

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORTH HORSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.30pm
AT ROFFEY MILLENNIUM HALL**

Present: Councillors A. Britten*, Mrs K. Burgess, P. Burgess, N. Butler, Mrs R. Ginn, Mrs F. Haigh*, R. Knight, M. Loates, Miss H. Ralston, T. Rickett, D. Searle*, S. Torn, R. Turner, I. Wassell*, R. Wilton and Mrs S. Wilton

* denotes absence

In attendance: Sue Kemp, Parish Clerk

FC/043/15 PUBLIC FORUM

The Press were present.

There was one member of the public present. There were no comments or questions from the floor

FC/044/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors Mrs F. Haigh and D. Searle

FC/045/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Loates declared a **Personal Interest** in agenda item 7 – Chairman’s Announcements, as he was a member of Roffey Cricket Club

FC/046/15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 25th June 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as being a true record

FC/047/15 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The following Committee Minutes were presented to Council –

- (a) **Planning, Environment and Transport Committee** – 18th June, 9th July and 6th August 2015
- (b) **Personnel Committee** – 2nd July 2015
- (c) **Finance and Administration Committee** – 23rd July 2015
- (d) **Property Committee** – 30th July 2015
- (e) **Local Plan Committee** – 26th May and 13th August 2015

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Committee Minutes be adopted

FC/048/15 CASUAL VACANCIES

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report as to the current position regarding the four Casual Vacancies remaining on the Parish Council. It was noted that the first stage statutory notices had been displayed from 19th August, with further publicity being promoted.

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note the Clerk's Report

FC/049/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) The Chairman thanked everyone for their good wishes and kind thoughts during his on-going health problems. He commented that his treatment would end in mid-October and thanked everyone for their patience.

(b) **Access to Parish owned land**

Members noted that the attendance of the Parish Council's solicitor was now deferred to the next Council meeting in November.

(c) **Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance**

Members noted that the Clerk and Administration Officer had attended a Special Afternoon Tea to commemorate the work of the Charity on 13th August, as representatives of the Parish Council

(d) **In-house training**

Members noted that Councillor Miss Ralston, together with a number of members of staff had attended an in-house training event, on 20th August, regarding matters specific to the Parish Council. It was noted that the feedback was positive.

- (e) **Roffey Cricket Club**
Members noted that following complaints from local residents regarding the Cricket Club, correspondence had been exchanged and the Clerk had offered Roffey Millennium Hall as a neutral place for a meeting between the parties
- (f) **Earles Meadow Veteran Oak**
Members noted that the previously agreed works on the tree were now complete and that Will Jones, Tree Officer for Horsham District Council (HDC) was extremely pleased with the work that had been done. It was further noted that the fencing work would be undertaken in due course.
- (g) **Horsham in Bloom Awards Ceremony**
Members noted an invitation for the Chairman to attend this event on Thursday 24th September 2015 at 4.30pm at the Holbrook Club. It was noted that Councillor Turner volunteered to stand in for the Chairman
- (h) **Horsham Association of Local Councils (HALC)**
Members noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 10th September 2015 at 7.30pm at Roffey Millennium Hall

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note the Chairman's Announcements

FC/050/15 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT NORTH OF THE A264

Members noted the Recommendation to Council from the Local Plan Committee meeting on 13th August 2015 –

That it be agreed in principle that, subject to receiving legal advice regarding the appropriateness, lawfulness and viability of the Plan, that the sum of £30,000 be allocated from General Reserves for legal expenses

Councillor Torn commented that the position was not clear as to whether legal advice would be to proceed. He drew Members' attention to the fact that the fees of the Queen's Counsel had increased, although the fees currently available, were subject to negotiation. He commented on the 'capping' of costs.

Councillor Torn commented that if Council was agreeable to the Recommendation, a further £10,000 might be raised from other sources. Following lengthy discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

That it be agreed in principle that, subject to receiving legal advice regarding the appropriateness, lawfulness and viability of the Plan, that the sum of £30,000 be allocated from General Reserves for legal expenses

FC/51/15 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE BUDGET MONITORING to 30.6.2015

Members noted receipt of the internal spreadsheet detailing final Council and Committee Budget Monitoring at 30th June 2015.

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note the Budget Monitoring information

FC/052/15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report that a response from Chris Carey was still awaited. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

- (a) To note the Clerk's Report**
- (b) That the document, when available, be perused by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council and the Chairman of the Planning, Environment and Transport Committee**

FC/053/15 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Members noted the comments of Councillor Butler regarding HACK Horsham's hire of Roffey Millennium Hall and the positive comments regarding the building made by those attending the group.

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note Councillor Butler's comments

FC/054/15 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members noted the list of invoices for approval and payment tabled at the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the schedule of accounts for payment, totalling £125,749.70 be authorised

FC/055/15 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 12th November 2015

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

..... Signed

.....Dated