

COLDWALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14th MARCH 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 Bowler	
	C Cllr Arculus	County Councillor
	D Cllr P Clarke	District Councillor
	Mrs LD Sherlock-Fuidge	Clerk
Parishioner	Mrs A Hewitt	

ACTION

16 / 87.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Nelson welcomed Ann Hewitt to the meeting.

16 / 88.00 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from D Cllr Donnelly, Cllrs Evans and Lilley.

16 / 89.00 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.

Cllr Nelson advised that he would not participate in meetings to discuss planning applications regarding Lodge Hill, in light of his role as a trustee for Lodge Hill.

16 / 90.00 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

Minutes for meetings held; 7th February 2017, and planning meetings held on 15th February and 6th March 2017 was accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Nelson asked for the application for Hardham House Green be called in by the Parish Council. The Clerk would write to SDNP and also reminded that a member of council would need to attend the Planning Committee meeting when it is called.

16 / 91.00 FINANCE

16 / 91.01 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.

Cllr Burr queried the level of the cash balance, the Clerk confirmed that auditors require that councils keep a half a year's precept figure in reserves, and that during the year council had made savings to allow for the future expense on a manager for the Alban Head.

The Clerk advised that the salary Standing Order would need to be signed by bank signatories when the tax figure was confirmed by HMRC.

16 / 91.02 Payments: Authorised and signed cheques by the Chairman, Clerk and Cllr Maher for;

Lodge Hill Trust Ltd	Meeting Fee	£ 25.00
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Jan to Mar	£ 184.20
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	Fire Extinguisher Rental	£ 122.37
Mrs LD Sherlock-Fuidge	Travel & Sundry Expenses	£ 97.56

16 / 92.00 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alban Head Chairman Report: The job description is due to be written, so it can be discussed at the Alban Head Committee meeting next week. This will be publicised in May.

16 / 93.00 CORRESPONDENCE

16 / 93.01 Precept Letter – The council discussed the feedback it had received to-date on the PC letter to residents.

The overwhelming response had been positive with only two objections. Parishioners were pleased to support the widely-used Alban Head and hoped the council's plan would work to help raise more funds for the running of the field and respected the tight financial management of the council.

There was some confusion in the two objections: the Alban Head uses less than 50% of the precept, no future above average rises are planned, and additional charges for the current hirers are in line with HDC rates for similar facilities. To significantly raise the hirer's costs will only serve to turn them away. One parishioner suggested that the whole of his Council tax could be attributed to the PC where as in fact we are only a very small percentage of the whole household tax.

This change does not mean we will not consider future requests and with this in mind members agreed to continue to monitor and examine how we support Coldwaltham Youth Club.

16 / 93.02 Sussex Local – Cllr Dudman reported back to members that Chris Hilton, chairman of the Sandham Hall remains very supportive of how the Sussex Local has been able to help increase use of the Sandham Hall, so increasing their revenue.

Cllr Burr responded that the Sussex Local is paid for by the revenue from advertisers, but this should not allow them to copy items from our website.

Cllr Nelson will be writing to the chair of the Sandham Hall to update them on the PC's view.

16 / 94.00 PLANNING

16 / 94.01 The Clerk updated the Council regarding recent applications;

- SDNP/17/00302/HOUS, The Granary London Road Hardham, REFUSED - The proposed front extension would form an alien feature to the front of the dwelling which would not relate or correspond to the vernacular and character of the former barn. The proposed addition would therefore relate

unsympathetically to the character and appearance of the utilitarian building, and would detract from the appearance and interpretation of the former barn.

16 / 95.00 **ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL / PARISH CLERK**

16 / 95.01 Cllr Evans has received eight/nine volunteers for the Speedwatch group and are waiting for the police to offer dates for next stage of training - i.e. by the roadside

16 / 95.02 No more information regarding the development at Silverdale, still awaiting the relocation of the electricity cables.

16 / 95.03 No more information about the burglary in Silverdale.

16 / 95.04 Cllr Maher announced his retirement from the Parish Council with effect from 31st March, Cllr Nelson thanked him for his support with both planning and the winter contingency plans.

16 / 95.05 D Cllr Clarke updated members regarding:

- District Ward Boundaries – Amberley didn't want to join Pulborough Ward would rather than stay with Storrington as they have closer links there with the B2139
- New Parking Disks – come in from April these needs to be paid for annually, currently an offer second free if you apply before 30th April. Can only be accessed on line, however there is a number to call.
- Ingram Farm, Hardham – still very concerned with how this decision has been reached.
- Strategic Sites has been highlighted again.

16 / 95.06 C Cllr Arculus updated membered regarding the finances:

- Central Government has increased the portion paid to councils for Social Care,
- Education – small rural schools will be harder hit by the new formula

16 / 95.07 Mrs Hewitt noted that the school continued needs the community's support. The School Governors are holding a Parent/School Forum, an informal update for parents regarding what is going on in the school.

16 / 95.08 Cllr Nelson commented that not only are rural schools struggling so are rural pubs, like the Labouring Man - on a positive note the Sportsman Inn looks like it is open again.

16 / 96.00 **PARISH MAGAZINE**

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

- HDC Parking
- Jumble
- Letter feed back
- No action still Silverdale
- Speedwatch
- Burglary, couple of local instances
- Vacancy for Parish Councillor

16 / 97.00 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Annual Parish Meeting: this meeting is on Tuesday 25th April 2017 at 7.30pm at St James School.

Next meeting of Council: is on Tuesday 9th May 2017 at 7.30pm, at St James School.

Meeting Closed at 8.35 pm.

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

Distributed to those present, also Cllrs Evans, Lilley and Viccari and D Cllr Donnelly.