ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

[www.alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)

**CLERK TO THE COUNCIL**

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22nd May 2017

**Minutes of a meeting of Alfriston Parish Council (APC)**

**held in Alfriston War Memorial Hall on Monday 15th May 2017**

**Present:**

Cllr. N. Beechey - Chair

Cllr. J. Dumelow - Vice Chair Cllr. N. White

Cllr. R. Savage Cllr. V. Cooper

Cllr. K. Halliday

**In attendance:**

Victoria Rutt - Parish Clerk

Approximately 20 members of the public

1. **Chairman’s Welcome**

Cllr. Beechey welcomed everyone to the meeting. He would like to welcome and congratulate Cllr Stephen Shing as Alfriston’s elected County Councillor. Cllr Beechey expressed his thanks to the PATH group for all their work on the traffic exhibition that they held at the end of April.

1. **Public Questions**
2. Caroline Adcock asked about the litter bins in the Willows car park. The Clerk confirmed that we are waiting for the local carpenter to return his quote. She also mentioned the grass on the side of Willows car park has become untidy. Cllr Beechey explained that our grass cutting contractors have been told by East Sussex Highways that they are no longer allowed to do top up cuts to this area so it will just be cut by East Sussex Highways now. The ivy was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk will get a quote for the ivy to be cut back at Willows car park and the recreation ground. Action 1.
3. John Hurwood asked if the grass triangle on Kings Ride will be cut. Cllr Beechey wasn't sure if this was on the ESCC map so the Clerk will check this. Action 2.
4. John Hurwood asked if/when the plaque was going to be placed on the tree on the triangle opposite the old garage. It was confirmed that the events team were supposed to have arranged this. Sylvia Daw apologised for the delay and confirmed that as the Events Team was disbanded they no longer had any funds. Cllrs agreed that APC would pay for the plaque.
5. Sylvia Daw asked for permission to prune the apple tree that was planted on the Tye in memory of Andy. This was approved by Councillors and Sylvia was thanked for offering to do this.

1. **Report from ESCC Cllr Stephen Shing**

No attendance and no report.

1. **Report from Wealden District Councillor Phillip Ede**

Cllr Ede reported that the SDNPA housing plan will be approved in June; the provision is for 11 new dwellings in Alfriston. The Wealden local plan will be approved in July. Cllr Ede confirmed he has spoken to the Street Scene team so they will be making visits over to Alfriston to try and deal with the dog mess issue. Cllr Beechey thanked Cllr Ede for coming to the meeting. He said that the Council had received an email on the 12th May about the new housing allocation proposal and it stated between 11 - 18 houses are allowed for on 2 sites. APC are going to request a meeting with SDNPA before it goes to the committee on the 15th June for approval. Cllr Ede confirmed he would be happy to attend the meeting with Councillors. The public consultation process was unknown and residents were in the dark. Clerk to confirm the consultation plan when organising meeting. Action 3. [SDNPA have confirmed the following: “The plan will go to a public consultation in Autumn, but this will be asking people to comment on the soundness of the plan, specific matters about sites can still be raised but these may not result in changes to an allocation unless the matter relates to the plan being sound. The Local Plan (including allocations) will be public from 15 June when it goes to our planning committee. The papers will be published a week in advance of the 15 and members of the public can speak at planning committee in support or objection if they wanted to.”]

1. **Election of the Chairman**

Cllr. Savage proposed and Cllr. Cooper seconded a motion to elect Cllr. Beechey as Chairman. Councillors resolved that Cllr. Beechey is Chairman of Alfriston Parish Council.

1. **Declaration of acceptance of Office by newly appointed Chairman**

Cllr. Beechey duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

1. **Election of Vice-Chairman**

Cllr. Savage proposed and Cllr. White seconded a motion to elect Cllr. Dumelow as Vice Chairman. Councillors resolved that Cllr. Dumelow is Vice Chairman of Alfriston Parish Council.

1. **Declaration of acceptance of Office by newly appointed Vice-Chairman**

Cllr. Dumelow duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Bell.

1. **Code of Conduct**

Written undertakings to observe Code of Conduct duly signed, were handed to the Clerk.

1. **Registers of Members’ Interests**

Registers of Members’ Interests duly signed, were handed to the Clerk

1. **Consider allocation of Portfolios**

Councillors resolved to allocate portfolios as follows:

* 1. Allotments Cllr Cooper
  2. Coach and Car Parks and Public Transport Cllr Savage
  3. Highways and Twittens Cllr Halliday
  4. Planning Cllr Bell
  5. Rights of Way and Countryside Cllr Dumelow
  6. Strategic Planning Cllr Dumelow
  7. The Tye & Recreation Ground Cllr White

1. **Consider membership of Committees**

Councillors resolved that membership of Committees is as follows:

* 1. Finance Committee – Cllr Beechey, Cllr Dumelow, Cllr Savage and Cllr Cooper.
  2. Planning Committee – Cllr Bell, Cllr Beechey, Cllr Halliday, Cllr Dumelow and Cllr Savage.

1. **Appointment of representatives to outside bodies**

Councillors resolved that representatives of outside bodies are as follows:

* 1. Wealden District Association of Local Councillors Cllr. Dumelow
  2. Sussex Association of Local Councils Cllr. Dumelow
  3. Alfriston and Cuckmere Connect Cllr. White
  4. Cuckmere Community Bus Rod Young
  5. Cuckmere Flood Forum John Hurwood
  6. Lorry Watch June Goodfield / Clerk
  7. Tree Warden Richard Bartlett
  8. Village Hall Committee Cllr. White
  9. Alfriston & Cuckmere Valley Community First Responders Cllr. Dumelow
  10. Alfriston Emergency Group Vernon Reynolds
  11. Neighbourhood Watch Nick Cattell

The Clerk will write and thank all of the representatives for their service and confirm that those who were not present are willing to continue in their role. Clerk will email June Goodfield to see if she wishes to continue with Lorrywatch, if not all reports to be sent to Clerk. Action 4.

# ORDINARY MEETING

1. **Chairman’s Welcome**

Cllr Beechey welcomed everyone at the start of the Annual General meeting.

1. **Public Questions**
2. Bill Rendall spoke about Lorrywatch and asked, if residents have evidence, what can they do. It was stated that any evidence must include information supporting the incident i.e. date, time, location, direction of travel, vehicle and registration number and company details, as well as photo if possible, and can be sent to the Clerk for reporting to Operation Crackdown.
3. **Report from Maria Caulfield MP**

Apologies received, no report.

1. **Report from ESCC Cllr Stephen Shing**

No attendance and no report.

1. **Report from WDC Philip Ede**

Cllr Ede updated in the earlier meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Bell.

1. **Minutes**

Cllr. Dumelow proposed and Cllr. Savage seconded a motion that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2017 were a true and accurate record. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cllr. Beechey duly signed the minutes

1. **Finance**
   1. Cllr. Savage proposed and Cllr. Dumelow seconded a motion to approve the Statement of Finances. **MOTION CARRIED**
   2. Cllr. Cooper approved and signed Invoices for Payment
   3. Cllr. Dumelow proposed and Cllr Savage seconded the motion to approve and ratify the annual return.
2. **To approve the insurance renewal with Aon UK Ltd**

The Clerk updated that the insurance with Aon UK was up for renewal. It was agreed that we would renew with them this year but next year the Clerk will do a comparison exercise to ensure we are getting the best cover. Cllr. Dumelow proposed and Cllr. White seconded this decision.

1. **Alfest 2017 Portaloos**

Cllr Beechey updated that Alfest would like portaloos again and have made an ‘almost’ request for this. This was discussed at length as many Councillors wonder why they need them when they have access to the toilets in the Village and in the War Memorial Hall. However it was agreed for Alfest 2017 that 6 portaloos will be allowed. The location of the toilets was discussed as they are not to go outside the School House again. The location agreed was on the Tye, flush up to the Gun Room/Gun Room car park wall. This is the only position sanctioned.

1. **Report on Highways & Twittens – Cllr. Halliday**
2. Bicycle rack on the island in the Square – Cllr Halliday reported that we are still reviewing the need for them and if so where would they go. Cllr White suggested positioning some on the road to the north of the Square. These would require permission from ESCC. It was agreed that it would be put on the agenda for the next SLR [Strengthening Local Relationships] meeting which the Clerk is arranging. Action 5.
3. Replacement bins on Market Square – Clerk updated that this is ongoing as we are awaiting a quote from the local carpenter.
4. **Report on Allotments – Cllr. Cooper**

Cllr Cooper updated that the grass has been cut at the allotments and there is a top up cut due next week. There are however 12 vacant plots which is a real shame. It was agreed that the Clerk will put an advert on the noticeboard and inform the Clerks in Seaford and Cuckmere. Action 6.

1. **Report on Rights of Way and Countryside – Cllr. Bell**

Cllr Bell sent his apologies and there is nothing to report on.

1. **Report on Car Parks and Public Transport – Cllr. Savage**
2. Bus shelter in Willows car park – A commercially available shelter would cost in the region of £4-5,000 which was too expensive. Clerk to obtain a quote from the local carpenter for a cheaper ‘canopy’ style bench/shelter. Action 7.
3. Replacement bins in Willows car park – Clerk updated that this is ongoing, awaiting a quote.
4. **Report on Strategic Planning – Cllr. Dumelow**

Nothing to report.

1. **Report on Tye and Recreation Ground – Cllr. Beechey**
2. Tye Road – Cllr Beechey updated that the Clerk met with the Hailsham Roadways today who are going to repair the broken bollards and install a gate at the bottom of the Tye. We are waiting for the quote.
3. Playground refurbishment – Cllr Cooper confirmed that the grant application to Tesco has been submitted and that the emergency repairs have been completed. Cllr Beechey updated that we have submitted an application for Village of the Year, which has a prize of £10,000. We have stated we will spend this on the playground regeneration, new Village enatrnce/gateway signs and a street party to celebrate.
4. Bench on the Recreation Ground – It was agreed that the Clerk can purchase a bench for the Recreation ground from Street Furniture Direct.
5. **Report from Planning Committee - Cllr Bell**
   1. Applications to be considered by APC planning committee at this meeting

**SDNP/17/02079/LIS**

Cross House, Waterloo Square, Alfriston, BN26 5UD

Installation of window boxes to three windows on the front elevation facing Waterloo [should be Market] Square and one to the window on the side elevation. The window boxes will be black cast aluminium and removable if required. The style will match the period of the building. Arrangement will be made for a builder familiar with conservation area requirements to fit them. The boxes are for Alfriston in Bloom - an event organised by a group of local businesses to improve the look and feel of the village.

***This application was discussed and it is supported by the APC planning committee.***

* 1. Applications considered by APC Planning Committee since last meeting
  2. Applications notified or awaiting decision from SDNPA

**SDNP/17/01181/HOUS.**

The Carthouse, Whiteway, Alfriston, BN26 5TS

Proposed two bay garage and workshop with games room over, linked to the existing dwelling by a glazed link. Together with associated hard and soft landscaping works.

**SDNP/17/01344/HOUS** and **SDNP/17/01345/LIS.**

Frog Firle Barn, Whiteway, Alfriston, BN26 5TT

Proposed full height porch extension

***The above applications are still pending.***

1. **Reports from Outside Bodies**
   1. Lorry Watch – Cllr Beechey read out the report submitted from June Goodfield. She detailed a very large lorry (Woolsey Freight) causing a jam on 10th May which has been reported. She queries the value of lorry watch continuing given the lack of enforcement action. APC believe it should continue as an outside body so as not to appear that this is no longer an issue. It was agreed that APC will write to PCC Katy Bourne, CC Giles York and MP Maria Caulfield to request that a temporary weighbridge could be put in at Berwick Court Farm lay-by to do some spot checks. Action 8. JG will be asked if she wishes to continue. If not the clerk can be the short term point of contact.
   2. Heartstart – Cllr Dumelow updated that Heartstart have been very busy and they have 3 interested people in becoming volunteers.
   3. Alfriston Emergency Group – Vernon Reynolds updated that they have inherited some equipment from the old events team and they had put an advert out in the Cuckmere news about loaning the equipment. It has been mistakenly thought that this is available for free but the equipment is loaned out for a donation.
   4. Flood Forum – John Hurwood stated that he had not heard anything about the APC possibly helping with the £3000 for the pump. The Clerk apologised and will look into this ASAP and report back to John. Action 9. It was agreed that next month an agenda item will be put on about supporting Friends of Cuckmere.
   5. Neighbourhood Watch – No report
   6. Twinning Committee – Cllr Beechey read out report from June Goodfield. Twinning continues to be a great success. The Mayor of and visitors from Veules les Roses will be over on the first weekend in June. Full details of the programme will be available shortly. The Clerk will speak with the War Memorial Hall committee about displaying the signed charter. Action 10.
   7. Alfriston and Cuckmere Connect – Cllr White updated that the group is going strong and that they are discussing late night shopping on a Friday, they also have something exciting planned for Christmas but no details are being divulged just yet. Businesses are also decorating their shops to welcome the group coming over from Normandy for the twinning weekend.
2. **Correspondence to The Clerk**

* Clerk raised a letter from June Goodfield and Caroline Adcock about the market cross. Cllr Beechey updated that a stonemason had come out to review the Market Cross request and stated that any attempt to repair the chipped parts of the ‘new’ brick base was likely to cause more damage than do good. It would have been a different matter had the actual medieval market cross been damaged. It was agreed that the Clerk will request for an official report into the state of the market cross from a stone mason to be completed. Action 11.
* The fingerpost coming into the Village was discussed and it has been reported a few times to ESCC who had not passed this on to APC. The Clerk has received 2 quotes, one for repairs and refurb at £310 and one for a total replacement at £1026. It was agreed by Councillors that we will have the fingerpost repaired. Clerk to action this. Action 12.
* Penny Macleod has emailed in about a few items. First could a dog poo bin be installed down River Lane, this was agreed and Clerk will get this actioned. Action 13. She raised that the water fountain is broken again on the Tye. Sylvia Daw kindly confirmed that she will speak to Mick about this. A request was made by Penny to advertise her Forest school and Toddler group in the notice board by the Dene Car park. This regretfully has to be declined as it was agreed by Councillors that Clerk is to duplicate everything that is in the noticeboard next to the Village Stores into this noticeboard also. Action 14.
* Permission was granted for the WI to use the A board on Saturday May 20th in the morning.
* Permission was granted for the Horticultural Society to use the A board on Saturday June 10th all day.
* Nicky Vassell raised an issue relating to a locked gate on a footpath across Pleasant Rise Farm but this has now been rectified.
* Gill Hesselgrave requested a grant of £70 for the Cuckmere Flood Forum. This was approved by the Council.
* The Clerk has had some email correspondence with Hazel Dalgleish in regards to the Historical Society and some members/speakers parking outside the AWMH on the Tye. The Clerk noted that all Councillors saw the email discussion and that agreement stands that the Tye can only be accessed by vehicles as absolutely necessary for loading and unloading to AWMH and the Church, and not for parking.
* Email received from Neil Parkinson on behalf of Conserve Alfriston Committee asking APC to formally approve the proposals made by them at their exhibition in the OCC. This will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Cllr Beechey confirmed that APC’s position since the ESCC traffic light proposals were published is that they are vigorously objected to, that APC would wish to see a sympathetic non traffic light traffic calming scheme put in place and that the ESCC consultation process was flawed.

1. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 7.15 pm on Monday 19th June 2017 in Alfriston War Memorial Hall. The meeting will be suspended after the Chairman’s Welcome to allow Public Questions and Reports from County and District Councillors.

1. **Public Questions**

* Holly Daniels introduced herself and if anyone wants to ask questions about Sussex Day (which is being run by the pre-school) on the 10th June she is available.
* Kate Edmonds stated that there are small dog mess posters up near the school and wondered if we could put them up in the Dene car park too as it is becoming a problem there also. The Clerk will look into this. Action 15.
* Sylvia Daw raised the Village in Bloom and wanted to know whether the judges will go to the Tye. Cllr White confirmed that the judges will go everywhere. It was discussed whether the APC would like a wigwam again on the Tye. Cllrs agreed they would and APC will reimburse Sylvia for the 10 grobags and sticks, she just needs to submit receipts to the Clerk.

Signed Jen Dumelow [Vice-Chair]

19th June 2017