

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan
01730 261666

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 7th July 2003, at 7.30pm at Steep Village Hall

Present: Richard Coles (in the chair) Terry Cook Charles Gibson
Sheila Fairley Peter Cruttenden Sue Onslow Caro Robinson

Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)

Jennifer Gray (District Councillor)
John West (County Councillor)

Tony Struthers (Co-ordinator of Steep Traffic Management Group)
Phil Morris (Web Site Manager)

There were 0 members of the Public

03/28 APOLOGIES
No Apologies.

03/29 WEB SITE
Phil Morris was introduced to the Parish Council. He told the members that he was enthusiastic and technically capable, ready to gain experience in the role of looking after the village web site. He said that the 'items for sale' was now active and some use was being made of the facility. Peter added that it needed to become habit for local people to look for information there, such as the film club showings, meetings and events. Richard thanked Phil for his time and efforts in updating the website.

03/30 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
The minutes of the Annual General Meeting dated Wednesday 14th May 2003 and sub-committee meeting held on Monday 9th June 2003 were agreed as an accurate record.

03/31 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:
03/22 Tony Struthers reported that a letter had been sent to Councillor Estlin regarding the issues discussed at the previous meeting. Richard said he had had a reply and Bridget said all members had been sent copies of these. Tony felt the reply had been very defensive. Terry and Richard reported that they had met Mike Pillans from Hampshire Highways East and it was agreed that the work on Church Road this summer would also include the removal of spoil and the provision of country style kerbing along the length to the east of Mill Lane to Tony's house. Bad patches would be resurfaced. It was hoped to clear the roadworks for evenings and weekends. Bridget reported that Hampshire Highways East had requested that each Parish nominate a person to act as local co-ordinator for highways issues, to liaise directly with the local Highways Manager. Tony Struthers agreed to act as the parish co-ordinator for Steep. Caro will feed her work through Tony also. Richard thanked Tony for his hard work.
Peter suggested asking for time on the agenda of the Central Committee at EHDC to acknowledge the work they have done regarding traffic management and to move the plan forward. Tony felt that local and county levels are not working together. **Tony** and **Bridget** to send a letter to EHDC to get an item on their agenda.

Bridget added that she had received information from Highways to say they will also be closing Ashford Lane, North of Island Farm Lane for 500 metres to carry out resurfacing during this summer.

John West expressed hope that the level of the ditch would be lowered, as pipe is still half-submerged. He also suggested that the level of contractor supervision is not satisfactory.

03/23 Following the report by John Lancaster and the subsequent sub-committee meeting regarding the housing needs survey Richard reported that a reply from The Countryside Agency had been received saying that it was unable to help with the actual building costs of the shop but may be able to help with the internal work which related specifically to the new service provision. This would be dependent on a formal application process and their assessment in relation to national prioritisation criteria.

Bridget reported that she had received a brochure from Odyssey via email and that when more brochures are sent by post these would be distributed to all members.

Charles reported that Jeremy Young had been engaged to value the land for the council. He had also received a business plan from a similar scheme and would share this when appropriate.

Terry felt that a timetable needed to be formulated to keep the momentum of the project and raised the issue of the promised public meeting. It was agreed to make this meeting on Monday 15th September, to discuss the survey results and the background message this suggests.

Peter suggested that the results were published on the website. And Charles suggested a summary could be placed in the parish magazine along with the details of the meeting. **Bridget** to draft the item for the magazine and **Peter** to check.

Charles added that the public would be asking questions regarding the shop. **Charles** to contact the Post Office to see if they would put a sub-post office in the proposed development.

It was agreed to have a separate sub-committee meeting on Monday September the 1st to discuss the Housing and Shop Project further. Terry suggested that we move forward on choosing the Housing association before our meeting. It was agreed to approach the three associations highlighted on the list Peter and Charles drew up. Odyssey could be approached at a later date. **Peter** and **Bridget** to draft letters and **Richard** to sign.

Jennifer Gray highlighted the highways and environmental issues relating to the site, but it was agreed that these agencies would be involved at the later planning stages.

03/32 PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

03/33 REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

Allotments

Bridget reported that all the tenants were paid for the terms of tenancy.

Common

Charles reminded the meeting that the play equipment on the common had been raised at the previous meeting. **Bridget** to collect brochures and pass to **Charles**.

Footpaths

The issue of some new trees by Steep Farm, causing walkers to alter their route away from the house was raised and **Sue** and **Sheila** are to familiarise themselves with the situation and decide if further action is needed.

Roads

Caro reported that the pothole by Cobblers is getting big again. Terry said the corner by the waterfall on Mill Lane was being worn away, causing people to drive around it in the middle of the road. **Caro** to report to dept. Richard reported that the marked areas on Ridge Common Lane had still not been repaired.

John West asked if monthly contact with Brian Jackson's team was in place and Caro reported that it was.

Steep Memorial Village Hall

Richard reported that Charles, David Llewelyn (Steep Village Memorial Hall Trust) and himself had had quotes for replacing the windows in parts of the village hall. The company they are keen to use provide double-hung, sash-style windows opening top and bottom. They are also planning to replace the end kitchen window to match.

Richard said that David is applying for grants from EHDC and HCC and asked that the initial £250 agreed as contribution from the Parish Council be raised to £500 as this would raise the level of grants available. Peter asked for the total cost of the replacements and this was given as £6,803. He questioned whether a direct link between our contribution and that of higher grants had been proven. After further discussion

It was resolved by Charles to raise the contribution to £500, seconded by Sheila and lost by 4 votes to 2.

Steep Village Memorial Film Club

Sheila reported that the grant money applied for had been received and a meeting was to be held the following day. The initial films had been chosen and they were in the process of choosing chairs. There was an enthusiastic feeling within the club. Sue asked for the continued endorsement of the parish council and an acknowledgement of the work done by Maggie, Kate and Sheila. All members agreed.

Planning

Planning Decisions (May – July 7th 2003)

- F.37453/001 Meadowlands – Garden Shed – No. Objection - Permission
- F.36372/002 The Lodge. Adhurst St. Mary – New Garage – No Obj. - Refused
- F.23490/033 The Folly House – Variation of condition 1 – Commencement of time. – No Objection. - Permission
- F.21792/015 Ashjay Barn – Triple garage and glazed link – Obj. - Permission
- F.26264/005 Natterjacks – 2 storey extension – Refused – Appeal in June -Allowed
- F.34291/008 Ashford Farm – Detached agricultural dwelling – Objection – Permission - awaiting legal agreement
- F.37453/ Meadowlands, Steep Marsh – Garage conversion – No obj - Permission
- F.29509/002 The Cricketers, Steep – Two-storey side extension – No objection with comments (discussed at meeting)- Permission
- F.37859/001 West Argyle Farm – Certificate of Lawfulness – No Obj.- Refused
- F.37859/001 The Bee House, Froxfield – Garden Room – No Comment - Refused

Decisions Pending

- F.30928/019 Adhurst St Mary – New hotel – No Obj with Comments –awaiting amended plans
- F.37138/001 Steep Marsh Farm – Replacement industrial units – Objection

New

- F.29572/002 May Cottage, Mill Lane – Conservatory, ground and 1st Floor extension. – Object
- F.22408/017 The Oaks, Steep Marsh – Retention of Car Port – Caro asked the meeting for their opinions on this, considering a double garage had already been refused last year. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to Object on the grounds that a double garage had already been declined.
- F.36372/003 The Lodge, Adhurst St. Mary – Detached garage – **Caro** to deal with.

03/34 HAMPSHIRE NOW MAGAZINE

John West told the meeting that the latest issue of the magazine was due to be delivered by post.

03/35 FINANCE

Bridget informed the meeting that draft accounts for the year ending 31st March 2003 had been circulated with the agenda. **Caro proposed the adoption of the accounts and statement of Assurance and Sue seconded. The Council agreed unanimously to adopt the accounts for the year ending March 31st 2003.**

Bridget informed the meeting that the balance of the Portman account as at 03/06/03 (the latest statement she has in the file) stood at £5758.29

Peter informed the meeting that a further bill is to be expected for the village website. **Bridget** to include the payment of the water bills on next year's tenancy agreement for the appropriate allotment.

The following cheques were approved at the meeting:

800145	EHDC (Election Charges)	£92.02
800146	B MacMillan (Salary + Expenses)	£693.16
800147	South East Water	£ 7.50
800148	Peter Cruttenden (web site renewal)	£113.97

03/36 CORRESPONDENCE

Bridget informed the meeting that she had received the following correspondence for the attention of the Councillors.

EHDC Chairman's Visit

Bob Ayer has indicated he would like to attend a parish meeting. **Bridget** to write to his office with a list of dates, when these have been confirmed.

HAPTC – Quality Parish Scheme

Bridget to report to the next meeting with further details of this scheme when she has attended a meeting run by NALC on July 23rd.

03/37 DATES AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

- Monday 1st September - Housing Needs and Shop -7.30pm
Monday 8th September – 7.30pm
Tuesday 16th September – Public Meeting – 7.30pm
Monday 3rd November - 7.30pm
Monday 12th January 2004 –7.30pm