

SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held at St John's Church Centre on 13th January 2009.

Present: Mr C Bulbeck, Mrs M Bulbeck, Mrs S Cecil, Mr M Everson, Mr A Feltham, Mr R Gowlett, Mr R Hayes, Mrs M Hemmings, Mrs O Hickson, Mr J Jennings, Mr P MacDougall, Mr R Rolfe.

Apologies: None.

Before the start of the formal Council meeting PCSO Bruce Ives gave a report on Police matters affecting the Parish.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests by Members

524. None.

Minutes

525. It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

526. Min 500. It was decided to refer the matter of the cycle path bollard outside 211 Main Road to County Highways.

527. Min 506. Approval was given for Mr Everson to apply for a grant from WSCC for tree planting.

Open Forum

528. No matters were raised.

Councillor Vacancy

529. There were two candidates to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr Rigby. A ballot was held and Mr T Cunningham was the successful candidate. It was resolved to co-opt Mr T Cunningham to fill the councillor vacancy.

County Councillor Comments

530. Cllr Mark Dunn reported that the current economic climate had serious implications for Chichester Festivities with a substantial loss of income from promotional sponsorship and donations. It had become difficult to find sponsors.

The Chichester College Outreach Programme was first class. There was a high proportion of older people at the College in Adult Education. Those people facing redundancy could consider a further education course as an option.

On housing development there was a growing sense of dissatisfaction with Development Control and fears for the longer term future of Southbourne. Although he was critical of Central Government, Cllr Dunn recognised the Government had a difficult job in planning for the future number of new homes required and where they should go. Indirectly, through other agencies, the Government owned a great deal of land in and around Chichester, at sites such as Graylingwell and the Barracks. The release of land for development could take the pressure off for development in other areas.

There were plans for major gravel extraction at Lavant which would require traffic management proposals before going ahead.

Cllr Dunn believed Southbourne was more vulnerable now than it had been a year ago and recommended revisiting the Parish Plan. A robust Parish Plan could help to protect those parts of the Parish regarded as high quality.

District Councillor Comments

531. Cllr G Hicks reported that Chichester was one of three towns shortlisted for the 'Great Town of the Year' by the Academy of Urbanism. Richmond had won the title.

Planning permission had been given for alterations and extensions to the King Edward V11 former hospital to be used as an assisted care facility. Work was expected to take up to four years to complete.

On Economic Development, Seeda would provide up to £3m in transition loan funds to help high growth businesses having difficulty in obtaining finance from the commercial sector.

Chichester District remained in the top ten in the country, and the best in West Sussex, at recycling dry household waste. The Council's household recycling rate had risen to 33.5% in 2007/08, which put the Council 7th best.

A new European Directive on the quality of drinking water would come into force on 1st April 2009.

The District had many private water suppliers ranging from small distribution systems on large private estates or caravan sites to small suppliers providing drinking water to one or two properties. The Air Quality Action Plan set out what actions were intended to tackle air pollution hot spots in Chichester at Orchard Street, St Pancras and Stockbridge roundabout.

On 28th November, officers of the Licensing Unit took part in a joint operation with Sussex Police, named Operation Ardglass. All pubs, restaurants and takeaways in St Pancras and the Hornet areas were subject of a joint licensing enforcement operation.

The District Council had chosen to offer free swimming to people over the age of 60 years and those aged 16 years and under.

The Council had supported plans in principle for the merger of St Richard's and Worthing Hospitals. The location of services like A&E, Maternity and Paediatric were still unconfirmed.

Correspondence

532. A list of correspondence received had been circulated with the agenda, copy appended to the official minutes.

Additional Correspondence Received

533. Chichester DC. Invitation to attend the Hospital's Merger Presentation to Policy Development Committee on 16th January.

534. Chichester DC. Agenda for the Annual Parishes Meeting on 3rd February. Mr Gowlett would attend for the Parish Council.

535. Communities & Local Government. Consultation paper Communities in Control: Real People Real Power: Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity.

536. Rural Services Network. Details of the Community Group of the Rural Services Network.

537. SALC. Information on Road Safety Compliance Consultation.

538. WSCC. The Bus Shelter Grants Scheme would continue for 2009/10.

Bourne International Community Centre

539. The Council considered the use of BICC as a venue for future meetings. It was decided to hold the Annual Parish Meeting at the Bourne International Community Centre on Tuesday 17th March.

New Bus Shelters

540. The Local Traffic Engineer and Area Manager were both satisfied with the revised proposals for the bus shelters outside St John's Church and outside 288 Main Road, subject to some requirements regarding positioning .

It was agreed the requirements of the Local Traffic Engineer and Area Manager were acceptable to the Parish Council and all the new bus shelters could be ordered when confirmation of the S106 contribution towards the cost of the new shelters was received from the District Council.

Neighbourhood Management Panel

541. A Neighbourhood Management Panel had been formed and a first meeting held before Christmas. Mr MacDougall had chaired the meeting and Gail Walker had been appointed as Minutes Secretary. The Parish Council had not been approached directly to take part. The next meeting would be held at 7pm on 24th February at St John's Church Centre. It was agreed Mr MacDougall would represent the Parish Council and Mr Hayes would attend as District Councillor. Any other Members of the Parish Council would be most welcome to attend.

Report of Finance Advisory Committee – Estimates & Precept 2009/10

542. The Report of the Finance Advisory Committee 11th December 2008 was received. Copy appended to the official Minutes.

Grants

543. In accordance with the recommendations of the Finance Committee, it was resolved that the following Grants be paid:

Age Concern Southbourne	£500*
Bourne District Guides	£500
Chichester & District Citizens Advice	£250
Samaritans	£250
Southbourne Primary School PTA	£650
Southbourne Sea Scouts	£500
Southbourne Village Hall	£1400
4 Sight	£250

* Subject to information held by the Charity Commission being brought up to date.

St John's Church, Southbourne

544. It was resolved that a donation of £250 be made to St John's Church.

Pay of Caretaker, Clerical Assistant & Litter Picker

545. In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was resolved that the salary of the Clerical Assistant be increased from £2472 to £2570, that the pay of the Litter Picker be increased from £6.00 an hour to £6.25 an hour and that the pay of the Caretaker be increased from £6.50 to £6.75 an hour, all with effect from 1st January 2009.

Pitch Hire Charges

546. In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Advisory Committee, it was resolved that no change would be made to the pitch hire charges.

Estimates 2009/2010

547. The Estimates for 2009/2010 were received and approved.

Precept 2009/2010

548. In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Advisory Committee, it was resolved that the Precept for 2009/2010 would be £70,000.

Finance – Payments for Approval

549. A list of payments for approval was presented to the meeting, copy appended to the official minutes. It was resolved the payments be approved.

Matters Raised

550. The following faulty street lights were reported: 1 Cheshire Way, 1 Lauder Close, no 6 Stein Road, no 18 Stein Road, 23 Slipper Road.

551. Mrs Bulbeck reported a pot hole in Breach Avenue.

552. Mr Jennings informed the meeting there were proposals to merge the Age Concern national charity and Help the Aged.

553. Mr Feltham drew attention to the announcement Marshalls in Broad Road would be closing.

554. Mr Gowlett had attended the Development Control South meeting when planning permission had been given for the extension to Fraryhurst Nursing Home. He thanked County Cllr M Dunn and District Cllr R Hayes for supporting the Parish Council objection to this application but he felt the Parish had been badly let down by the other Southbourne District Councillor who served on Development Control.

555. Mr MacDougall drew attention to flooding outside the service station at Nutbourne.

556. Notes of a meeting of the Biodiversity Working Group 11th December and a report from the Southbourne Fete Steering Committee 2nd December had been circulated with the agenda.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....