

ARDINGLY PARISH COUNCIL

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Office: Tuesdays 10 am - 12 noon in Hapstead Hall, Ardingly

Minutes of the meeting of Ardingly Parish Council, on Tuesday, 1 June 2010 in the Reading Room at Hapstead Hall from 7.30pm.

	Present: Mr G Ruse (Chair) Mr D Hadden Mrs R Chalk Ms S Chapman Mrs P Dennis In attendance: Mrs A Rumble (Clerk) Mrs S Spencer (RFO)	Mrs B McNulty Mr W Meldrum Mr K Monk Mrs F Rocks Mr D Walker	
			ACTION
33.	Questions/comments from members of the public There were no questions or comments received.		
34.	To accept apologies for absence Apologies were received from Mr M Brixey.		
35.	Declaration of Interests Ms Chapman declared a prejudicial interest in Item 43.3 – Future housing in the village (land owned by Ardingly College).		
36.	Declaration of Office for Chair & Vice-Chair (for signature) The Chair, Mr Ruse and the Vice-Chair, Mr Hadden, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.		
37.	To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 11 May 2010 The Chair called for approval of the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11 May 2010. With one alteration these were AGREED and the minutes were signed by the Chair as being a true record of that meeting.		
38.	Matters arising from previous minutes Item 260.2 – Removal of blue waste bin – The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from MSDC confirming arrangements for the removal of the blue waste bin within the next month. Item 16 – Gifting of Hapstead Hall refurbishment and clock – Mr Hadden reported that advice was being obtained and progress made. Item 18.2 Applications – AR/10/01018/FUL Little Deerswood, High Street – Decision from Planning Committee. Mr Monk stated that a site meeting had been undertaken and that the Planning Committee had reported back to MSDC Planning Department that although they had no objection to the extension, they are concerned about the location of the garage block close to a well established beech tree. It was understood that augered piles would be used instead of standard foundations and therefore limit the disturbance of the tree's root system. Item 24 – Fingerpost restoration – Public Liability Insurance. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk and Ms Chapman continue to explore ways of reducing the contractor's additional premium for £10 Million Public Liability Insurance through discussions with WSCC and local parishes. Item 29.1 – Update on Footpath Signs - The Clerk reported that unfortunately WSCC were unable to provide the information requested. Item 29.7 – Response to Draft Mid Sussex Economic Development Action Plan 2011 – Prior to the meeting a response was circulated to councillors.		
39	Financial matters 39.1 Any grant/donation requests - no grant or donation requests had been received. 39.2 Schedule of Payments - The schedule of payments were distributed by the RFO. It was proposed by Mr Hadden, seconded by Mr Monk and AGREED that payment be made. 39.3 Accounts 2009/2010 – Councillors received and approved the Statement of Accounts for the Audit Returns 2009/2010 and the Annual Governance		

	Statement was APPROVED by councillors. It was proposed by Mr Hadden, seconded by Mr Monk and AGREED to adopt the accounts and APPROVE the statement. Fidelity Guarantee – Following a recommendation from the Internal Auditor, it was AGREED that the Finance Committee undertake a review of the Fidelity Guarantee insurance.	Finance Committee
40	<p>Hapstead Hall</p> <p>40.1 Update on refurbishment of garden area outside Hapstead Hall (2009/10 Environmental Initiatives) – Ms Chapman stated that discussions had been held and was confident with the proposals provided by Mr Chitty with regard to root disturbance and reinforcement of the structure to prevent any future movement. It was RESOLVED and AGREED that Mr Chitty's quotation be ACCEPTED as outlined in his estimate dated 26 May 2010 for £755. The Clerk will write to Mr Chitty confirming details of his contract. An additional quote had been obtained from a local blacksmith (Lindfield Blacksmith) for the manufacture and installation of a handrail at a cost of £350. It was RESOLVED and AGREED to accept the Lindfield Blacksmith's quotation at £350.00.</p>	Clerk
41.	<p>Recreation Ground</p> <p>On behalf of Mr Brixey (Chair of the Recreation Ground Committee) who could not attend the meeting, Mr Hadden reported on the Recreation Ground Committee's meeting held on the 18 May 2010. He stated that an inspection of the Pavilion had been carried out by the committee, jointly with representatives of the football and cricket clubs prior to the meeting. It became apparent during the examination that immediate remedial work was urgently called for following the damage caused by the burst pipe, which will be actioned by the Clerk. In addition, it was considered that the entire building requires refurbishment and the facilities expanded to meet the needs of its principal users. It was AGREED that in response to the consultation on the review of the Village Plan, that the refurbishment of the pavilion and its facilities form the basis of the Clubs' reply. Mr Hadden stated that youth provision will be an integral part of discussions with the Clubs when reviewing their agreements which are to be undertaken this year. It is hoped that the youth initiative will assist in any plans where funding is being looked at for the refurbishment of the pavilion. It was reported that a donation of £450 had been received from the Tennis Club towards the refurbishment of the multicourts which was welcomed by councillors.</p>	
42.	<p>Village Voice</p> <p>The Chair once more regretted that he and Mrs Rocks had not held discussions with regard to reducing the publications costs and arranging a meeting with the editor. He confirmed that this will be followed up. It was reported that an estimate had been obtained for publication of the Village Voice from an alternative printer and that this was considerably less expensive than the existing fees being charged. Mr Monk reiterated that a replacement volunteer to distribute the publication, was required for the Little London area following the departure of Mr Marchant. Mrs Rocks offered her assistance to distribute the newsletter on this occasion, which was gratefully received.</p>	GR/FR FR
	<i>Mrs Spencer left the meeting.</i>	
43.	<p>To consider planning matters</p> <p><u>MSDC</u></p> <p>43.1 Decisions</p> <p>AR/10/00060/LBC - Old Boat Shed, Ardingly College, College Road Removal of internal wall and staircase - GRANTED.</p> <p>AR/10/00801/FUL – 7 Oaklands Proposed extension to hard surface and removal of existing conservatory to be replaced with dining room extension - GRANTED.</p> <p>AR/10/00844/LBC – Pigsty Building, Ardingly College, College Road. Insertion of new door, porch and level access ramp – GRANTED LISTED BUILDING CONSENT.</p> <p>43.2 Applications</p> <p>AR/10/01186/LBC & AR/10/01187/FUL - St Peters Church Centre, Street Lane Additional alterations to previous application (09/02830/LBC) in the installation of</p>	

	<p>disabled toilets, extending existing larder/boiler room into new kitchenette (with raised roof) and proposed new side entrance – Comment; recommend approval.</p> <p><i>Since Ms Chapman had declared a prejudicial interest in this item and for the purpose of making representation as a member of the public, the <u>meeting closed</u> - Code of Conduct; Item 12.</i></p> <p>43.3 Future housing in the village</p> <p>Ms Chapman presented the meeting with background information and planning history of potential housing sites in the village, which had previously been featured in the Mid Sussex Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). She stated that her representation was being made in response to a request from the Senior Planning Officer at Mid Sussex District Council for a meeting with the Parish Council with regard to Site 187 as renewed interest had emerged in bringing the site forward for housing in the short term. In addition, MSDC were currently undertaking a review of their SHLAA. Ms Chapman stated that of the sites identified for potential development within the village, she viewed site number 187 as being more favourable due to its location, access and was located nearer to services provided by Haywards Heath. She confirmed that the land is owned by Ardingly College, a Charity organisation and largest employer in the village and that the revenue from the sale of this site would benefit the school and the community.</p> <p><i>The Chair thanked Ms Chapman for her contribution and she withdrew from the meeting.</i></p> <p>Mr Hadden gave a brief overview of the Mid Sussex District Council's published 'Rural Issues Background Paper' which formed part of the Mid Sussex Core Strategy. He reported that the Rural Issues Background Paper recommends criteria for allocating housing development among the villages, these are - growth potential; intermediate growth potential; limited growth potential; restricted growth. It was reported that Ardingly is within the high end of the 'limited growth potential' category (15-30 houses), with constraints on growth arising in large part from its location within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, where policy would continue to restrict development to local needs. In Ardingly, local needs are seen as being affordable housing and smaller 'starter' homes. Mr Hadden stated that consultation with the community had been undertaken in an Open Forum held in October 2008 for all residents to express their opinion on potential housing sites.</p> <p>This was followed by a debate on available sites, which included the provision of services, traffic management and school capacity.</p> <p><i>The meeting opened and Ms Chapman rejoined the meeting.</i></p> <p>It was confirmed that representatives from the Parish Council who will be attending the meeting with the MSDC Planning Officers on the 2 June at their offices will be; Mr Hadden, Mr Monk, Mrs Dennis and Mrs Rocks.</p>	
44.	<p>44. Village Guide</p> <p>Mrs Dennis confirmed that a meeting of the group has been arranged for the 29 June 2010.</p>	
45.	<p>Youth Activities</p> <p>Mrs Rocks stated that she had received a positive response from Simon Hardy of MSDC Leisure & Planning Department with regard to funding for the activity wall in the recreation ground. It was reported that Streetmate, an organisation who work with young people in the local community, have arranged a meeting to encourage youngsters to take part in a wide range of activities.</p>	
46.	<p>Sports and Social Club</p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p>	

47.	Twining of Ardingly with Beuzeville The Chair stated that he was delighted to report on the continuing success of the Twining Association and confirmed that a commemorative plaque was presented to the delegation from Beuzeville last weekend with a return visit to France planned for August.	
48.	Parish Plan Ms Chapman reported that the leaflet to be distributed to all households had been agreed at a recent meeting of the Steering Group and is currently being printed. This was followed by a debate on the responsibility of the Steering Group and it was AGREED that a copy of the constitution be distributed with next month's agenda for discussion.	Clerk
49.	Parish Council Website Mrs McNulty updated councillors on progress with the website and confirmed that arrangements would be made for a meeting of the group.	
50.	Reports from representatives on outside bodies As no meetings had been held, there was nothing to report.	
51.	Reports from committees 51.1 Recreation Ground Committee <i>See item 41 above</i> – It was noted that prior to the Recreation Ground Committee meeting an inspection had been made of the recreation ground and items identified as needing attention to be rectified. Mrs Chalk reported that the essential tree work has now been carried out and a replacement tree had been planted to reinstate the tree which had been cut down recently due to disease.	
52.	Correspondence The Clerk reported that an invitation had been received from Ardingly College for a guided tour of the facilities and a light supper – date to be confirmed. A letter had been received from a resident with regard to the maintenance and preservation of a hedge adjacent to a footpath in the village. The Clerk to acknowledge receipt of the correspondence and investigate.	Clerk Clerk
53.	Training There was nothing to report.	
54.	Chairman's announcements Items for information Mrs Chalk stated that the school will be consulting with residents on the review of the School Travel Plan and that arrangements were underway for the "Carols under the oak tree" event which she confirmed will be held on Friday, 10 December at 6.30pm. Additional agenda items for the meeting in July were confirmed as; Footpaths, Christmas Festivities 2010 and Membership of Outside Bodies.	Clerk
55.	Future meeting dates The Playground Project Working Party – to be confirmed Ardingly Parish Council – 6 July 2010 Ardingly Parish Council – Parish Council on annual break – no meeting Recreation Ground Committee – 13 September 2010 Environmental Committee – 21 September 2010 Finance Committee – November 2010	

CONFIRMED MINUTES

SIGNED DATED