

SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held at St John's Church Centre on Tuesday 13th March 2012.

Present: Mr C Bulbeck, Mrs S Cecil Mr T Cunningham, Mr M Everson, Mr A Feltham, Mr R Hayes, Mrs M Hemmings, Mr J Jennings, Mrs L Leader.
County Cllr M Dunn, District Cllr G Hicks.
Three members of public.

Apologies: Mrs M Bulbeck, Dr P MacDougall, Mr R Rolfe, District Cllr B Finch.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests by Members

256. None.

Minutes

257. It was resolved the minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2012 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

258. Min 255. The Chairman commented the kerb edge on the bridge over the A27 had been re-painted by County Highways but it had been very poorly done.

Open Forum

259. The meeting was temporarily closed for public comments. Upon re-opening the meeting, the Council noted a report of youths gathering/antisocial behaviour at Lazy Acre. The Council would write to PCSO Jason Lemm, with copies to the Chief Inspector and Mrs Eva for Bourne Community College.
It was reported material had been dumped on site at Reedman's Yard, Prinsted Lane. Cllr R Hayes advised the meeting an officer from the District Council would be visiting the site the following Friday.

County Councillor Comments

260. Cllr Mark Dunn reported Chidham and Hambrook Parish Council had discussed their proposed change to the boundary with Southbourne at their last meeting. A questionnaire was being sent to all households affected to ask the opinion of residents whether they would prefer to become part of Chidham and Hambrook. The topic was on the agenda for the meeting of Hambrook District Residents Association taking place on 14th March and Cllr Dunn encouraged Southbourne to be represented. He believed there was some scope for argument and recommended liaison between the two parishes.

District Councillor Comments

261. Cllr Graham Hicks when walking in the parish had noticed a number of trees appeared to be dying off this year.
The District Council had appointed Dianne Shepherd as the new Chief Executive. Heather Caird was the Council Leader.
Localising tax benefits had an impact on the Council. The District Council was passed money by the Government to pay Council Tax benefits but the money received was 10% less than the current cost.
A Value for Money Campaign showed Council Tax band D households paid £2.56 a week to the District Council for a whole range of services including emptying bins, checking food hygiene standards, licensing, street cleaning, care for parks and open spaces, providing support and reassurance to the vulnerable and more.

The A27 by pass in Chichester had three fatal accidents; Leaflets and posters in three languages had been produced to warn of the dangers crossing the busy road. The New Park Community Centre steel work was in place for the extension and the project was on target.

The new museum would be opening in June.

The gypsy count statistics the District Council must monitor within the District showed 131 static and touring units, an increase of 17.

Free health checks were available at the Westgate Centre on the first Monday of the month for people aged between 40 -70 years and took about 30 minutes.

The Chichester Car Club was slowly getting off the ground and expected to be active by mid 2012. There was a small monthly membership fee and an hourly usage fee.

Correspondence

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

263. List item 3. The Chairman and Mrs Leader would attend the District Council's Annual Meeting with Parishes on 10th May.

264. List item 4. Community Facilities. The list of items previously identified for the Village Hall was still relevant. It was decided to add the following additional projects – an extension to the Village Hall, an extension to the Pavilion, replacing Parish Council street lights.

265. List item 6. Southbourne Celebrates. The Council agreed Mrs Heelan could have free use of the recreation ground on 24th June for a football tournament.

266. List item 7. Internal Audit. The WSCC internal audit engagement letter was agreed by the Council. It was noted the Council would need to find another internal auditor after this year.

Additional Correspondence

267. Allianz Engineering. Report of examination of the recreation ground. Copied to Mrs Bulbeck for the Recreation Advisory Committee.

268. Chichester District Association of Local Councils – Chichester Sub Division. Invitation to next meeting on 26th March at Lavant Memorial Hall.

269. Chichester District Council. Match funding of parish councils' expenditure on celebrating the Diamond Jubilee and Olympics up to a total of £200.

270. Chidham & Hambrook Parish Council. Letter to enquire if Southbourne had changed its position on possible boundary changes after the presentation given at the February meeting by Chidham & Hambrook Parish Cllr Cliff Archer. The Council decided its position had not changed.

271. Hambrook District Residents Association. Invitation to the Chairman to attend their General Open Meeting on 14th March. The Chairman reported he was unable to attend. No other Member present volunteered to go in his place, but it was noted Southbourne Parish Cllr Dr MacDougall would be chairing this meeting.

272. Miss V Lehane, Mrs J Rate and Mr & Mrs Spencer-Hicken. Damage to the verge outside numbers 164 – 170 Stein Road. Referred to County Highways and PCSO Jason Lemm.

273. J Sidgreaves. Proposed development of land off Alfrey Close and concerns about access.

Grant Application – Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association

274. An application for a grant towards the cost of repairing leaking gates at Slipper Mill Pond was considered. It was resolved to give a grant of £1000 in the next financial year starting in April, the money to be met from the Council’s reserves and not taken from the grants allocation included in the Budget for 2012/13.

Office Equipment

275. The Council’s computer and programs were out of date and in need of updating. The Council noted the advantages of changing to a laptop which would enable the old system to be phased out and replaced with a new laptop and up to date programs. Provision had been included in the 2012/13 Budget for new office equipment, It was resolved approval be given to the Clerk to purchase a laptop, programs and peripheral items.

Clippings Newsletter

276. A meeting of the Editorial Team had been held and the problem of delivery of Clippings had been reviewed. It had been agreed there should only be two issues a year, with these concentrating on parish council matters, rather than attempting to be a general newsletter. The new style Clippings would focus on encouraging people to come to council meetings and contain a fuller parish council report and reports from each committee, as well as information about important decisions taken, needing to be taken or seriously affecting the parish.

Report of Events Committee

277. The Fete booking forms had been sent out. Arrangements had been made for a Clown and a Punch and Judy Show. A train ride had been booked. Another meeting of the Committee had been arranged for the following week.

Finance – Payments for Approval

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

Matters Raised

279. The ‘SID’ initiative had taken place and had been very successful. The Council gave a vote of thanks for those volunteers who had taken part.

280. Mr Hayes reported South Lane was badly littered.

281. The Chairman and Clerk had met with an officer from WSCC PROW to look at the pedestrian crossing of the railway in Nutbourne (FP248). Network Rail favoured closing the crossing but closing a public footpath was not a straightforward process.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....