

COLDWALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2016 7.30PM AT THE LODGE HILL, LONDON ROAD, WATERSFIELD

Those Present:	Cllr G Nelson	Chairman
	Cllr S Hewer	Vice Chairman
	Cllr T Burr	
	Cllr O Dudman	
	Cllr B Maher	
	Cllr J Evans	
	Cllr A Lilley	
	D Cllr Donnelly	District Councillor
	Mrs LD Sherlock-Fudge	Clerk
Parishioner	Ann Hewitt	

ACTION

16 / 64.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Nelson welcomed Mrs Hewitt to the meeting, she is a local resident in Silverdale and co-chairs the Governors at St James School.

16 / 65.00 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Viccari & Bowler, C Cllr Arculus and D Cllr Clarke.

16 / 66.00 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS, AND ANY CHANGES SINCE THEIR LAST DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations were received for this meeting.

16 / 67.00 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

Minutes for meetings held; 8th November 2016 and planning meetings held on 22nd November 2016 were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Burr clarified that he was in favour of the appointment of a manager for the Alban Head.

16 / 68.00 BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2017/18

Precept Calculation: At the November's meeting Members proposed a 9% increase to cover their increased expenditure. The Clerk distributed a revised Precept Calculation which included provisional figures for the Tax Base and Council Tax Grant received from HDC.

Cllr Burr updated members regarding the Government's decision to cap large increasing Parish Councils. The current position is still, that no decision has been confirmed. He had re-read the background documents; the time deadline for instigating the change to apply to the 2017/18 year is not until May, there is an exclusion option for Councils, who make a small monetary increase although it would be a large percentage increase. Therefore, Coldwaltham Parish Council might well be excluded on this.

Cllr Nelson noted that should CPC be capped, and so hold a referendum, the Parish Council would need to convene another meeting to agree a reduced budget.

The intension is to write a letter to parishioners regarding the increase to be approved at February's meeting, to be distributed by councillors and posted on our website.

Cllr Lilley queried that the proposed 9% would cover the cost of the manager. Members agreed the proposed 9% increase, and the Precept Request was signed after the meeting.

RESOLVED Members confirmed the 9% increase in the Precept request for the 2017/18 Financial Year.

16 / 69.00 **FINANCE**

16 / 69.01 **Account Summary:** The Clerk gave all Councillors a copy of up to date accounts for the Parish Council and Alban Head Playing Fields Committee. These are attached as Appendix A & B respectively.

16 / 69.02 **Payments:** Authorised and signed cheques by the Chairman, Clerk and Cllr Hewer for;

HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Oct to Dec	£ 184.20
Lodge Hill Trust Ltd	Meeting Fee	£ 25.00

16 / 70.00 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Alban Head Chairman Report: Cllr Nelson advised that it is extremely quiet currently, only outstanding item are some small repairs required on the fence. It was also noted that WSCC had made some repairs along Sandy Lane, however not all of them, as those nearest to the main road remain.

16 / 71.00 **CORRESPONDENCE**

16 / 71.01 HDC Directory of Older Persons Services: The Clerk received a request for £20 to be included in their next directory, as the information is already available free on both the HDC website and our own she was not going to do this.

The Clerk had received a donation request from Age Concern UK Horsham District; this would be returned to when Council considers donations at the next budget.

Cllr Evans had recently received a local free magazine, Sussex Local, in this he discovered an item from Coldwaltham Parish Council which had been copied from our website. Cllr Evans is conscious that this further undermines the Link. Cllr Burr noted that this our copyright that is being infringed. Council agreed to resist their attempts to take our information in the future.

Cllr Evans advised that Phil Badman from the Police had responded to the Waterfield Residents with a detailed report including data from two speeding campaigns.

Cllr Evans asked for the support of the Parish Council, to set up a Speed-Watch Group, as he has received a good number of volunteers following the request in Link and on the Website. The next step is to register with the Community Speed Watch, to make an initial approach regarding the options for Coldwaltham.

Cllr Evans reminded members regarding the note in the link from the CYC, Cllr Nelson will contact them to advise of Councils decision to not give an annual donation, rather

that they should apply when they have a special project which would require extra funding.

Cllr Maher left the meeting at this point.

16 / 72.00 **PLANNING**

The Clerk updated the Council regarding recent applications;

- SDNP/16/04515/HOUS, Sand Martin, Sandy Lane, Watersfield, Permitted
- SDNP/16/05078/HOUS, Tilling Cottage London Road Watersfield, Permitted
- SDNP/16/05472/TCA, Coopers Paddock, Old London Road, Coldwaltham, Permitted
- SDNP/16/05358/TCA, Sandy Lane Cottage, Sandy Lane, Watersfield, Permitted

The Clerk advised members that the Ingrams Farm Application is due to be discussed at Committee in December, the Parish Council had objected to the application, D Cllr Clarke has asked if the Parish Council wishes to attend and/or speak at this meeting.

D Cllr Donnelly advised that the application is now to be heard at the January meeting not December's. The meetings are tightly managed, so there will only be up to 3 people speaking for and against each application, each speaker is only allowed 2 minutes to speak. If necessary, he suggested that pertinent issues are divided amongst speakers.

A volunteer to attend the meeting in January on behalf of the Council, please advise the clerk if you are able to attend on behalf of the Parish.

16 / 73.00 **ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL / PARISH CLERK**

16 / 73.01 Cllrs Burr and Evans had attended the recent meeting where SDNP put forward their preferred options for their Local Plan. Previously new housing had been placed in larger conurbations, however, now the plan is to spread these throughout the area, to allow for villages, where small communities risk local school closures, so might wish to have some development. Cllr Burr had been alarmed during the meeting's introduction, when Watersfield had been mentioned, however, it appears that the settlement boundaries have only been modified.

16 / 73.02 Cllr Burr had also attended the HALC meeting, where various issues had been discussed:

- Rural Car Parks – although Coldwaltham Parish does not have a car park, residents will use many local carparks; Pulborough, Storrington or Billingshurst. District Councillors had been on hand to explain the changes. Permits will cost just £12 a year for the first permit and £6 a year for subsequent permits registered at the same address, annual permits will be available for business users at £130. Alternatively, there will be a charge of 75p per hour, only payable by card, for one off users These charges are expected to begin in April / May 2017
- Also, changes are proposed regarding Waste Collections, in Spring 2018 Blue bins and Green bins will be collected on alternating weeks. D Cllr Donnelly added that HDC needed to make savings of over £1 million, previously this had been funded by money from central government, however this funding has reduced following changes introduced by Mr Pickles.
- Local Area Devolution – eg like Manchester etc, there had been consideration given to have a Conservative area, which might include areas locally, parts of Sussex and Surrey. However, this is not expected to continue.

16 / 73.03 D Cllr Donnelly updated Council regarding issues from HDC:

- Rural Car Parks, cost the HDC £45K a year in business rates
- RPI rate is 2.2%, so expect District Council Tax to increase by 2.2%, HDC are still in talks with Arun DC and Chichester DC to amalgamate some back-office services, eg. legal services.
- Boundary review – increase number of D Councillors possibly expect another councillor for Pulborough & Coldwaltham, as Parham and Amberley is expected to join the ward.

- Planning has been granted for a 6-screen cinema at Swan Walk shopping centre. Another in proposed for Piries Place.

16 / 73.04 Cllr Lilley reported that St James school children had received their Commemorative Coins.

16 / 73.05 Cllr Evans added, regarding the SDNP Local Plan, that there is the intention to include local sacrosanct areas designated as small areas of green space.

16 / 74.00 **PARISH MAGAZINE**

Cllr Evans collected items from council for inclusion in the Parish Link for January:

- Speed Watch
- Two new Cinema complexes in Horsham.

16 / 75.00 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Next meeting of Council: members confirmed the date of the next meeting as 7th February 2017 at Lodge Hill.

Members also agreed the proposed meeting dates for next year, the Clerk would book the agreed dates for 2017.

Meeting Closed at 8.40 pm.

Chairman:..... **Date:**.....

Distributed to those present, also Cllrs Veccari, Bowler, C Cllr Arculus and D Cllr Clarke.