

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Mrs. Caroline Robinson

CLERK: Mrs. Jenny Hollington

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 3rd October 2011 at Steep Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Caroline Robinson (in the Chair) Terry Cook Simon Bridger
Suzi Openshaw Jim MacDonald Jenny Martin

In Attendance: Vaughan Clarke (County Councillor)
Jenny Hollington (Clerk)
Cath Hart, Project Officer, Shipwright's Way

There were no members of the Public present.

11/102 APOLOGIES: - Charles Gibson, Graham Banks and Nick Hurst

11/103 TO AGREE MINUTES - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th September were agreed and signed as correct records of the meetings.

11/104 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - The Chairman reminded Councillors that any interests should be recorded as necessary

11/105 PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

11/106 SHIPWRIGHT'S WAY

Cath Hart, Project Officer for the Shipwright's Way from EHDC, was in attendance at the meeting to discuss Steep Parish Council's concerns, in particular where the route crosses the railway line at Tankerdale Lane and the narrowness of the path as it passes Kettlebrook Cottages.

Railway Crossing - Cath explained that she has met with representatives from Network Rail to discuss the railway crossing at Tankerdale Lane (which will be open to pedestrians and cyclists - not horses). Network Rail has carried out tests and is satisfied that the proposed route and use of the crossing passes their safety criteria. Councillors expressed their strong reservations that families with young children on bikes would be able to cross the railway safely bearing in mind the speed of trains and the bend. It was suggested that a warning be issued on all Shipwright's Way maps and publicity so that families are aware of the problem before setting out. An alternative route could also be advertised for those not wishing to use the railway crossing – Cath said that she took these suggestions on board.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should draft a letter to Network Rail expressing the strong concern of the Parish Council.

Kettlebrook Cottages – The condition of the path at Kettlebrook Cottages was discussed. Cath explained that funding for up-grading this stretch of the route is available. Trees will be cut back and the path taken back to the hard surface underneath by clearing the leaves and loose earth, and drainage tunnels will be opened up. Councillors agreed that they did not want the path fenced. Cath explained that as a promoted route, the path will get priority for maintenance but Councillors were not convinced as this has not been the case with the Hanger's Way. The Chairman asked that it be put into writing that annual maintenance of the footpath will be carried out and Cath agreed to write to Steep Parish Council to this effect.

The Chairman also asked whether it would be possible to find out how much of Steep’s Developer Contributions was being used towards the Shipwright’s Way as some people were against it. Cath said she would find out and let the Chairman know.

11/107 CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

SDNP/20100/068	Single storey extension to music room	Bedales School, Church Road, Steep, GU32 2DG.	No Objection
SDNP/32767/001	External alterations to the annexe/barn	Brownfields, Midhurst, Petersfield GU31 5AT	No Objection
SDNP/24385/010	Pre-Decision Amendment 4 Affordable dwellings and 2 market dwellings following demolition of farm building	Steep Marsh Farm, Rockpits Lane, Steep Marsh GU32 2BN	To be discussed at next meeting.

11/108 FINANCE –

- (a) The following cheque was agreed in accordance to the budget and signed appropriately – Mythic Beasts (website costs) £60.34.
- (b) The letter from the new Trustees of the charitable land regarding the offer of a £750 donation from the Parish Council was discussed – it was suggested that perhaps the original offer was rather low and that, as well as the goodwill gesture of £750, the Parish Council should give the Trustees a further £1,000 in recognition of the compulsory sale of land at Steep Marsh for the A3. Any further requests for money will require appropriate plans to be submitted.

It was AGREED that £1,750 be offered to the new Trustees of the land held in Trust.

11/109 STEEP COMMON

- (a) Bonfire Night – The Bonfire Working Party have requested the use of the Common for the annual bonfire and firework display on Saturday, 5th November. The Clerk was asked to notify the insurance company. Jim said that he would liaise with Paul Garstin with regard to the risk assessment.
- (b) Diggers Club – The Clerk had received a request for a Camper Van to be allowed access to the Common on 11th, 12th and 13th October (2.30-5.00 p.m.) for a school cooking activity. This was agreed subject to appropriate risk assessments.

11/110 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday, 7th November 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

The Meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.