

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan 01730 261666

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 10th September at 7.30pm at Steep Village Hall

Present:

Richard Coles (in the chair)	Terry Cook	Charles Gibson
Caro Robinson	Fran Box	Philip Mileham
David Llewellyn	Jo Bell	Jenny Martin

In Attendance:
Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)
Jenny Gray (District Councillor)

There were 7 members of the Public during the course of the meeting.

25/07 **APOLOGIES**

Michael Cartwright (County Councillor) sent his apologies.

26/07 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

16/07 David requested that the minutes show that he had proposed that Fran continue to write the reports with approval by the chairman before submission. Councillors agreed to this.

15/07 Fran requested that the minutes show that the member of the public had asked for an allotment. Councillors agreed to this.

David asked that the minutes show that the council had simply agreed to meet Hyde Housing. This was agreed.

The minutes of the previous meeting, dated Monday 2nd July were then agreed as an accurate record.

27/07 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Richard reminded the Councillors that any interests should be recorded

28/07 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

A parishioner informed the meeting that 7 households had shown an interest in having an allotment. Another parishioner asked for reassurance that after the meeting with Hyde Housing the Council would brief the village and have a public meeting before responding to the Housing Association. Richard explained that the proposed meeting was purely exploratory talks and if a public meeting was justified then one would be held.

29/07 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Jenny explained that the Social Enterprise Scheme had been dealt with prior to the meeting.

Councillors were reminded that the consultation period for the new boundary proposals for the South Downs National Park had been extended.

Jenny informed the meeting that a New EHDC Housing Strategy would be put before cabinet on September 19th. The housing team would then be visiting local parishes to present it. Jenny informed the meeting that the district were under pressure to provide more affordable housing in rural areas.

Planning – Jenny informed the meeting that the tennis club had been granted permission for their lights. The Studio planning had been withdrawn because it was too big.

Jenny told the meeting that she would talk with Daryl Phillips re: the difficulties with e-planning.

30/07 **SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK**

Councillors had received the basis for a possible response to the consultation prior to the meeting.

The Councillors discussed the impact of the new proposed boundary on the A.O.N.B. status of the parish. **David** agreed to formulate the response from the Council on the basis of Tony Struther's reply and John Vennings notes and circulate to Councillors. Philip to help. **Bridget** will then file the response online to the Secretary of State.

31/07 CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Councillors had received a draft copy of the proposed policy prior to the meeting. **Bridget** to alter wording from 'committee' to 'council' and Councillors to sign at next meeting. Jenny Martin agreed to act as Child Protection Officer.

32/07 HYDE HOUSING

Richard informed Councillors that the meeting with Hyde Housing was set for Monday 17th September at 7.30pm in the village hall. This discussion is for Councillors only.

33/07 ALLOTMENT PROVISION

Richard informed the meeting that he had received 5 letters of interest in allotments (2 by the time the agenda was set) It was agreed to write in the newsletter and place a notice on both the parish boards, asking parishioners across the parish to note their interest with the clerk. **Bridget** to write. Bridget laid out the legal position of allotment provision. Councillors agreed that they could have a positive community impact with environmental benefits. A meeting was suggested at the allotments in Tilmore Road with interested parties. **Bridget** to respond to those who have already shown an interest.

34/07 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Common and Hangers:

The Council agreed to sanction the bonfire night event. Terry asked councillors to consider participating in the Bonfire Committee meeting on Sunday 23rd September and thereafter, as he would be stepping down.

Hangers – Terry to attend the next meeting with Paul Thomson.

A new gate at Lutcombe was noted as was the state of the drain, which would need attention if Ashford Lane and houses were not to flood again. **David** liaising with Hampshire Highways.

A fallen tree was reported along the horizontal path from the Poet's Stone to Blue Pond. **Jenny/Jo** to check and report.

Flytipping off the lay-bys on Stoner Hill remained a problem. David still pursuing the matter.

Footpaths:

It was reported that the path between Hays Cottages and Stoner Hill has now been cleared.

Two further paths were reported to need attention:

Ridge Common Lane to Rothercombe Farm - path needs to be cleared

Steep Marsh Chicken Sheds to Bushy Hill (Middlemarch) virtually impassable.

Roads and Traffic:

It was reported that the hedge from the Island out onto the C18 had been cut back.

It was noted that the hedges along Pratts Lane leading to the A3 needed attention.

Pot holes had been mended through Steep Marsh.

The results of the rating of Church Road are due at the end of the month.

Hampshire Highways had reported that Ashford Lane had been repaired but would check the work.

Mill lane patching was done.

The flooding at the top of Mill Lane had been previously reported. HCC have now listed the gully repairs to be done.

Councillors agreed to respond to a letter from HCC regarding a complaint received about traffic congestion on Church Road caused by parking alongside new footpath. Other residents had not found undue nuisance and it was agreed the benefits of the footpath far outweighed problems.

David to draft.

Councillors were informed of the '20 is plenty' scheme to be sent to schools.

BOATway - Stoner Hill. A site meeting had taken place and Paul Thomson will investigate options available.

Richard will attend a meeting with Stroud Councillors and their consultant regarding the possibility of a 30mph limit for the A272 through Stroud. This could be extended part way up Ridge Common Lane. David also invited to attend.

Steep Village Hall and War Memorial:

The main hall has been redecorated to ceiling height. Quotes for replacing the kitchen floor were in hand.

Councillors agreed to allow free use of the hall for a Neighbourhood Watch evening introducing the new policeman for the area and the new organiser – Jane Houlighan.

Councillors considered 3 quotes for repairs to the War Memorial. It was agreed to seek grant funding for one of the quotes and get the work completed as soon as that allowed.

35/07 PLANNING

Decisions Made (July 3rd – September 10th 2007)

29289/10	Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use as work room and office	The Annexe, Coppicefield Cottage, Ridge Common Lane	No Objection subject to conditions	Permission
39284/005	Replacement glazing and alterations to fenestration	Greenlands, Stoner Hill.	No Objection	Consent
21901/002	Two Storey Extension to side following demolition of garage	Weatherbury, Stoner Hill,	No Objection with comments	Permission
39982/003	Single storey extension to the rear	Westmark Farm, Midhurst Road	No objection	Permission
31482	Replacement dwelling and detached triple garage with storage above, access and landscaping	The Studio, Hemlock hall, Ashford Lane, Steep	No Objection with comments	Withdrawn
22408/020	Retention and continued use of land as child's motorcycle practice area	The Brambles, Steep Marsh	Objection	Refusal
20100/061	Extension to car park in accordance with outline planning permission	Dunhurst Preparatory School, Bedales	No Objection	Permission
50144/001	Change of use of land to equestrian and replacement stable block	Land North Windfalls, Ashford Lane, Steep	No Objection with comments	Permission

Decisions New and Pending

50081	Detached dwelling following demolition of dwelling	53 Church Road, Steep	No Objection
21382/012	Removal of condition one of F.21382/010 (temporary permission for flood lighting)	Steep Lawn Tennis Club, Church Road, Steep.	No Objection subject to conditions

50530	Detached double garage/store room	Elmwood Meadows, Burntash Lane, Steep Marsh,	
20100/62	Single Storey Prefab. Outbuilding for workshop/storage following removal of workshop/store	Bedales School, Church Road, Steep,	
32853/002	Detached outbuilding for use as an office	The Island Lodge, The Island, Steep	

Bridget confirmed that Northfield Cottage had not received listing status.
E-planning - Councillors had received a copy of the letter from Daryl Phillips prior to the meeting.

36/07 FINANCE

Portman Building Society account stands at £288.81
Co-operative Bank Account stands at £1044.73
Alliance and Leicester Account stands at £10204.96

A donation request from Citizens Advice Bureau was agreed.

The following cheques were approved at the meeting:

C.A.B.	Donation (s.142)	£200.00
Information Commission	Data Protection	£35.00

37/07 CORRESPONDENCE

EHDC – Councillors were informed of an invitation to a Housing Strategy Seminar at EHDC on Sept.24th.

Fran asked if correspondence to Richard was included on the list of received correspondence. Richard responded that it was either passed to Bridget for attention or inclusion in the agenda or dealt with by himself. It was agreed that it should be listed with other correspondence.

Councillors were made aware of a new plan to maintain the churchyard.

Playground equipment – The grants with EHDC and Lottery had been applied for and were progressing. A short discussion on the need and cost took place.

The website should be re-launched shortly.

38/07 Next Council Meeting –
Monday 12th November

Meeting closed at 9.20pm