

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan
01730 261666

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 8th September 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

In Attendance: Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)

Jennifer Gray (District Councillor)

John West (County Councillor)

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

There were 9 members of the Public

03/38 APOLOGIES

No Apologies.

03/39 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 7th July 2003 were agreed as an accurate record.

03/40 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:

No matters to be discussed.

03/41 Councillor John West

Councillor West asked the Parish Council and members of the public if copies of 'Hampshire Now' magazine had been delivered. Two people remembered receiving this. John will make more attempts to improve the coverage in our area. John asked the Parish Council about the flail cutting in Steep Marsh and will work with Jennifer Gray to improve this. Both Terry and Richard asked for another cut in all areas as only one, early one, had been done.

03/42 PUBLIC COMMENT

Questions were received relating to the planning application for Mill Meadow Field and the procedures undertaken in making the Parish Council's decision of no objection. The Parish Council answered these questions as appropriate and noted the opinions and concerns of those present. It was agreed to communicate with EHDC regarding the complaint that not all neighbouring properties had been contacted with the planning application. **Bridget** to write letter to Head of Planning Control.

0343 REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

Allotments

No Comment

Common

Terry informed the meeting that the Bonfire night celebrations would take place on Wednesday 5th November and asked if the Parish Council agreed to host the event on behalf of the village in order that it could be covered by the Parish Council's insurance. The Parish Councillors agreed unanimously.

Charles reported to the meeting that Bridget had provided him with a selection of brochures for new play equipment. It was agreed that the play equipment should cater

for the 4-11 year olds, as the majority of users would be connected to the school. A new site within the Common could be discussed later as the present part was the wettest. Charles informed the meeting that an EHDC Community Committee grant for up to £2000 could be applied for to add to the Developer's contribution, which stands at £1015.00. Jennifer Gray suggested that **Charles** contact Jen Anderson or Andrew Ferrier at EHDC. **Bridget** to check the insurance policy for cover on any new equipment. A new play surface would also be required and **Terry** and **Charles** will look at Liss Primary School as an example.

Hangers

It was agreed that Sheila would accompany Terry to the next meeting on Tuesday 23rd September. Terry informed the meeting of the following points in relation to the Hangers.

1. Dogwood - It was agreed in May to use sprays on Junipers. The experiment has taken place and the results are due.
2. Volunteer Days have worked hard on Butterfly Walk but the Council has not cut the large trees as promised.
3. The Council have not removed all the Yew and Terry will follow this up.
4. The hawthorn and dogwood on Shoulder have raised comments that it is becoming scrubland
5. On Little Shoulder the saplings have been tree guarded.
6. Pond work not done yet – Terry to press for this.
7. The moving of the Seat also remains to be done.
8. Viewpoints on Stoner have been cleared.

Terry expressed his opinion that the Council are taking care of the footpaths but feel they have no responsibility for any tree maintenance and he would like to see them doing more woodland management. The Parish Council agreed that these points be taken in to the Hangers Meeting. Charles said that the area of Jack's Meadow being mown seems to get smaller each year, and Terry agreed.

Footpaths

Sue reported that Sheila and herself had been to Steep Farm and the footpath is being deviated for approximately 200yards with new trees having been planted as reported (Minute 03/33). The footpath is not being blocked and it is being maintained but the signposts show the path along the fence line. Richard suggested that a short letter be sent to the owner to say that this had been reported and was being noted for the time being.

Sue reported that last year the Parish was required to notify Barry Loke of the footpaths which needed mowing, and she would like to see this list to check that these were being done. **Bridget** to check the files and liase with Sue.

Roads

Tony Struthers reported that the work in Church Road had finally been completed and that the source of the problem had been identified. The Steep Traffic Management Plan has not made any progress. Hampshire County Council has not replied to correspondence from last autumn in relation to this. . It was decided to ask John West to formally raise the lack of progress at County level. **Tony** and **Bridget** to do this. Tony had spoken to Jen Anderson and she will put an item onto the agenda of the Community Central Area Committee with a letter from the Parish Council. **Tony** and **Bridget** to write and send letters.

Caro reported that Brian Jackson had been round the Parish and noted the problems in Mill Lane, at the waterfall corner and by Jennifer's house. **Jennifer** and **Caro** to follow up the visit and press for action. Richard reported that the damage marked for repair outside Aldersnapp Farm had still not been attended to. **Caro** to tour Parish and highlight problems with Brian Jackson.

Caro reported that new hedging had blocked the sight lines from Ashford Lane onto Stoner Hill. Terry informed the meeting that he had mentioned it to the owners of the property. **Caro** and **Bridget** to draft a polite letter requesting that sight lines are

improved.

Steep Memorial Village Hall

Richard informed the meeting that a ‘lonely-hearts’ style advert had been removed from the Notice board. It was felt that this was not an appropriate place for such a notice. Peter suggested that the website could be used and some control maintained over the use of the board. Sue highlighted the fact that a community notice board had been lost with the closure of the shop and it may be an opportunity to reinstate this when the new shop was built. **Richard** will telephone the gentleman who placed the advert to explain the Council’s position.

Richard also informed the meeting that the new bus shelter had at last been started.

Steep Village Memorial Club

The screen and projector are now in place and chairs are expected in time for the first show on September 20th. Councillors were reminded to respond to their invitations as places were being booked.

Planning

Planning Decisions (July 8th – September 8th 2003)

- F.37138/001 Steep Marsh Farm – Replacement industrial units – Objection - Withdrawn
- F.22408/017 The Oaks, Steep Marsh – Retention of Car Port –Objection - Permission
- F.29572/002 May Cottage, Mill Lane – Conservatory, ground and 1st Floor extension. – Object- Permission
- F.39330 Mill Meadow Field – Retention of Vehicular Access – No Objection - Withdrawn
- F. 33708/004 Harrow Field - 3 Antennae – No Objection – Permission with conditions and note.

Decisions Pending

- F.30928/019 Adhurst St Mary – New hotel – No Obj with Comments –awaiting amended plans
- F.36372/003 The Lodge, Adhurst St. Mary – Detached garage – No Objection

New

- F.30387/004 Steep Primary School – Extension – No Objection
H.C.C Also Contacted (Neil Chester)
- F.34291/009 Ashford Farm – Approval of Reserved matters, Dwelling and Parking - Objection

Terry asked the Council to confirm that a double gate had been proposed from the School into the Common as this was a possible site for the new play equipment and also the hedge and Common did not belong to the school. **Jennifer** to talk to Jan Nicholson about their intentions and **Bridget** to write to Neil Chester re: ownership of hedge and Common.

Peter informed the meeting that the placement of planning applications on the website had been discussed and Phil and Bridget will liase to keep them up to date. **Bridget** to email Peter with initial list and possible layout.

03/44 FINANCE

Bridget informed the meeting that the balance of the Portman account as at 08/09/03 (the latest statement she has in the file) stood at £4990.61

Following a letter from Brian Keys, it was agreed to increase the donations to the Newsletter to £220 and the Church Maintenance to £150.00. Terry informed the meeting that the furthest parts of the Parish were not receiving the Newsletter. **Bridget** to write to Mr. Keys asking for this to be rectified.

The following cheques were approved at the meeting:

800149	Phil Morris (Website Software Book)	£15.99
800150	B MacMillan (Salary + Expenses)	£693.16
800151	Paul Kennedy – Internal Audit.	£100.00
800152	Newsletter	£220.00
800153	Churchyard Maintenance	£150.00

03/45 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Step Residents – Re: Mill Meadow Field

Richard reported that he had received a letter signed by a number of residents regarding the Council's decision not to object to the retrospective planning application for vehicular access to Mill Meadow Field, which has now been withdrawn by the applicant. Richard told the meeting that following discussions with Councillors a reply had been sent to all signatories of the letter and a copy of this was distributed to the Councillors. At the meeting he received a letter from David White, owner of the field, stating his case.

Terry has received a letter from a resident regarding a rope swing erected in Hays Cottages. **Bridget** to forward the letter to Hampshire County Council whose land the swing is on.

Road Naming in Ramshill

Bridget has received a call from Anna Roberts at EHDC to say that they are naming the new roads in the development off Ramshill after well-known local residents – and to ask if we wish to reserve the names Edward Barnsley and Sir Alec Guinness for any future developments in Steep village or if they could use these. It was felt that the name of Sir Alec Guinness was not appropriate as he was a private man, and the village had already used his name for the film club. Edward Barnsley was a parishioner in Froxfield and therefore they should be asked. **Bridget** to respond to EHDC.

HAPTC – Bridget informed the meeting that the AGM of HAPTC had been announced and asked if any Councillors wished to attend.

Matters rising

Jennifer told the meeting that although the District was reluctant to grant Steep additional Councillors they would consider an application at this time provided a strong case could be made. **Bridget** to redraft original letter for discussion at next meeting.

Charles has received an email from David Fisher (Virsa) relating to the Post Office proposal outlining the need for more information. **Charles** to respond, requesting a more detailed idea of information required. It was suggested that the website, and also the public meeting, could be used to gain a quick response.

03/46 DATES AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Bridget presented a list of possible dates for next year's meetings for the Councillors to consider. (Councillor Ayer to be invited to attend when dates are confirmed with the Village Hall)

Tuesday 16th September – Public Meeting – 7.30pm

Monday 3rd November - 7.30pm

Monday 12th January 2004 –7.30pm