

HERSTMONCEUX PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Herstmonceux Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 19 April 2010 in Herstmonceux Village Hall, Herstmonceux.

Present: Councillors Mrs J. Angear, J. Armstrong, D. Creasey, K. Game, M. Goodsell, W. Gower, B. Naish, M. Rice, J. Tate, K. Wheatley and Mrs I. Willson. Two members of the public and three Police Officers attended.

Prior to the meeting, in the time set aside for questions and statements, the following items were raised:

Antisocial and criminal behaviour in Herstmonceux

The Chairman gave a short review of the problems in Herstmonceux over the past few years. The Council has worked closely with Sussex Police to address these issues. Several street meetings have taken place, a Local Action Team (LAT) has been set up with representatives from the Council, Sussex Police and members of the parish and residents have been encouraged to report all incidents to Sussex Police. However, there has been a recent increase in criminal behaviour by a small number of individuals.

Inspector Wakefield gave a short report to the meeting:

- Sussex Police is aware of the escalation of the problems.
- He suggested that a meeting of the LAT group should be arranged as soon as possible to create a structured plan on how to deal with the problems.
- The conditions on the ASBOs already served on individuals in the parish will be reviewed.
- There are three members of one family currently serving custodial terms for criminal behaviour – Sussex Police will strongly oppose early release for these individuals.
- Sussex Police will investigate any possible antisocial behaviour by the associates of the troublemakers.
- Sussex Police will arrange regular meetings with the family when the individuals are released from prison.

North Lodge, Herstmonceux

A resident who lives near to North Lodge housing expressed concern about the following issues:

- She finds the lighting from the site obtrusive into her house.
- A number of vans owned by residents of North Lodge are parked at the entrance to Fiennes Road. This is causing visibility problems for cars entering and exiting Fiennes Road.

The Council also noted that a car is regularly parked in the bus stop adjacent to the flats. The Chairman thanked the resident for her comments, which will be reported to Town and Country Housing who manage the North Lodge site. The clerk will also contact ESCC and Sussex Police to report the concerns about the parking in the bus stop and at the junction of Fiennes Road.

10.37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from East Sussex County Councillors R Thomas and W Bentley.

10.38 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2010 have been circulated. It was then resolved that the minutes be approved, adopted and signed as the correct record, proposed by Councillor K. Wheatley, seconded by Councillor M. Goodsell. All councillors in favour.

10.39 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

10.40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M. Goodsell – minor maintenance work on the Recreation Ground and other Council sites. Councillor W. Gower matters relating to the proposed new scout hut.

10.41 FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The meeting having been presented with the Payment of Account Report and accompanying vouchers, authorised expenditure totalling £9671.13 (copy attached) proposed by Councillor J. Tate, seconded by Councillor M. Rice. All councillors in favour.

A Statement of Account 1.01.10 – 31.03.10 was circulated to all councillors.

10.42 DOCTOR'S SURGERY

The planning application for the new surgery will be submitted to WDC at the end of April.

10.43 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Town and Country Housing Group has advised the Council that there will be no formal opening of the North Lodge site.

10.44 CLERK'S REPORT – part one

1. ESCC – details of efficiency requirements for streetlights. **Copied to Mr Goacher and Councillor K Game.**
2. East Sussex Fire and Rescue newsletter.
3. Sussex Crimestoppers – information leaflet.
4. WDC Arboriculturist – informing the Council that it has no objection to work being carried out on a sycamore tree (Tree Preservation Order HRDC 1971(7)) Chestnut Lodge, Herstmonceux. **Copied to Councillor M Goodsell.**
5. Redlynch Leisure – amended quotation for football/basketball goal for the proposed sports area on the tennis court. **Copied to Councillor W Gower.**
6. Sussex Police – details of the Operation Time scheme. **Copied to all councillors.**
7. ESCC – mobile library schedule.
8. EDF – details of cables along the edge of Denefield Green where the new fence is to be erected.
9. Herstmonceux Bowls Club – copy of newsletter and informing the Council that the contact at the Bowls Club who will liaise with the Council for the proposed relocation is Mr C Southouse.
 1. Sussex Police – details of ASBO on Mr B Chewter.
11. Mrs F Davis – expressing concern at the problem of dog mess on the recreation ground. **Dog Warden informed.**
12. Mr Stevens, Wartling Parish Council – informing the Council that he has no further information on the new bus stop that was proposed at Windmill Hill. He will contact PGL for more information.
13. ESCC – confirmation of the diversion of Public Footpath 39B adjacent to Willow Farm.
14. University of the Third Age – invitation to an Art and Craft Festival at the Community College, Burgess Hill on 31.07.10.
15. East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – informing the Council that the newsletter giving details of the committee's work is available on the web site www.eastsussexhealth.org.uk
16. ESCC – informing the Council that the Safety Review on the bus stop adjacent to Denefield Green recommends that a number of changes to the ramp and markings be made to this stop.

Part two

1. ESCC – details of information workshop about programmes for disabled children from 9am – 2pm at Hailsham East Centre on Friday 7 May 2010.
2. Rural Services – details information in newsletters at newsletters@ruralservicescommunity.net

3. ESCC – comments on the Parish Council’s letter about the wooden posts outside Thon Cottage, Cowbeech. **Copied to Councillor W Gower.**
4. WDALC – asking for comments from the Parish Council about the working relationship between the parish and ESCC.
5. Cricket Pavilion lighting – reminder from a parishioner that the automatic lighting on the cricket pavilion is still not set correctly. **Cricket Club informed.**
6. ESCC – informing the Council that surfacing work on the A271 adjacent to Collins Garage and at three other points between Victoria Road and Old Road will be done between 12 -20 July 2010.
7. Mr Lant, WDC – informing the Council of staff changes.
8. Mr and Mrs Lucas – expressing concern at the large amount of litter left at Lime Cross recreation area, which they are regularly clearing.
9. WDC Planning Applications WD/2010/0643/F Willow Farm, Under Road, Herstmonceux and WD/2010/0783/F 2 Monkey Puzzle Close, Windmill Hill has been forwarded to all councillors who have email.
10. Mr D Green, architect for Dr J Simmons – letter informing the Council that the planning application for the proposed new surgery was submitted today and formally stating that the surgery will use the access road to Herstmonceux Village Hall.
11. Mr R Moon, Friends of Herstmonceux School – requesting permission to use the recreation ground on 3.07.10 for a fete. **Agreed.**

10.45 REPORTS

Finance and General Purposes

No meeting.

Planning

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held at 7.30pm in the lounge in Herstmonceux Village Hall on Tuesday 13 April 2010.

Present: Councillors J Angear, J Armstrong, D Creasey, K Game, M Goodsell, W Gower, B Naish, M Rice, J Tate, K Wheatley and I Willson.

In the time set aside for public statements and questions prior to the meeting, councillors were shown CCTV footage of an incident of criminal damage at a house in Fairfield. The councillors were extremely concerned about the incident, which is one of a series of incidents against the same family over the past few months.

The incidents have all been reported to Sussex Police and a male, who lives in Herstmonceux, has appeared in court for the offence. He was fined and sentenced to six months community service.

Application: WD/2010/0338/F – Councillors M Goodsell and W Gower Declared an Interest in this application, as they are friends of the applicant.

Location: Lime End Farm, Church Road, Herstmonceux.

Description: To cover existing cow loafing area with a roof to separate clean rainwater from the dirty water on the yard aiming to reduce the amount of rainwater entering the slurry storage system and enable rainwater harvesting.

Parish Council Comments to Wealden District Council: The Council supports this application as it reduces the volume in the slurry system and enables the rainwater to be used on the farm.

Application: WD/2010/0704/F

Location: Deudneys Farm, Old Road, Herstmonceux.

Description: Creation of farm access track.

Parish Council Comments to Wealden District Council: The application states the creation of a farm access track; although the supporting paperwork details the formation of a horse toll ride link and improvements to an existing farm track. However, the Council supports the application:

- It notes that the material for the proposal already exists on the site.

- It will improve the existing track.
- It will provide facilities for horse riders.
- The Council requests that possibility of 4x4 vehicles accessing this area is reviewed and consideration given as to whether gates are needed to prevent this access.

Application: WD/2010/0745/F

Location: Cobwebs, Stunts Green, Herstmonceux.

Description: Replacement chalet bungalow and detached 2 bay garage with store.

Parish Council Comments to Wealden District Council: The Council supports this application:

- It is more in keeping with the location.
- It addresses the issues raised in the relation to the previous application e.g. size of building, height of roofline, size of garage, overlooking the neighbouring properties.
- It addresses the concerns expressed by residents in the neighbouring properties.

Application: WD/2010/0750/F

Location: New Barn Bungalow, Stunts Green, Herstmonceux.

Description: Proposed extension and rooms in roof as WD/2009/2491/F but with new 45-degree pitch roof.

Parish Council Comments to Wealden District Council: No objection.

Planning Consents received from Wealden District Council

1. WD/2010/0189/F Tranquillity, Stunts Green, Herstmonceux - construction of a two-storey side addition to the front of the property.
2. WD/2010/0092/F 35 Dacre Road, Herstmonceux – two-storey side addition.

Correspondence

1. WDC - Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Report. **Copied to all councillors. It was agreed that councillors would contact the clerk with their comments.**
2. WDC – informing the Council that Mr Grant of Southlea, Stunts Green, Herstmonceux has submitted an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of WDC’s refusal for his application for a garage conversion. **The clerk will contact the Planning Inspectorate repeating the Council’s objections.**
3. Mr and Mrs J Ford – informing the Council that it agrees that a formal arrangement should be made for the use of the access road to the recreation ground.
4. Herstmonceux Bowls Club – copy of preliminary plans for new Bowls Club house at Lime Cross, Herstmonceux. **A site meeting has been arranged for 6.30pm on Tuesday 20 April 2010 at Lime Cross. The proposed clubhouse and rink will be pegged out on the site.**
5. Herstmonceux Scouts – a copy of the preliminary plans for a new Scout Hut on Herstmonceux recreation ground. The Council approved the plans and requested that the clerk should write to the Scout Committee and recommend that pre application meeting be arranged with planning officers from WDC, representatives from the Parish Council and the Scout Committee.
6. Affordable Housing, North Lodge, Herstmonceux – several councillors visited the site recently before the units were handed over to the tenants. The councillors were extremely concerned that in two properties, which are now rented to families with young children, there is poor security on the front doors – the doors have inadequate locks and open directly on to the busy A271. The clerk will contact Town and Country Housing.

Ground

The Committee will review the quotations for the tennis courts and report to the next meeting.

Street lighting

The RFO will contact ESCC about the recommendation for a new streetlight in Buckwell Rise.

Highways and Traffic

There are problems with potholes in Butlers Lane and Church Road.

Children and Young People

Nothing to report.

Information Centre

Nothing to report.

East Sussex County Councillor

No report.

Wealden District Councillor

No report.

Tree Warden

Nothing to report.

Emergency Plan

Nothing to report.

Wealden District Association of Local Councils

No meeting.

Allotments

Report attached.

Herstmonceux/Varangeville Twinning Association

Nothing to report.

10.46 AGENDA

Chairman.....

Date.....2010.