhurst residents, but for the whole community, and she has seen many from Petworth there. The cafe overlooks South Pond with outside seating. There is still some work to be done, the library doesn't open until 31st March and further landscaping is to be carried out. The old Grange is due to be demolished soon, and a planning application by Waitrose is awaited.

Chichester in Partnership: The AGM is being held next Tuesday. This is a partnership between the District Council, County Council, Police, etc. Through the Safer West Sussex Partnership the Crime Commissioner is leading a consultation on crime and disorder.

SDNPA Consultation: This is in its early stages of consultation. Council members are attending joint workshops and giving their views.

Dog Fouling: She is very concerned with the amount of dog mess in and around the town. She has spoken to Mr Rosser, the Dog Warden, who has said unless it is seen happening it is very difficult to stop irresponsible dog walkers but, if caught, they can be fined. Mr Rosser will produce some more signs. A short discussion followed, several Councillors concurred with Cllr E Lintill.

(b) **County Council**

Cllr Duncton reported on the following.

CLC: At last night's meeting, under the Community Initiatives Fund, which is administered by the CLC, grants were given out to several parishes.

Operation Watershed: Kirdford Parish Council are applying for a grant to deal with the flooding on the Kirdford and Petworth boundary.

Before asking Mr Morgan to speak the Chairman circulated copies of the e-mails between the Clerk and Cllr Pieter Montyn.

8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr Morgan considered that the e-mail was a very depressing read. If Chichester can get a 20 mph speed limit why can't Petworth, paving slabs had recently been repaired in Angel Street only for vehicles to drive on the pavement and damage them again. £150,000 was spent on signage which isn't working, there should be a notice banning HGVs from entering the town fines should be slapped on lorries coming through the town. If dog poopers can be fined then so can lorry drivers. The Chairman said that lorry drivers can only be fined if they are caught entering the town other than via Angel Street, lorries cannot be completely banned as deliveries have to be made in the town and the only access is via Angel Street. Cllr Pawsey said one had recently tried to drive down High Street and had got stuck, she called the police but they never came. Cllr Fynes said the signs are not perfect but drivers will follow their sat navs. When Cllr Tex Pemberton was the County Councillor responsible for Highways he had to go to Brussels try and get changes made to sat navs. After further discussion it was agreed that this will go to Traffic and Planning.

9. PARISH CLEAN UP DAY

It was agreed to hold a Parish Clean Up Day on Sunday 27th April from 9.00 am to 12 noon. Meet at the Council office. The Clerk to order 20 Spring Clean Kits from CDC. Cllr Sneller will produce a poster which can go on the website.

10. SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARKS LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Cllr Hodgkins said she had attended the meeting held by the SDNPA in the Leconfield Hall. A presentation had been given on the SDNPA's Local Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), she has copies of the whole, there is a brief résumé and it is available on the web site. Cllr Kemp said he had also attended the meeting, he thought it was very important that being within the National Park this Council commented on it, he considered there is an obligation to do so. It was agreed to ask the Neighborhood Planning group to discuss it, then back to the full council.

## 11. REPORTS

### (a) **Finance and General Purposes**

Cllr Walsh said a meeting had been held on Tuesday 4th March, the minutes have been circulated, and he updated Councillors.

Grants: £200 has been given to the Coultershaw Trust towards the damage caused by flooding and £750 for the Petworth Festival, which will come out of next year's budget. There is still money left, at the meeting it had been suggested by Cllr Pawsey that a donation be given to the Sylvia Beaufoy Centre and he would like to propose that £1,000 be sent. Cllr Kemp seconded his proposal and on a vote, this was unanimously agreed.

Neighbourhood Planning: £6,300 has been received from Locality, there will be a further £700 later in the year, and £7,000 from the SDNPA. Cllr Hodgkins would like applaud Cllr Walsh for obtaining the grants.

Cllr Kemp proposed, and Cllr Goldthorp seconded, that the minutes be passed. This was carried unanimously.

### (b) **Open Spaces**

Cllr Chandler said a meeting had been held on 27th February, the minutes have been circulated and he updated Councillors.

Bus Shelter: This is now with the insurance company.

Hanging Baskets: Mr Spriggs has the baskets in hand and the new brackets have been ordered. Cllr Sneller and Cllr Kemp said they will fit them.

Rubbish Bins: The District Council has been asked if they can empty the bins in Rosemary Gardens but as yet there is no response.

Skateboard Ramp: The site for the skateboard ramp is ongoing. The Chairman said there is a still possibility and this is being pursued.

Trees: Cllr Robbins has said the work will be carried out in early April.

Wall in Grove Lane: Part of the stone wall by the allotments in Grove Lane has collapsed. The Clerk said it is the Council's responsibility.

Cllr Simmons proposed, and Cllr Copus seconded, that the minutes be passed. This was carried unanimously.

### (c) **Traffic and Planning Committee**

In Cllr Fox's absence Cllr Walsh said the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February had been discussed at last month's meeting, but not agreed as there was amendment to make. This has now been done.

Cllr Kemp proposed and Cllr Copus seconded that the minutes be passed. This was carried unanimously.

(d) **Petworth Pages**

Cllr Fynes said the current edition is with the printers. She was pleased with the new advertising that has come in during January, but both she and the Clerk have been trying to get £240 owed by one advertiser since October 2013. Cllr Kemp asked if they are a member of the PBA. The Clerk said yes. Cllr Kemp said if the Clerk gives him the name after the meeting he will follow this up.

(e) **Petworth Business Association**

Cllr Kemp said there hadn't been a meeting and he had nothing to report. Cllr Fynes asked when the new website will be up and running. Cllr Kemp said it is coming towards finalisation, there will be a demonstration at Tuesday's networking meeting which is being held at the Leconfield Hall.

(f) **Neighbourhood Planning**

Cllr Hodgkins said the steering group had met last Monday when a presentation had been given by Nexus Planning, consultants from Weybridge. They will be sending in details of their plan and costs. Last Tuesday she had been to a SDNPA Neighbourhood Planning meeting at the Leconfield Hall, there had been a presentation by the leader of Arundel's Neighbourhood Plan who had said there were ups and downs, but AirS had done a very good job for £20,000. Although it has now passed examination several points had to be clarified. Cllr Walsh said this a normal process, it often happens, but all that matters is that it has passed and is now out to referendum. Cllr Sneller said AirS have a lot going for them, especially as they are very familiar with this area.

(g) **Clerk**

The Clerk had nothing to report.

12. TO CONSIDER OTHER ITEMS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Notice Board: Cllr Fynes said the notice board in the car park has been tidied up and cleaned but it still needs repainting. The Clerk to contact the District Council.

Bus Service: Cllr Fynes said that as from the 4th May the No 1 bus service between Worthing and Midhurst is being resumed on Sundays.

Standing Orders: Cllr Walsh said the Standing Orders have now been reviewed by the F&GP committee, some amendments are to be made, then back to the committee before being circulated to all councillors.

Banners: Cllr Sneller said that at a planning meeting it was suggested that the Fete in the Park had a banner strung between the Leconfield Hall and The Star. Cllr Duncton had checked this out at CDC and was told that since about the year 2000 approval was given for Chichester City and the larger towns within the district to agree, and hold, a list of organisations who could put up banners within their towns. Petworth is included in those places with this power. Those groups who it is agreed should be on

the list would be able to put banners up in the town one week before the event but it must be taken down immediately afterwards. It was not thought that Petworth had such a list. Cllr Sneller agreed to make further inquiries.

Council Meeting Agenda: The Chairman said in future items under AOB, and not on the agenda, will be discussed at the next full Council meeting.. This means some other way will need to be found for reporting repairs, pot holes, etc. Cllr Sneller said many years ago a form had been produced for this, he will find it and send it to the Clerk for updating.

(Clerk's note: Copies of this form are now in the office.)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.06 pm.