

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan
01730 261666

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 9th January 2006 at 7.30pm at Steep Village Hall

Present: Richard Coles (in the chair) Terry Cook Philip Mileham
Peter Cruttenden Fran Box Lyn Peters
Caro Robinson Charles Gibson

In Attendance:
Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)
Jenny Gray (District Councillor)
Tony Struthers (Steep Traffic Management Committee)

There were 10 members of the Public during the course of the meeting.

1/06 **APOLOGIES**

Michael Cartwright (County Councillor) sent his apologies.

2/06 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting dated Monday 7th November 2005 were agreed as an accurate record.

3/06 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Richard reminded the Councillors that any interests should be recorded.

4/06 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Council was asked if the village website would be restored and if the minutes from Council meetings could be uploaded. Peter replied that it would be restored when the Web Master's technical problems had been solved. Richard responded that the matter of the minutes would be considered.

District Councillor, Jenny Gray reported that the Council had refused changes to the application for Adhurst St. Mary.

In the planning department, Jeremy Heppell had left and further changes within the department were imminent.

5/06 **REPORT FROM SHOP AND HOUSING PROJECT**

Peter gave a brief recap on the project so far and explained that the project had been halted in the autumn when a change to rural schemes was implemented and Hyde Housing Association became the area representative. Hyde Association then delegated the scheme back to Petersfield Housing Association. This meant a new architect became involved and the issues that had been a problem before could be re-examined. Peter explained that there were now 10 such issues which had been returned to Petersfield Housing Association for response, and these included significant hurdles including road access and the positioning of the houses on the site, before any further public consultation could take place.

Peter reported that the current plans involved moving the houses around the site by 90 degrees away from the village hall and siting the proposed shop on Church Road.

Terry emphasised that no agreement had been made and the proposals were still at the discussion stage.

Richard thanked Peter for his report.

6/06 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Common and Hangers:

Terry reported on a very successful New Year’s Day walk, followed by soup and mulled wine. Michael Cartwright is to give the go ahead for the consultative committee to reconvene. No work had been done on the Hangers as no wardens were available.

Lyn reported that the sub-committee for the playground equipment had received a quote from Handmade places which had seemed quite high. Alternative designs were to be considered. The positioning of the equipment was also being reconsidered to avoid the wettest parts and to allow the bonfire and fireworks to continue. Charles reported that an inspection of the current equipment had been carried out and a report was expected shortly.

Footpaths:

Philip observed rangers working on the footpaths on the hangers Way, alongside the Church.

Roads:

Tony Struthers reported that a revised plan for the traffic signing and gateways was due. He asked that Councillors approved it quickly to enable works to finally begin, as it had been three years since the conception of these plans. Richard thanked Tony for his work.

Caro reported no new problems had been brought to her attention. She is still trying to get the plastic bollards in Steep Marsh replaced with wooden ones and is waiting for a written response to her request that no new bollards are installed without discussion with the Parish Council.

Peter reported that the pavement extension from Bedales to Steep Primary School was due to go ahead in February half term and are expected to take 4 – 6 weeks. Discussions with local residents had taken place although all concerns may not have been resolved. An extension to the plan had been requested to include the end of the footpath, which is used by the walking bus. **Peter** to contact re: kerbstones on north side.

Steep Village Hall and War Memorial:

Bridget reported that the War Memorial had been named as a listed structure.

Philip reported that Bedales are to cut the hedge behind the memorial as requested.

Richard asked if any one knew a local carpenter to quote for the proposed cupboard to house the chairs from the entrance hall.

Allotments:

No comments were made.

7/06 PLANNING

Decisions Made (July 5th – September 5th)

F.39994	Barn on land north of Little Stodham House, Farnham Road, Liss	Agricultural Barn – Altered – No barn reduced road width	Objection – No Objection	Permission
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F.27898/013	Garden Hill Cottage, Island Farm Lane	Retention of implement store	No Objection with comments	Permission
F.26346/008	Land adjacent to 73 Church Road.	Outline for one dwelling (renewal of planning permission F.26346/007)	No Objection	Permission
F.39982/001	Westmark Farm	Replacement Outbuilding and Summer House	No Objection subject to conditions	Permission
F.20271/006	The Butts, Ashford Lane	Lean-to-shed	No Objection	Permission
F.33825/002	Oakhurst, Mill Lane	Conversion and extension of outbuilding to form residential dwelling.	Objection	REFUSAL
F.312410/012	Bowyers, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh	Entrance Gates and Piers,	No Objection	Permission

Decisions Pending

F.230100/056	Bedales School	Masterplan	Objection
F.230100/058	Bedales School	Construction of Music School after demolition of existing	Objection

Peter reminded the meeting that discussions were underway between Bedales and Gwil Williams to resolve the traffic issues on the Masterplan application and that a meeting with the Parish Council was not yet planned. The matter will probably return to the Planning Committee in March.

Bridget reminded Councillors of the meeting on Wednesday 18th January and reported that she had received a request that any questions are kept to general planning matters and given in advance if possible. Two questions were suggested. Bridget to email them to Daryl Phillips prior to the meeting.

Bridget reported that a tree preservation Order had been made on a group of trees in front of Grasslands, Ridge Common Lane. **Bridget** to investigate who ordered this.

8/06 FINANCE

Bridget had distributed the annual budget prior to the meeting. Councillors commended her for the clear presentation of the figures. After lengthy discussions it was agreed unanimously that the precept remains at £7000.00 for the forthcoming year. It was also agreed to allocate £3000 of the reserves (in addition to the £1000 donation made last year) for the new playground equipment and also to pay for any ground clearance costs.

The current account stands at £13012.01

The following cheque was approved at the meeting:

800224	SLCC (subs)	£84.00
800225	Audit Commission	£141.00
800227	B.MacMillan (salary and Expenses)	£834.66

9/06 CORRESPONDENCE

Richard reported that Maggie Owen had decided to resign from the Council. Bridget to inform EHDC and place notices in the parish newsletter and on the board when she receives the resignation.

Bridget reported that she had received the following correspondence;

EHDC contributions – the Open Space Provision stands at £3162.

Ridge Common lane – To be closed temporarily for pipe work in due course.

ODPM Standards - Bridget raised awareness that clarification on personal and prejudicial issues is due shortly.

South Downs Forum - Terry reported that our AONB had joined with others to work on the National Park proposals. **Terry** to continue to attend meeting on the Council's behalf.

10/06 Next Council Meeting –
Monday 6th March– 7.30pm