

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan
01730 261666

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 4th May 2004, 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

There was 1 member of the Public

04/21 APOLOGIES
Apologies from John West and Jenny Gray

04/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Richard reminded the Councillors that any interests should be recorded. Charles and Peter declared a prejudicial interest on Item 5 due to their involvement with Drum Housing Association.

04/23 Bridget informed the meeting that draft accounts for the year ending 31st March 2004 had been circulated with the agenda. **Peter proposed the adoption of the accounts and Caro seconded. The Council agreed unanimously to adopt the accounts for the year ending March 31st 2004.**

04/24 Shop/Housing
Charles reported that no progress had been made with the Post Office as yet.

Bridget passed on Jenny Gray's concern about the village shop's viability with Tesco Express having taken over the One Stop in Petersfield. The Councillors felt this would not affect the village shop any more than the previous shop. Peter informed the meeting that a business plan was now needed to drive the shop proposal forward and Richard asked the Councillors to consider who might be approached to help. Peter suggested a public meeting be held to invite members of the Parish to come onboard

The Councillors discussed aspects of the proposals from the two Housing Associations who had been asked to develop their initial plans.

Richard proposed that the council engage Petersfield Housing Association (PHA) to continue working on the proposal for a shop and affordable housing scheme. The council agreed unanimously (4 – 0) to engage Petersfield Housing Association for the scheme.

It was agreed to have a working group on Monday 10th May to decide terms of reference and develop further ideas to take to PHA. A meeting with PHA could then be arranged prior to a public meeting to consult further with the parish prior to planning being sought.

04/25 Public Comment

Philip Mileham commented that this seemed to be a logical progression for this project.

04/26 Bedales Working Group

Peter reported that the group had decided upon the name Steep Community Liaison Group and had had 3 meetings so far. Bedales had accepted the terms of reference put forward by the parish council. He confirmed that Bedales had withdrawn the Master Plan (not been given the go-ahead as the Petersfield Post reported) and the parish council had then supported the detailed planning application for new teaching and administration buildings. This was subsequently approved with the following conditions:

1. No more detailed planning applications would be considered before a revised Master Plan had been approved.
2. They must submit approved travel plan before work starts.
3. Before work starts a full construction traffic plan must be submitted.

The Group were next meeting on 27th May to discuss the draft travel plan that they have formulated. This draft plan had been extremely disappointing with a poor objective, analysis that was not useful and 30 initiatives that were random ideas. The response to this was being formed.

Terry added that he was disappointed that Bedales still appeared not to accept the level of the problem to the village.

04/27 Steepvillage.com

Peter highlighted the excellent village website and recommended a look at 'Hanger- Man' who reports on the sights and sounds of nature on the Ashford hangers.

Peter also informed the meeting that the web site needed more space to allow Phil Morris to expand. This would increase the cost to the Parish Council to an average of £150.00. The Councillors agreed unanimously to allow this.

04/28 The next meeting of Steep Parish Council would be Thursday 13th May 2004.

Richard closed the meeting.