

**AMENDED**

**STEEP PARISH COUNCIL**

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mrs. Caroline Robinson

**CLERK:** Mrs. Jenny Hollington

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at Steep Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. Caroline Robinson (in the Chair)  
Simon Bridger  
Nick Hurst

Jenny Martin  
Jim MacDonald

Terry Cook  
Graham Banks

In Attendance: County Councillor, Vaughan Clark  
Clerk, Jenny Hollington  
Drake Hocking, Landscape Character Assessment  
Chris Buchan-Hepburn (Hyde Housing)  
Steven Keel and Chris Monk (representatives of Austin Builders)

There was 1 member of the Public present.

12/138 APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Charles Gibson and Suzi Openshaw

12/139 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - The Chairman reminded Councillors that any interests should be recorded as necessary.

12/140 PUBLIC COMMENT – There were no comments from the public.

12/141 FEEDBACK ON LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Drake Hocking was in attendance to receive Parish Council comments/feedback with regard to the Landscape Character Assessment, a draft of which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councillors agreed that the document was very comprehensive and informative and that no amendments were necessary. Furthermore it will provide the Parish Council with a solid grounding and useful reference tool for assessing planning applications – the Chairman thanked Drake for his considerable hard work in producing the document.

12/142 DISCUSSION WITH AUSTIN BUILDERS

The Chairman welcomed Chris Buchan-Hepburn of Hyde Housing and Stephen Keel and Chris Monk of Austin Builders to the meeting. Chris Buchan-Hepburn explained that a potential site for affordable housing has been identified within the Parish, in Ridge Common Lane, and said that negotiations are underway with the landowner. Chris said that this was a courtesy visit, as the site is privately owned, but he is keen to engage with the Parish Council and secure their support, as well as the Village's.

A very early draft of the sort of plan envisaged had been circulated and was discussed. The suggested plan currently shows 10 affordable homes and one barn conversion proposed as a rural exception site. Concerns were raised with regard to the impact on the landscape and the implications for extra traffic at the C18 crossroads. Councillors were assured that the design of the houses would be looked at in great detail, and Hampshire Highways would be consulted with regard to the road. The Clerk was asked to forward the landscape assessment to Austin Builders and Chris Buchan-Hepburn for information.

Chris Buchan-Hepburn re-iterated that, as in previous discussions of a few years ago, the houses will all be for rent only to those on the housing register with a Steep connection. He will be reviewing the register for current need and the size of houses required.

Following discussion, Councillors decided to back the scheme in principle and that it should be taken forward to the next stage in view of the need for affordable housing and the lack of suitable sites being made available.

12/143 ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr. Hurst confirmed that he was prepared to be a member of the Planning Committee for a trial period. The Chair and Vice-Chair will share a position on the Committee.

Proposed meeting dates were circulated – Councillors agreed an alternative date should be found for 12<sup>th</sup> November (which is the date of the Parish Council Meeting) – the Clerk to check availability of the Village Hall for a different night of the week.

12/144 CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllr. Banks declared an interest in planning application SDNP/12/01753/FUL (place of work)

SDNP/12/01662/ hous	<b>New dormer window to front, alterations to existing dormers, roof repairs and relocation of front door</b>	Upper Ashford Lodge, Stoner Hill Road, Froxfield GU32 1AD	No Objection
SDNP/12/01794/ time	<b>Renewal of extant planning permission EHDC 27686/002</b>	Kettlebrook Springs, Elmwood Lane, Steep Marsh, GU32 2BP	No Objection
SDNP/12/01753/ FUL	<b>New lighting scheme for tennis courts</b>	Bedales School, Church Road, Steep GU32 2DG.	No Objection
SDNP/12/01803/ hous	<b>2-storey extension to side following demolition of side garage and lobby</b>	Trelawn, Farnham Road, Sheet GU32 2AP	No Objection

12/145 FINANCE

The following cheques were approved – 100185 (Audit Commission), 100186 (Mrs. Jenny Hollington).

12/146 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

**Common and Hangers –**

- Cllr. Bridger agreed to attend the Consultative Committee Meeting at Queen Elizabeth Country Park on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October in place of Cllr. Cook who is unable to make it.
- There is to be an official opening of Cobbett’s Viewpoint on 29<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr. Martin will attend.
- A Volunteer Work Day has been arranged for Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> November from 10.00-12.00 a.m.at Lutcombe Pond.
- The annual Bonfire and Firework event is to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr. MacDonald will liaise with Paul Garstin regarding the siting of the bonfire to ensure best protection of the Oak tree.

**Footpaths**

- BOAT 31 – the Chairman congratulated Cllr. Martin on raising the money for this project from various sources. Cllr. Martin confirmed that the work will start in October
- Footpath 5 – the Church Path is being re-surfaced by Bedales as part of their Badley weekend. The Clerk has been successful in obtaining grants from H.C.C. towards this work.

### **Roads and Traffic**

- The ditches in Steep Marsh have been repaired – however, there is now a large pothole causing problems opposite Willowmead in Steep Marsh – the Chairman will report this to H.C.C.
- Trees in Ashford Lane are being damaged by large vehicles and need to be cut back – the Chairman will also chase this up.

### **Village Hall and War Memorial**

- Cllr Cook will obtain two more quotes for solar panels, to compare prices with the one already received. A meeting of Village Hall Trustees will be needed if the project is to be progressed;
- Now that the hedge has been cut back at the Village Hall, the Information Kiosk is more visible from Church Road and needs a new notice so that “Information” can be seen from Church Road as opposed to “telephone” – the Clerk to action;
- Cllr Cook was asked to obtain three quotes for tree work in the car park and to liaise with Cllr. MacDonald with regard to what work is required;
- Remembrance Day falls on a Sunday this year – the Chairman said she felt sure that Rosemary Lilley will ensure the War Memorial is looking at its best for the church service;

### **I.T.**

- Cllr. MacDonald and the Clerk have both received spam e-mails via the P.C. squirrel mail. They were asked to notify Ray Street of this issue;

### **Parish Plan**

- The Launch Event is being held on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> October. Councillors were reminded to forward their photographs to the Chairman for the Parish Council information stand.

### 12/147 CORRESPONDENCE

E-mail correspondence regarding the damaged bollards outside Steep School was discussed. Cllr. Openshaw has met with Hampshire Highways to look at this and several other issues, including the C18 crossroads and the Mill Lane junction. Councillors agreed a concerted plan is needed for Church Road and accepted that the bollards don't work and alternative measures are necessary! Cllr Openshaw will follow this up with Richard Peach from HCC and the Working Party looking at the roads issues.

E-mail correspondence with regard to traffic counts for Steep Marsh was discussed and it was agreed that HCC should be asked to organise a traffic count so that correct current information is available – the Chairman to liaise with Cllr. Openshaw to organise this.

### 12/148 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

The next Planning Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 p.m. at Steep Village Hall.

The Meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.