

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Jim MacDonald

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, 6th November 2017 at Steep Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Peter Cruttenden (in the Chair) Terry Cook Nick Hurst
Jenny Martin Simon Bridger Jeff Graham

In Attendance: County Councillor, Russell Oppenheimer (later in the meeting)
District Councillor, Nick Drew
Jenny Hollington, Clerk

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Minute	Item	Action
17/159	<u>APOLOGIES</u> – Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Jim MacDonald and Chris Laycock.	
17/160	<u>MINUTES</u> – The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 2 nd October 2017 were approved and signed.	
17/161	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any interest in any matter on the Agenda - none declared.	
17/162	<u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u> – None	
17/163	<u>PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY</u> – The resignation of Cllr. Spurdle, due to increased work commitments, was noted. EHDC will be notified and the vacancy advertised appropriately.	Clerk
17/164	<u>COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT</u> – Cllr. Oppenheimer’s report is attached (Appendix A) – Cllr. Oppenheimer’s campaign to protect BOATS was noted with interest. A copy of the report will be sent to the Newsletter/Website so that it is readily available to members of the public.	Clerk
17/165	<u>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT</u> – Cllr. Drew has asked EHDC Officers to advise on alternative sources of grant funding for Steep School’s Eco-Garden proposal, as he is keen for the project to go ahead. Cllr. Drew has also been in communication with residents of the Island who are unsure of the implications of the proposed changes to the settlement boundary in the SDNPA Local Plan. It was agreed that the Parish Council should clarify the situation via the December edition of the Newsletter and urge any concerned residents to contact the P.C. direct if worried.	Clerk/ PC
17/166	<u>FINANCE</u>	
	(a) The bank reconciliation for October was approved and signed.	
	(b) The following cheques for November payment were authorised and signed:	

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
100149	£35.00	Information Commissioner	Data protection
100150	£60.00	Ray Street	Website (July-Sept)
100151	£155.47	ALS Environmental	Water leak - Pratts Lane
100152	£16.80	Petersfield Town Council	Dog Bin

Steep Parish Council – Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 6.11.17

100153	£20.00	HALC	4 x Good Cllr. Guides
100154	£1,217.92	Clerk	Sept & Oct + expenses
100155	£250.00	Steep PCC*	Churchyard maintenance

Total : £1,755.19

*Cheque 100155, it was agreed that the Treasurer of Steep Church should be asked to attend a future meeting to detail the use of churchyard funding. Clerk

(c) Accounts spreadsheets – The spreadsheets have now been adapted so that the figures are broken into smaller categories and feed into the budget spreadsheet.

17/167 BUDGET – A copy of actual to budget figures to 10.10.17 and an initial budget proposal for basis of discussion had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that a small surplus had been achieved 2016/17 and, based on current figures, it appears there will also be a small surplus 2017/18. Reserves remain healthy. The budget proposal 2018/19 has been based on the current precept of £14,000. However, the full cost of the Speed Watch Scheme needs to be fully understood, as does the Traffic Management Scheme proposed for Stoner Hill. The S.106 monies due to Steep which can be allocated to these schemes is still to be confirmed by EHDC. It was agreed that the Clerk should pin down these unknowns for further discussion at the December meeting. Clerk

17/168 PROPOSED RESPONSE TO SDNPA LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION – A draft response (Appendix B) had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and was approved. The response will be made available via the P.C. website and detailed in the December edition of the Newsletter. PC/
Clerk

17/169 ROADS AND TRAFFIC

- (a) Traffic Management Scheme – Stoner Hill – Feedback from the Safety Audit has now been received and a further meeting with Joe Folland will be arranged to discuss in more detail. Clerk
- (b) Rockpits Lane – The Clerk was asked to chase Joe Lait as nothing further has been heard about the damage to the roadside as discussed at the last meeting. Clerk
- (c) EHDC Leaf Sweeping – A strongly worded letter is required following advice that EHDC are only able to focus leaf sweeping on urban areas! Clerk
- (d) Water Leak in Pratts Lane – Analysis results have been received and Cllr. Hurst is following up with Southern Water via Hampshire Highways. NH

17/170 SPEEDWATCH SCHEME – The volunteer forms will be passed to the Community Police and training organised as soon as possible. Clerk

17/171 FOOTPATHS

- (a) Footpath 1 – This path (alongside Low Wood in Ridge Common Lane) has now been resurfaced by the Lengthsman, using scalplings provided by HCC, and is much improved.
- (b) Footpath 22a – A spell of dry weather is required before work to improve surfacing can commence.
- (c) Stiles at Footpath 26 – On-going – the Chairman is following up on this Chair
- (d) The Coach Road – E-mail correspondence received from a resident at the top of the Coach Road, outlining concerns, was discussed. It was agreed that Cllr. Martin should obtain further detail from the contractor and respond appropriately. JM

17/172 WAR MEMORIAL – Arrangements for the service to commemorate Armistice Day at the War Memorial on 11.11 followed by coffee and cake at the Village Hall are in place.

17/173 STEEP COMMON–

Bonfire & Firework Event – Feedback from the event has been extremely positive - the firework display was particularly outstanding. The Bonfire Committee anticipate a bumper year and healthy donations for their chosen charities – Naomi House and The Rosemary Foundation. Cllr. Hurst said he had been asked whether it is appropriate to charge a fixed amount for an activity on Common land? This query will be passed to the Bonfire Committee.

Clerk

Tree Safety Audit – No feedback received.

17/174 MAP BOARD – The map board had been installed and looks very smart indeed. Cllr. Drew recommended contacting the Press Officer at EHDC to arrange promotion of the project via the local press.

Clerk

17/175 LENGTHSMAN – The Clerk reported that the Lengthsman Scheme won't be running until the New Year, as Nick Rook-Blackstone concentrates on his Christmas Tree business during November and December. It was agreed that he would be asked to cut back vegetation and clean the “gates” in Steep Marsh in the New Year.

Clerk

17/176 CORRESPONDENCE –

- Data Protection Legislation – Cllr. Hurst will follow up with EHDC to see if they are able to offer advice
- Local Government Boundary Commission consultation – It was noted that draft recommendations propose to incorporate Sheet into the Froxfield and Steep ward. Cllr. Drew indicated that he did not anticipate this being a problem, although it could impact the time he is able to spend on each parish. It was agreed that the details of the consultation should be circulated for further discussion at the December meeting.

NH

Clerk

17/177 MEETINGS ATTENDED–

- Ashford Hangers Meeting – Minutes from this meeting had been circulated. Steep P.C. was pleased to note that Lutcombe Pond is nearing the top of the “jobs list”. The Shoulder of Mutton is looking very smart!
- HALC 70th Anniversary – Attended by the Chairman.

17/178 FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- Volunteer Day – Sunday, 19th November (10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon) – meet at Ashford Farm
- EHAP&TC – Wednesday, 29th November in the Council Chamber at Penns Place – Cllr. Rob Humby (HCC) and the EHDC Roads and Traffic Team are speakers.
- Hampshire Highways – Autumn Briefing – 13th December – Cllr. Cook will attend.

17/179 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – The next Meeting of Steep Parish Council will be held on Monday, 4th December at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.