

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Dark

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Meeting of Sheet Parish Council held on Tuesday, 10th January 2017 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Ron Dark (in the Chair) Robin Forrest Vaughan Clarke
Gail Martin Tony Clear Will Glancy
Alan Biddlecombe Brian Bird

In Attendance: Tony Burton (Burton Property Ltd)
Julie Robinson (Head Teacher, Sheet School)
Nick Tubb and Rowan Jennings (BMX User Group Members)
Jenny Hollington, Clerk

There were 7 members of the public present during the meeting.

17/01 Apologies – Apologies had been received from District Councillor, Nicky Noble.

17/02 Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th December were approved and signed.

17/03 Declarations of Interests – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the Agenda. None were declared.

17/04 Public Comment –

- An e-mail request has been received from Mr. Sayer, a parish resident, that the person referred to in Minute 16/165 of the September 2016 minutes re Sunnymeade be revealed as Mr. Sayer.

17/05 Planning –

(a) **Public Consultation – 13 School Lane** – Mr. Burton of Burton Property Ltd, confirmed that he will be holding a public consultation to enable parish residents to view and comment on proposals for 2 houses and a bungalow on land at 13 School Lane. This event will be held on Monday, 16th January at Sheet Village Hall in the small meeting room from 6.30-8.30 p.m.

(b) **Current Planning applications:**

SDNP/16/04802/TCA – 7 Broadlands Cottages, School Lane, Sheet GU32 2AP – Various tree works in a conservation area – No Objection.

SDNP/16/06255/HOUS – Rotherside, Farnham Road, Sheet GU32 2AP – Proposed extension to ground and first floor to create new entrance, porch, utility, en-suite shower room and additional bedroom – No Objection.

17/06 BMX Track – Nick Tubb and Rowan Jennings, members of the BMX User Group, were present at the meeting to address Sheet Parish Council's concerns with regard to the summer event held at the BMX Track during the summer months. Nick Tubb explained that the event had got out of hand in 2015 because someone had posted details on social media. In 2016 a much scaled down event had been held but, even so, there had been a lot of rubbish left behind and no-one willing to help clear up. Members of the BMX User Group have therefore decided that they will not hold the event again.

With regard to insurance for the BMX track, Nick Tubb confirmed that the User Group are happy to cover the increased premium paid by Sheet Parish Council, as per the previous year.

In general, it is felt that the “key” system, whereby the track can only be accessed when the User Group members are present, works well, and ensures safety of track users. However, a “Keep Clear – Emergency Access required” sign is required at the entrance gate as currently cars park across it – the Parish Council was asked whether the hedge could be cut back to enable more parking in the lay-by – Cllrs. Forrest and Biddlecombe will look into this.

17/07 Sheet School – Safety Plan – Mrs. Robinson, Head Teacher at Sheet School said that the response from Hampshire Highways to the School’s queries and suggestions regarding road safety had been disappointing:

- Formal waiting restrictions are rarely used outside schools and are difficult to enforce;
- There is no scope for widening the road or footpath
- Flashing amber School warning lights are inappropriate due to the proximity of the level crossing
- There is no scope for a crossing point on the Farnham Road

However, a meeting has been arranged with Angela Forsythe from the School Travel Planning Team at Hampshire County Council for 8.00 a.m. on Monday, 30th January, so that the issues can be seen first-hand, and it is hoped that this will bring out some solutions.

17/08 School Lane Parking – It was agreed that this item should be moved up the agenda and discussed whilst Mrs. Robinson was present, because of its relevance to the School.

Mrs. Robinson explained that the chicane-style parking by residents of School Lane has impacted the School because the waste lorry has had problems accessing the lane and therefore not collecting waste from the School. Following a conversation with Andy Jevons, Traffic Management Supervisor at EHDC, the situation has been temporarily resolved with fortnightly collections being made.

It was queried whether a 1-way system would help to resolve the issue but Cllr. Clarke said that HCC would not look favourably on a 1-way system in a small village because of speed concerns. It was agreed that Cllr. Martin would make contact with the EHDC Traffic Management Team to organise a meeting between themselves, Parish Council representatives, and School Lane residents, to resolve the issue.

17/09 Finance

- (a) The December bank reconciliation had been circulated prior to the meeting and was approved and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that the balance of the current account is £73,758, the deposit account £10,000 and building society deposit £30,000.
- (b) Grant Applications – A letter from Butser Homestart requesting a donation of £200 was discussed – the further information requested by the Clerk has not been forthcoming and it was therefore decided to decline the request as the application does not meet Sheet Parish Council’s grant award policy requirements.
- (c) Cheques – The following cheques were approved for January payment

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
300625	£60.00	N. Rook-Blackstone	Allotment clearing (19b)
300626	£624.00	Sheet Music Ltd	Caretaking/cleaning - V. Hall
300627	£105.88	Contract Natural Gas	V. Hall
300628	£50.48	HMRC	Tax/NI - Clerk - Jan
300629	£625.52	J. Hollington	Clerk - Jan
Total:	£1,465.88		

(d) Precept 2017-18 – Following the detailed discussion at the December meeting, it was confirmed that the precept request for the financial year 2017-18 is £39,713.

17/10 Parish Council Website – A working party consisting of the Chairman, Cllr. Glancy and the Clerk, met with Ray Street to discuss proposals for a new Parish Council website as agreed at the last meeting. The new website will meet transparency code regulations and information will be easy to access – it is hoped to have it up and running by March, when the old one will be allowed to expire. Links to the village website will, of course, be maintained.

17/11 Developers Contributions – Confirmation from Simon Jenkins, Head of Planning at EHDC has at last been received advising that he can see no future in chasing the developer of the Sunnymead site for the S106 contributions, as the developer has no assets. It would therefore fall to pursue successor in title, the current householders, which Sheet Parish Council has already indicated, would not be appropriate. EHDC therefore propose to write off the sum due and close the case with immediate effect.

This response has come as no surprise to Sheet Parish Council, but it was agreed that a response should be sent querying EHDC process and procedures in this case. Until the failings are clearly understood, Sheet Parish Council can have no confidence that future amounts due under this or successor schemes are safe.

17/12 Roads and Traffic

- (a) HCC proposals for dropped kerbing in Inmans Lane – Feedback from the consultation has been received, showing clear support for the Scheme, which HCC have now put forward for approval.
- (b) White line reinstatement at junction of Long Road/Waterworks Road and Town Lane/Inmans Lane – these requests have been included in the HCC programme of works.

17/13 Community Resilience – The draft plan is ready to be submitted to EHDC and HCC by the Clerk.

17/14 Flooding – Cllrs. Glancy and Biddlecombe will research suppliers of metal box/flood pods and synthetic sandbags for use by residents alongside the River Rother, and report back at the next meeting.

17/15 Lengthsman Scheme – Sheet Parish Council has 3 hours left to use up and it was agreed that the Lengthsman should be asked to clear the overhanging branches at the green in Old Mill Lane.

17/16 Sheet Allotments – An estimate for clearing vacant plots under the tree line alongside the Farnham Road and returning to grass has been received from Wyldes Farm Partnership in the sum of £1730 (+ VAT) – to include the removal of all waste, plant hire and labour. In view of the surplus of vacant plots and the fact that the plots under the trees have never had much success, the estimate was approved. It was also agreed that the Clerk should place an advertisement in the Petersfield Post, to find tenants for the plots that have been cleared.

17/17 Millennium Field Car Park – A incident of fly-tipping in the Millennium Field Car Park was quickly cleared by Petersfield Town Council just before Christmas. The complaints about the anti-social behaviour have been reported to the Community Police and EHDC and extra vigilance will be maintained.

17/18 Sheet Recreation Ground –

- (a) Repair of Lights – A quote has been received for the repair of the lights and the work will be completed in the next couple of weeks.
- (b) Sheet Scout Hut – Correspondence from the Scout Group has been received regarding the renovation of the Scout Hut which it is hoped will take place over the summer. The work is now no longer going to be carried out by REME and the group have had to go back to the beginning and consider alternative options available. Once they have a clear way forward, and an indication of costs they will up-date the Parish Council. If there is a funding deficit a grant application may be forthcoming.

17/19 Sheet Common –

- (a) Quotes for new posts for BMX Track boundary – One quote has been received for replacing the posts, and two more comparison quotes will be obtained by Cllr. Forrest in time for the February meeting.
- (b) Parish Council boundaries – The land registry documents showing the Parish Council boundaries were discussed. It was agreed that Cllr. Clear would look into a possible issue at the cottages.

17/20 Sheet Village Hall –

- (a) New Stage Lighting – Cllr. Glancy said that he has liaised with a structural engineer regarding the proposed new lighting system and no report is necessary. A quote for electrical works, to enable the new lights, in the sum of £235.00 was approved.
- (b) Reduction of administration for Church hires – The 1-off annual charge for the use of the whole of the Village Hall each Sunday morning has been agreed by the Church.
- (c) Quotes for repair of back wall – Cllr. Clear will chase an estimate from Bob Smallbone to complete the 3 comparison quotes, and this item will be discussed further at the February meeting.

17/21 Old Mill Lane – The Chairman reported that a large tree had come down, blocking the River Rother – he wished to formally thank Hal Spooner and Graeme Keep, South Downs Rangers, who spent a day in the River, with bankside assistance from Cllrs. Biddlecombe, Dark and Forrest, to resolve the problem.

17/22 Assets of Community Value – The completed application form had been recirculated, along with some information from EHDC on previously approved applications, to see if anyone has anything to add – no up-dates have been received so the Clerk was asked to submit the application as it is.

17/23 County Councillor's Report – The County Councillor's report was noted and is appended to the minutes.

17/24 District Councillor's Report – No report received.

17/25 Dates of Meetings 2017 – It was agreed that Sheet Parish Council Meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of each month and the confirmed dates advertised via the noticeboards and website. It was agreed that this year, the Annual Parish Assembly will be held on 27th April in the main hall and a training session on how to use the new defibrillator sited at the entrance to the Village Hall will be organised, to encourage people to attend.

17/26 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, 24th January (to discuss current planning applications) and Tuesday, 14th February – 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.