

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21st JANUARY 2019 SALVATION ARMY HALL, 7:30PM

Present: Mrs. D. Sumpter (Chairman), Messrs. N. Friswell, J. Milne, G. Stanley,
B. Travers

District Councillors: DC Dr. D. Skipp and DC Mr. G. Newman

County Councillors CC Mr. A. Baldwin

Public: 1

Press: 0

Apologies: Mr. R. Worley, Mr. P. Colombo, Mr. G. Sitton, CC Mrs. Millson

The Meeting opened with the confirmation that Mr. M. Hough has resigned as a Neighbourhood Councillor. His contribution over many years is greatly appreciated.

Public Forum

A St. Leonard's Road resident attended this meeting to give an update on SID (Speed Indicator Device) that is currently attached to a lamp post and fully operational.

This is a temporary device but it is hoped that through CLC funding, an updated SID will be purchased. CC Mr. Baldwin explained that the application has been submitted and he is hopeful that it will be successful.

(FNC is involved in the procedure and in answer to a question about insurance, CC Mr. Baldwin explained that he is hoping to include one year's insurance into the grant together with the cost of a spare battery. This will allow time for a more permanent insurance cover to be arranged).

The member of public explained that SID operators are covered by the Police Public Liability insurance. All operators have passed a Police Training Session and wear high visibility jackets.

Rubber loops will shortly be fitted across the road to give an indication of the average speeds in St. Leonard's Road. It will be interesting to see whether speeds are faster on the side that is currently not monitored by SID. During this fortnight, SID will be disconnected.

The resident explained that there is no concrete evidence but the general feeling is that car speeds are reducing and as a side issue, she feels that drivers are more aware of pedestrians and stopping to let them cross the road. She hopes a new SID is purchased as the temporary device is outdated and requires batteries to be continuously re-charged.

DC Dr. Skipp is convinced that SID is having a positive effect on speeding. There is still the ultimate aim to have a pedestrian crossing but the current response is that the road is too narrow.

With regard to the purchase of a speed gun (approx. £500 added to which will be the pad cost) this is something that has to be discussed with the three NC's and Mrs. Sumpter will be liaising

with the Chairmen. Referring to December Minutes, this might be purchased through the HDC Community Safety Scheme. CC Mr. Baldwin is not involved with this matter at this time.

The resident left the meeting after this discussion.

01.01.19 Minutes of Meeting held on 10th December 2018

After minor amendments, the Minutes were proposed by Mr. Friswell, seconded by Mr. Travers and signed by the Chairman, Mrs. Sumpter.

02.01.19 Matters Arising

The Horsham Society – Good by Design

Everyone agreed that Mr. Ayerst's presentation was informative and acknowledged the work involved in producing the positive document, "Good by Design". It is hoped that this will now be a strong reference point. This Council will ask The Horsham Society to acknowledge the Neighbourhood Appraisal Document as HDC has adopted this as a material consideration for planning applications.

Resolved to contact The Horsham Society

Website – Address and Telephone Numbers

The cost will be around £20 per month and Mr. Colombo was thanked for his research so far. Some Councillors questioned whether this figure is too high.

Resolved Mrs. Sumpter to liaise with Mr. Colombo

06.11.18 Section 106 monies

Mrs. Sumpter agreed to discuss possible CCTV in Bennetts Field with Ms. Anna Chapman and Ms Melanie Stowell. She commented that Friends of Chesworth Farm are submitting an application for further board walks that will take in more lakes.

03.12.18 Town Green Status – New Street

Discussions are ongoing. DC Dr. Skipp agreed that a Noticeboard in the Garden would be beneficial.

08.12.18 Correspondence – Novartis site

It is understood that the plans have been submitted and also HDC is to discuss the proposal in the near future. However, despite the fact that this application will border Forest Neighbourhood, this Council has not received any notification.

Mrs Sumpter asked that the cycling proposal is fully discussed at any future HDC meetings.

03.01.19 District and County Councillors' Reports

CC Mr. Baldwin – a member of public was concerned about moss along the pavement close to The Hornbrook Public House and CC Mr. Baldwin was pleased that following his approach to Highways, this was cleared very quickly. In addition the overhanging branches along the road were also removed and the member of public was very happy with the outcome to his concerns!

WSCC has an incredibly tight budget and CC Mr. Baldwin said that there is currently a high level of "in-fighting" regarding budget cuts and distribution.

CC Mr. Baldwin said that he was surprised that Kingslea School Headteacher did not support a proposal to install a pedestrian crossing in Kings Road despite considerable local support, especially from Manton Court residents who find it difficult to cross over to the bus stop. The Headteacher considers that a pedestrian crossing in Depot Road is a higher priority although CC Mr. Baldwin doubts that this would be considered due to the width of the road. DC Dr. Skipp said that he could see the logic of this request as so many pupils come from that part of the neighbourhood and often group together along the pavement causing a safety hazard. CC Mr. Baldwin is arranging a meeting with the Headteacher.

DC Dr. Skipp – the state of the old Antix Shop has again been raised with HDC CEO and Planning Enforcement are again involved as the current state of the building is deteriorating rapidly.

DC Dr. Skipp commented that there are two electric car charging points in Park House car park both of which are not functioning. This has been brought to HDC attention.

At the December Meeting, reference was made to suggested changes in the planning system. The suggestions would have been of great concern to this Council but it is understood have now been “shelved”. However, it is highly likely that any Councillor involved with the future planning process must have attended planning training. This Council supports this way forward.

DC Mr. Newman is to attend a Cabinet Meeting on 24th January. He commented that District and Parish Council elections are scheduled for 2nd May. Whilst it has been advised that Neighbourhood Council elections will take place in June, the actual date is still to be set.

04.01.19 Planning

The Planning Committee presented the latest applications and asked to discuss DC/19/0046 erection of one four bedroom dwelling adjacent to 35 Brambling Road. After discussion, it was decided to object on the grounds that it is an overdevelopment of a site that is on a busy junction and bend of a road. It is noted that there are established trees on the land and HDC Mr. Jones will be asked whether these trees have or should have TPO's.

DC/19/0041 Gardener's Cottage, Hammerpond Road – FNC is concerned that this is described as a detached annexe and will be a new development in the countryside.

HDC refusal – HDC Planning has refused the application for an extension at 11 Weald Close.

With regard to the recent correspondence and interaction concerning a planning application that has now been approved, Mrs. Sumpter and Mr. Friswell discussed the matter with the applicant, listening to the applicant's concerns about the way in which this proposal was handled by this Council. Points raised have been noted and it is understood the issue is now closed.

05.01.19 Treasurer's Report

Current Account £5,161.46, Reserve Account £1,282.46. The Clerk's honorarium and expenses have been paid for January 2019 and the invoice for the Remembrance Tree has been settled.

06.01.19 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Mrs. Sumpter attended the recent HTCP Meeting and circulated the new Riverside Brochure. She positively commented on the bus map and hopes that this bus map will be incorporated/added into the official bus pamphlets.

HTCP is proposing to install further outside seating around the town; this Council does not think there is a need for any additional seats in Brighton Road.

Blueprint – at the recent meeting, Blueprint advised that it has now had meetings with two potential consultants so that the report can be written. The stumbling block is monetary concerns although it is understood that Blueprint will again approach HDC for funding. HDC is holding an event on 1st February “The future of neighbourhood planning”. There will not be a representative from this Council as it is felt this is a matter for Blueprint.

HDC Meeting – Mrs. Sumpter attended the recent meeting with Mr. Jonathan Aitkin and Mr. Adam Chalmers – notes to follow. She commented that HDC Leisure Trevor Beadle is to retire. Horsham Museum Director, Mr. Jeremy Knight is involved in the installation of new artwork in the centre of Horsham. Network Rail will be carrying out repair work in and around North Street Subway although what is to happen is not known.

Youth – because of uncertainties at Horsham Matters, the Youth Worker contract has been extended for one year (the aim is to produce a three year plan in the near future). Mr. Friswell agreed to attend future youth meetings but on a temporary basis.

The Capitol Theatre – a Consultation Report about future aspirations for The Capital Theatre will be published. No firm information is known although it is understood there will be reference to having one cinema and extended dining arrangements.

LEECHPOOL WOODS – Mr. Friswell commented that following a recent walk around Leechpool Woods, he believed there were some issues that need to be addressed. It is agreed that he will contact HDC Mr. Evan Giles.

07.01.19 Correspondence

- Neighbourhood Warden – information that a Supervisor is to be appointed. Neighbourhood Warden Report – no action in our neighbourhood
- CPRE Sussex – Response to Gatwick Airport expansion plans. There are comprehensive lists “for and against” the expansion and for this reason, FNC did not respond.
- Horsham Year of Culture – It is understood that the banner along Albion Way will not now be erected.
- Doctor’s Surgery – Riverside – it is understood that Riverside is accepting new patients
- Denne and Trafalgar Minutes
- Horsham Park Management Planning and Newsletter
- Contra Cycling – WSCC has advised that the proposal for contra cycling in Barrington Road has been put “on hold”. Less controversial routes will go ahead and be monitored.

- Horsham BID – HDC will consider the business development proposal on 24th January and this will involve HDC financial input
- Discover Gatwick – two further dates 19th March and 30th April
- Wealden Brickworks – there is now a planning appeal directly addressed to Central Government
- Modern Slavery – Sussex Police are initiating a major crackdown.
- Carfax Noticeboard – It is agreed that Denne NC can take over this Noticeboard but Forest Neighbourhood Council would like to have a general information notice

08.01.19 Any Other business

Fatality in Brighton Road – this occurred in the vicinity of Tesco Express. It is agreed that Mrs. Sumpter and Mr. Stanley will again visit the site and look at the pedestrian crossing issue – in the Brighton Road/St. Leonard’s Road area and where pedestrians are most likely to want to cross the road. Councillors are aware of all the reasons that will be given for not installing a pedestrian crossing at this point.

Newsletter – Denne Chairman is proposing that the three NC’s submit regular articles for Horsham Publications. This follows a poor response to the latest Denne NC Newsletter. Subject to cost, this Council is interested but in the meantime Mr. Milne agreed to help with an FNC Newsletter.

Bennetts Road Noticeboard – Councillors suggest that FNC should try to use this noticeboard on a more regular basis. Mrs. Sumpter commented that whilst she does have a key, the noticeboard is for Friend of Bennetts Field and also that the internal boarding is in very poor condition.

Resolved Dr. Skipp will follow up this issue

Fletchers Close – CC Mrs. Millson has been contacted about parking issues in and around Fletchers Close. Parking issues extend beyond Fletchers Close (Arun Way, Elm Grove, Athelstan Way and Kennedy Road) and the suggestion is that the roads are included in the next CPZ review. There are regular issues at the top of Kennedy Road (about 15 yards from junction).

Resolved to contact Neighbourhood Wardens regarding Kennedy Road. CC Dr. N. Dennis will be asked to consider the roads in the next round of CPZ reviews

HALC – Mr. Stanley will be attending the next meeting and commented that there are two interesting speakers – Mid Sussex Clinical Review Manager and Business Development Manager for Arriva.

The Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.