

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan
01730 261666

Minutes of the Steep Parish Annual Parish Assembly, held on Wednesday 9th May 2007 at Steep Village Hall

Present: Richard Coles (in the Chair) Terry Cook Caro Robinson
Phillip Mileham Fran Box David Llewlllyn
Jenny Martin Jo Bell

In Attendance: Michael Cartwright (County Councillor)
Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)

7 Members of the Public were present

APM07/01 APOLOGIES

Jenny Gray (District Councillor) sent her apologies.

APM07/02 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th May 2006 were agreed as an accurate record.

APM07/03 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Shop / Housing -Richard Coles reported that this year had been fairly uneventful with fewer meetings due to the ending of the partnership with Petersfield Housing Association for the potential shop/housing project. Richard thanked PHA for all their efforts.

Bedales/traffic - Richard congratulated Bedales for their efforts to reduce traffic in the village with the use of minibuses and hoped Bedales were continuing to monitor traffic levels.

Planning – 33 applications during the year. (1 less than last year)

Total Applications	33
No Objection	20
No Obj. with comments or conditions	7
Objection	6
District Response	
Permission	22
Refusal	7
Withdrawn	2
Outstanding	2

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Play Equipment – Still ongoing but Richard hoped it would be completed this year.

Roads – Richard thanked David and Caro for their persistence and continuing work on this never ending task.

Footpaths - Richard reported no major problems this year.

Allotments - all three continued to be let for pony grazing.

Hangers and Common – Richard thanked Terry and Phillip for representing the Council on the Hangers Committee. He reported that the Council were still trying to prevent the County Council from fencing part of the Hangers.

Steep Village Hall – Richard informed the meeting that the hall remained in almost constant use and was in a sound financial position. He informed the new councillors that they had become trustees on their election.

Precept - Set at £6000 for the year, which remained one of the lowest in the area.

Richard thanked Michael Cartwright and Jenny Gray for their attendance and support to the Parish Council.

Although Peter Crutenden and Lyn Peters had not sought re-election Richard acknowledged the work they had done for the Council. Lyn had been working on the play equipment project. Peter had worked especially hard on the Village Design Statement and many other projects in the village.

Richard thanked the Parish Councillors and The Clerk for all their support and hard work over the last year.

Election – Richard expressed his concern at events running up to the election. He added that the things which were said and done had not done the image of the Council any good and hoped Councillors could now work together in harmony over the next twelve months to represent the community to which they had been elected to serve.

APM07/04 FINANCE REPORT

Bridget MacMillan reported to the meeting the Parish Council.
The figures as at March 31st 2007 were as follows:

Current Accounts	Portman	£318.81
	Co-Operative Bank	£457.80
Community Reserve Account	Alliance & Leicester	£11500.00
	Temporary Loan to HCC	£17585.86

Donations

Steep Parish Council made the following donations during the past year:

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All Saints Churchyard maintenance	£420.00
Steep and Stroud Newsletter	£250.00
Citizen's Advice Bureau	£200.00
Neighbourhood Watch	£70.00
Steep Marsh Residents Association	£135.00
Total	£1075.00

Receipts

The Parish Council received a precept of £7000.00 for the year 2006/2007

The precept has been set for £6000.00 for the year 2007/2008

The Parish Council had received income from its allotments of £240.00

The interest earned on deposit investments was £836.40

APM07/05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Michael reported that this was his second year as County Councillor for our Parish. He thanked the Chairman and Clerk for their support and hoped that he had been able to help in some ways.

He informed the members of the public that the County's role was a more strategic one than the District and could be seen as more remote to the Parishes. He added that the Hampshire Action Teams (HATS) was trying to forge stronger links.

He explained the roles of the County in Adult Social Services, Children's services, the environment (including highways and transport) recreation and heritage. The county had raised their budget by 4.9% driven by the pressure on demand led services (especially adult care including older people)

He listed the committees that he served on for the County.

1. Chairman of Policy and Resources Review Committee
2. Chairman of Hants. Fire and Rescue Service
3. Chairman of S. East Regional Board for Fire Authorities
4. Vice Chair of Pensions Panel
5. Regulating Committee
6. South Downs Joint Committee

Michael reported on the local issues that he had worked on over the past twelve months.

Stoner Hill – now reopened, Michael thanked everyone for their forbearance.

He reported that the chevrons were missing due to their being stolen.

HATS –Set up to liaise with district, parish and voluntary bodies locally and had met and identified the first range of issues to deal with; youth, communication from the County, passenger transport, highways and rural footpaths.

APM07/06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Jenny Gray, District Councillor, sent an email with her apologies to thank Richard and the Parish Council for their support during the past 4 years. She informed the meeting that East Hants District Council glass recycling was going well and should start in our area next month. She went on to say that

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affordable housing was slightly above target, but there was great demand for more. Council tax would be frozen, with new schemes (such as car washing in central car park and extra advertising) being brought in to balance the books. So far the District Council was on track. She thanked the PC for their support over the last 4 years although she realised we were disappointed with the stance she took over the Bedales master plan, but she felt the right decision had been made. She added that Bedales had made an enormous effort to reduce the traffic and assures the meeting that it was being carefully monitored by Gwil Williams.

APM08/07 PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

Richard Coles thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.40pm