

**STEEP PARISH COUNCIL**

**CHAIRMAN:** Jim MacDonald

**CLERK:** Jenny Hollington

**Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 at Steep Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs. Jim MacDonald (in the Chair) Terry Cook Nick Hurst  
Peter Cruttenden Christopher Laycock Simon Bridger  
Graeme Fairley

**In Attendance:** Jenny Hollington - Clerk

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**Minute Item Action**

17/58 APOLOGIES – Apologies had been received from Cllr. Jenny Martin

17/59 MINUTES – The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were approved and signed.

17/60 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any interest in any matter on the Agenda - none declared.

17/61 PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment

17/62 FINANCE

(a) The March bank reconciliation was approved. It was noted that the cash book balance at 10<sup>th</sup> March is £10900.89.

(b) After discussion, it was agreed to continue with the HR service for another year. The following cheques were therefore approved for April payment:

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
100120	317.00	HALC	Affiliation fees
100121	6.80	Petersfield Town Council	Dog bin Steep Common
100122	180.00	HALC	HR Consultancy
Total :	£503.80		

17/63 AUDIT 2016/17 – The Clerk confirmed that the internal audit is to be carried out on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

17/64 ROADS AND TRAFFIC –

**Leaf Sweeping** - As agreed at the last meeting, the Chairman wrote to EHDC to complain that the lanes have not been swept of leaves - since then, a road sweeper has been spotted in the village. However, it was noted that the lorry was full and that the leaves were being discharged back into the lane. It was agreed that the Chairman should complain to EHDC again as this had obviously been a wasted exercise.

Chair

**Hampshire Highways** – Road repairs have been carried out at Elmwood Corner, in Steep Marsh and scalplings laid on top of the muddy laybys through the Marsh - time will tell whether this will

be an adequate repair! Pot holes have been filled but road closures appear to have been chaotic and not as per notifications received. As yet, the blocked gully in Mill Lane is still to be addressed – the Clerk was asked to chase this.

Clerk

**Enforcement Issues** – The Chairman will write again to Highways with regard to overgrown hedges on Mill Lane Corner. The Clerk was asked to contact the owners of the property on the corner of Ashford Lane where hedges are overgrown which pushes vehicles into the middle of the lane.

Chair

Clerk

**Traffic Management – Stoner Hill/Cricketers Crossroads** – A very useful working party meeting had been held with Ian Janes, HCC Traffic Management, to discuss proposals to slow traffic on Stoner Hill. Mr. Janes said that there is now a small amount of funding available and that he will follow up the proposals with HCC staff over the summer and come back with recommendations. Improved sight lines at the junction at the top of Ridge Common Lane will also be incorporated into the plan, as this is not quite so straightforward as first thought. In the meantime, Mr. Janes requested that any non-serious incidents on Stoner Hill are recorded by the parish to help provide support for these improvements. The Clerk was asked to notify residents via the newsletter and website of this request. Cllr. Laycock was thanked for his endeavours in taking on this project and arranging the meeting.

Clerk

17/65 **FOOTPATHS** – Cllr. Martin’s footpath report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was discussed. The Chairman commended Cllr. Martin on the clarity of her report which hi-lighted the issues and suggested outcomes.

(a) Footpath 22a - It was agreed to seek SGS funding in the next round of funding applications and match funding from the District Councillor, to carry out the work required, as per discussions last year.

Clerk

(b) BOAT 33 (The Old Coach Road) – It was agreed to write to Froxfield P.C. and S. Water (a water leak contributed to the damage) and the motorbike club, to ask for contributions towards the work required.

Clerk

(c) Footpath 26 (stiles) – Unbeknownst to the Parish Council, HCC have written to the landowners and the issues are now being addressed. The Clerk was asked to establish who owned the land on the other side of the second stile and write to them to request a layer of scalping is laid at the base of the stile.

Clerk

(d) BOAT 32 (Shipwrights Way, Kettlebrook) – A complaint regarding a large hole requires further investigation. The Clerk was asked to follow this up with HCC.

Clerk

(e) Lutcombe Pond – There is no further news on the leaking pond but the erosion by the gate is due to be dealt with shortly.

(f) Footpath 12 – The fallen tree will be reported to the Rangers to be dealt with.

(g) Footpath 22a – Cllr. Bridger will follow up on the fallen tree.

SB

17/66 **MAP BOARD** – Further clarity is required on design elements, as it is not clear whether there is a raised bevel which will cause the water to pool. The Clerk was asked to follow up on this and colour/appearance of the finish. It was agreed that the new board should be positioned further in from the road and this will require the land to be levelled - the Clerk was asked to liaise with the Lengthsman as to whether this is something he could do.

Clerk

17/67 **THE LENGTHSMAN SCHEME** – Unfortunately, the proposed work to clear the ditch in Ridge Common Lane had been delayed, due to a broken down vehicle.

Councillors agreed that, now the scheme has been running for a year, a review should be carried out to establish whether the project is fit for purpose. The Clerk was asked to e-mail the Clerks of the other parishes in the cluster and obtain their feedback. A meeting with the Lengthsman will be arranged for May.

Clerk

17/68 STEEP COMMON – The repairs to the football pitch have now been carried out by the School.

17/69 STEEP IN NEED CHARITY – An up-date had been received from the Trustees of the Steep in Need Charity who are keen to start fulfilling their charitable aims by identifying potential beneficiaries and making modest grants. They have therefore decided to sell one piece of land (Sandy Lane in Steep Marsh) in order to release funds. The Trustees remain conscious of community interest and are committed to consulting with the Parish Council and the wider community and hope to provide a further update to the Parish Council in the Autumn.

CORRESPONDENCE –

17/70

- Government Housing White Paper - Consultation on changes to planning policy and legislation – Councillors were asked to provide feedback to the Chairman who is co-ordinating responses to HALC
- EHDC – The Great Get Together – 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> June – Not felt appropriate for Steep P.C.

Chair

17/71 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY – The Ashford Hangers Rangers aren't equipped to speak on local flora and fauna so other options for speakers will now be explored.

Clerk

MEETINGS ATTENDED –

17/72

- EHAP&TC Meeting – Simon Jenkins had been present and spoke about the planning process. A Planning training in CIL is to be offered soon, and parishes were encouraged to cluster up for more individually aimed training sessions.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS –

17/73

- Meeting with SDNPA representatives to discuss parish planning issues – 10.4.17 – 2.30 p.m., Steep Village Hall

17/74 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – The next Annual Parish Assembly and Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May. at Steep Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.