

## STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan  
01730 261666

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 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

In Attendance: Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)

Tony Struthers (Co-ordinator of Steep Traffic Management Group)

There were 0 members of the Public

03/47 APOLOGIES

Apologies from Jennifer Gray (District Councillor) and John West (County Councillor) were accepted

03/48 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Sub-committee meeting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September, Parish Council Meeting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September and Public Meeting on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2003 were agreed as an accurate record.

03/49 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Richard reminded the Councillors that any interests should be recorded.

03/50 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:

03/10 Councillors thanked Bridget for drafting a new letter in support of the case for a rise in the number of Councillors and agreed for it to be sent to EHDC.

Housing/Shop – **Richard** to telephone Petersfield Housing Association to update them on position. **Charles** and **Peter** to arrange and meet Odyssey. Sub Committee meeting set for **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2003**, to discuss housing associations. **Peter** and **Charles** to devise survey for Post Office use.

03/43 School plans for new gates onto the common. Richard and Terry reported that they had met with Rollo and Helen Wilson and discussed their desire for the new gates. After discussion Councillors agreed 5:1 to compromise with a single gate, of solid design and of hedge height, which would not give vehicular access though the common.

(03/42) Mill Meadow Field and Public comment. Following a letter from Bridget EHDC have replied stating that it is Council procedure to inform only those properties physically abutting the actual site, as opposed to the whole parcel of land. Also that this is generated by computerised map. The letters from those who opposed the development prior to the application are kept in confidence and not used in the neighbourhood notification process. However, as a result of the letter a wider sweep would be performed when the next application for this site is considered.

03/51 PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

03/52 STEEP TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

Councillors thanked Tony Struthers for the report received prior to the meeting. Tony to continue to press for these matters to be resolved. Richard reported that no reply had been received from Bedales to the letter requesting a meeting. **Bridget** to draft a new letter for Richard to send. Richard to approach at meeting on November 11<sup>th</sup> if no reply by then.

Terry asked if the Highways agency had responded re: turning into Steep Marsh from the A3. Sue told the meeting that when she tackled this 2 years ago they had felt the sightlines and signs made this an adequate turning.

03/53 REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

Allotments

No Comment

Common

Sheila raised the question of the tree management on the Common. **Terry** suggested that a plan be drawn up and published in the newsletter for work planned next year so that the parishioners were aware of what and why trees were being cut on the common.

Caro reported that she had been working on the ideas for new play equipment. It was questioned whether the insurance implications were prohibitive. The Councillors considered the range of equipment available, but **Caro** to cost with flooring and report sizes before decisions are made. **Caro** to report at next meeting and **Bridget** to look at insurance implications.

Hangers

Sheila and Terry reported that they had been to the Ashford Hangers Consultative committee meeting and that after further discussion with John West it had been decided to leave the current seat where it was and have a new seat on the edge of the council land where new, commanding views can be enjoyed. **Terry** to contact Tony Marsh for permission to cut some ash trees back. David Ball is to clear 2 acres at trig point in Cockshot Lane and 25% of Shoulder of Mutton. There are two more yew trees to be removed from Shoulder.

Footpaths

Sue reported that she had spoken to Barry Lockyear regarding the footpath by Steep Farm (03/33,03/43) and he recommended a letter be written to the owner and copied to him. **Sue** to continue.

Roads

Bridget reported a crack in Church Road by number 29. Peter reported a large pothole between Fair Rising and Cobblers. **Caro** to follow up.

Steep Memorial Village Hall

Richard reported to the meeting that the council had received a letter from 'Davies chartered loss adjusters' concerning the tree in the village hall car park, which they say has caused structural damage in the house next door. After discussion it was agreed that **Bridget** would write allowing the loss adjusters to do the crowning and thinning work requested to the tree or to have the council arrange it at the loss adjuster's cost.

Planning

Councillors had received a document entitled 'Processes for the review of planning applications' prior to the meeting. Sue asked for the policy re: time allowance and renewal to be added. Councillors agreed to the policy being accepted subject to this addition being made public via the website. The Councillors thanked Peter for his

work on this.

Mill Meadow Field:

Councillors had discussed this application informally prior to the meeting and had circulated a draft response. This was formally agreed at the meeting and **Bridget** to return to EHDC.

Bridget informed Councillors that a large planning application had been received from Bedales, who were having a public meeting in Luptin Hall on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm to present the plans and answer any questions. Councillors were invited to attend.

**Planning Decisions (September 9th – November 3rd 2003)**

F.30928/019 Adhurst St Mary – New hotel – No Obj with Comments –Permission  
F.34291/009 Ashford Farm – Approval of Reserved matters, Dwelling and Parking  
– Objection – Approved

**Bridget** to pull out file for **Charles** to check this decision.

F.21242/027 West, Steep Marsh Farm – To Fell 4 trees – No Objection – Consent  
F.37859/002 West, Argyle Farm – Cert. Of Lawfulness to keep horses – no  
objection –Permission  
F.38508 26 Hayes Cottages – Two sheds to rear – No Objection – Permission

**Decisions Pending**

F.36372/003 The Lodge, Adhurst St. Mary – Detached garage – No Objection  
F.30387/004 Steep Primary School – Extension – No Objection  
H.C.C Also Contacted (Neil Chester)

**New**

F.314282/004 The Studio, Ashford Chace – Two storey extension - No Objection  
F.31482/05 The Studio, Ashford Chace – Relief from Condition 1 (time) for  
detached dwelling – No objection with comments.  
F.39330/001 Mill Meadow Field – Retention of vehicular access, hard standing  
and track.

03/54 FINANCE

Bridget informed the meeting that the year ending March'03 accounts had been approved by the external auditor and certified. Councillors thanked Bridget for her work on the accounts. **Bridget** to advertise this on the board.

Bridget informed the meeting that the balance of the Portman account as at 03/11/03 stood at £7,187.49 and that the £15,000 investment had made a half yearly profit of £174.74 (at 3.23%) as of 1<sup>st</sup> October which has been reinvested with the original capitol.

Bridget told the meeting that she had received a request for a grant of £50.00 from the Petersfield area neighbourhood watch association who has recently lost their national sponsor. Terry informed the meeting that there were 9 watches in the village. All agreed to this grant.

Bridget suggested that a wreath be purchased on behalf of the parish for the war memorial for November 11<sup>th</sup>.

The following cheques were approved at the meeting:

800154	Audit Commission	£141.00
800156	Petersfield Area Neighbourhood watch	£ 50.00

03/55 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Residents – Re: Mill Meadow Field

The meeting acknowledged the correspondence from residents in response the letter from Richard. Councillors received copies of these prior to the meeting.

HCC – Street Lighting

Invitation for bids for inclusion in next year’s programme for the provision of street lighting. Terry suggested that lighting may help on the Dunhurst corner but other members of the council rejected this. Agreed not to apply for any new lights.

03/56 DATES AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Bridget confirmed the list of dates for next year’s meetings unchanged from the draft with the exception of the AGM/APM, which will be Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May. **Bridget** will now contact the office of Councillor Ayer to invite him to attend one of his choice.

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2003 – 7.30pm – sub –committee, Post Office and Shop.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2004 –7.30pm

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March –7.30pm.