

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Bridget MacMillan

Minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday 13th May 2008 following the APM at Steep Village Hall

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

In Attendance:
Bridget MacMillan (Clerk)
Jenny Gray (District Councillor)
Michael Cartwright (County Councillor)
Mark Taylor (Bursar, Bedales)

There were 5 members of the Public during the course of the meeting.

30/08 APOLOGIES
No Apologies

31/08 ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Caro proposed that Richard should be elected as Chairman of Steep Parish Council and Terry seconded the proposal. Councillors agreed the proposal and Richard was duly elected Chairman of Steep Parish Council.

Responsibilities

It was decided that responsibilities would be shared out as follows:

Allotments - Richard

Common – Terry and Charles

Footpaths – Jo and Jenny

Roads – Caro and David

The Hangers – Terry and Fran

Steep War Memorial Village Club –Richard and Caro

Play Equipment – Charles and Jenny

Planning – All members, as required

Publicity and Newsletter contact – Fran

South Downs national Park - David

32/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Richard reminded the Councillors that any interests should be recorded.

33/08 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
The minutes of the previous meeting dated Monday 3rd March 2008 were agreed as an accurate record.

34/08 PUBLIC COMMENT
No comment from the public.
Councillors discussed the forth coming election.

35/08 MARK TAYLOR

Mark acknowledged the help received by Gwil Williams, who had now retired.

He informed the meeting that there were currently 3 minibus routes bringing students from the station, Ropley and Midhurst areas with a fourth bus for support staff. This meant over 40 people were now brought in by Bedales and there were waiting lists. Priority was given to Bedales students, over Dunhurst. Other initiatives being looked into included a car sharing scheme.

Rubbish was now compacted and removed every 2/3 weeks rather than weekly. Recycling was also reducing waste removal traffic.

With regard to environment issues – Bedales had announced their intent to go carbon neutral.

Several speakers had visited Bedales and advice is being given on energy consumption and alternative energy provision.

Councillors asked several questions.

Mark reported that the number of suppliers had been reduced and noted the concern of the use of Ridge Common Lane.

He added that the number of buses and size of bus were being trialled.

Petersfield Hockey Club and Football club were both being asked to park in Dunannie.

The provision of mains gas was being explored and the school was developing a masterplan for energy consumption. The school would talk to the community regarding gas supply if and when appropriate.

36/08 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

No comment made

37/08 UPDATE ON PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE

Richard reported that the parish questionnaire had been delayed following discussions at the public event. Councillors discussed the event and issues surrounding the proposals for the site next to the village hall. Bridget informed the meeting that Bedales were due to meet Julie Eden, Rural Housing Enabler and Chris Buchan- Hepburn, Hyde Housing to discuss a possible collaboration on the site at the junction of Church Road and the C18. It was agreed to delay the questionnaire until further information from that meeting was available.

38/08 ADOPTION OF END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

Bridget informed the meeting that draft accounts for the year ending 31st March 2008 had been circulated with the agenda. Caro proposed the adoption of the accounts and approval of the Annual Governance Statement and Jenny seconded. The Council agreed unanimously to adopt the accounts for the year ending March 31st 2008.

39/08 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Common and Hangers:

Terry reported that he had attended the Hangers Consultative Committee meeting with Richard. Paul Thomson would like to address the Parish Council about HCC plans to fence the Shoulder of Mutton.

The ongoing problem of overgrowing trees and silting of Lutcombe Pond was discussed. HCC are trying to get funding for work.

A proposal to change the signs on The Hangers was rejected by those attending the meeting.

Play Equipment – Should be completed shortly. An opening ceremony is planned (as part of funding conditions)

Footpaths:

Lutcombe path trees have been cleared, but branches are overhanging at the top of Shoulder of Mutton. Path no. 22a at Bushy Hill has been reported but not cleared. Hayes cottages path has been cleared after confusion over whose responsibility it was. With the current weather conditions it is already in need of further attention.

Roads and Traffic:

Sat Nav: Bridget asked for evidence that there were large vehicles using Ridge Common Lane as a through road, especially where problems had occurred. This could be sent to HCC for consultation with Ordinance Survey and sat nav. firms.

Caro reported that the A272 by Westmark Farm had finally had drainage repairs carried out. Sandy Lane in Steep Marsh is due to be resurfaced. She added that tires have been damaged where the verges had been worn away from the edge of the roads in many places and was now being eroded with water running down. Horse riders are also compacting the verges by riding on them. She will continue to liaise with HCC.

David reported that Highways want to change the drainage on the left hand side of Church Road from Merries to the church to an underground porous pipe which will add to the width of the road. David has spoken to neighbouring properties and all agreed this to be a reasonable idea.

Steep Village Hall and War Memorial:

AGM will be held on Monday 9th June.

Mark Taylor agreed to look into the design project which was to build a new noticeboard for the village hall site. Bridget will investigate the millennium seat map board.

David will liaise with Bedales to use the allotment field next to the village hall as sheep grazing over the summer.

Decisions Made (3rd March – 12th May)

34931/006	26/02/08	Change of use of land from agricultural to mixed use of agricultural and equestrian stud farm (retrospective)	Land west of Gardners Farm, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh	No Objection subject to conditions	Refused
34931/007	06/03/08	Certificate of lawfulness for the retention and continued use of hardstanding area	Land west of Gardners Farm, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh		Permitted
30820/008	18/03/08	Detached timber framed garage/store with first floor Studio above following demolition of outbuildings	Maewood, Mill Lane, Steep.	No Objection	Permission
26744/001	24/03/08	Single storey timber building for provision of welfare site office	Land to east of Steep Farm Cottages, Steep Hill, Steep.	Objection	Withdrawn
50326/007	27/03/08	Retention of office extension comprising former store and link	Collyers, Ridge Common Lane, Steep,	No Objection	Permission
20324/021	28/03/08	Extension to provide 3 classrooms and extension to basement to provide workshop	Dunhurst School, Bell Hill	No Objection	Permission
50081/002	17/04/08	Two detached dwellings with access and landscaping	53, Church Road	Objection	Permission
50326/008	24/04/08	Retention of log store to rear	Collyers, Ridge Common Lane, Steep	No Objection	Permission

Decisions New and Pending

36287/006	25/02/08	Relaxation of condition 4 of planning permission 36287/002 to allow continued use of annexe as separate accommodation	1 Collyers Cottages, Ridge Common Lane,	No Objection with comments
31732/002	31/03/08	Prior Notification - Agricultural barn	Land South East of Gardners Farm, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh,	Not required
30871/003	29/04/08	Detached dwelling following demolition of bungalow and outbuildings	Aldersnapp Bungalow, Lythe Farm Lane, Steep,	No Objection
26533/004	02/05/08	Detached double garage	White Cottage, 49 Church Road, Steep	No Objection
20294/007	26/05/08	Application for consent for Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order: fell one lime tree	Stoner Lodge, Stoner Hill, Steep	No Objection
32853/003	28/05/08	Alterations to roof to form rooms in roof space with dormers to front and rear and addition of belfry	The Island Lodge, The Island, Steep	

It was agreed to support the objection to further aviation activity on Colemore Common.

40/08 FINANCE:

The Council declined a donation request from Victim Support Hampshire (2005 £50) but asked for more details of its work in the local area.

Nationwide Account stands at £303.89

Co-operative Bank Account stands at £6031.24 (incl. EHDC Grant for Play)

Alliance and Leicester Account stands at £18463.65 (including £8k Awards for All Grant)

Insurance Quote: Received today. Bridget to investigate other quotes and add the play equipment.

41/08 CORRESPONDENCE

Richard agreed to visit Drake Hocking to thank him for his work on the South Downs National park Inquiry.

42/08 Next Council Meeting –

Monday 7th July

Meeting closed at 9.10pm