



09/18 PUBLIC COMMENT

Although the need for Affordable Housing was agreed, it was queried whether any of the other sites in Steep are still being considered for development. The Chairman confirmed that Ridge Common Lane has been discounted as being more aligned to Stroud, and the site in Steep Marsh cannot easily be developed. The letter received from EHDC detailing all the sites considered for development and the pros and cons of each site was circulated for members of the public to read.

Michael Cartwright left the meeting.

09/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

There were no matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting

09/20 UP-DATE ON PLANS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Richard said that he had met with Chris Buchan-Hepburn and Roger Chung, Consultant Engineer, at the site. They have requested permission to carry out test digs to ascertain water table, sub soil, etc. Hampshire Highways also need to be consulted as the road will need to be levelled. Until surveys are completed, plans cannot be finalised. Councillors were in agreement that the test digs should go ahead.

David reiterated his opposition to the direction of the project on the basis that a compromise solution should be found and the green space in Church Road preserved. He pointed out the following:

- HARAH guidelines say that the Parish Council and villagers should be involved in the initial survey. Richard said that no-one had been involved as it was considered important that it should be completely independent;
- It is very unusual for affordable housing to be positioned in the centre of a Village – it should be sited where it will have least adverse effect. Of several sites seen, all are very carefully positioned at the edge of villages;
- There was strong opposition to the Northfield development of 3 houses by the Parish Council because of concerns of over-development, traffic, and the sensitive site in the Village centre;
- At least 4 households (that David knows of) did not receive the Village Questionnaire, and possible alternative sites were not mentioned all of which could have made a vital difference to the result;
- The site at Ridge Common Lane meets EHDC criteria for local planning and David feels it is wrong that this site is not being considered;
- The legal right of the Parish Council to sell the land was queried – the Clerk to follow this up.

David requested that a properly constructed Public Meeting be held with all the information on display, so that the project can be properly debated. Richard reiterated that once the plans are received a Public Meeting will be held.

09/21 UP-DATE ON THE PARISH PLAN

A few volunteers have been recruited and a meeting needs to be convened. However, it was felt that perhaps someone else should be recruited to take the project forward (not necessarily a Councillor) - The Parish Council would therefore be pleased to hear from anyone interested in taking on this project.

09/22 TO AGREE A SITE FOR THE OAK TREE DONATED BY CPRE

Richard explained that an Oak Tree has been donated to Steep by The Campaign to Protect Rural England, to celebrate the result of the South Downs Campaign and our inclusion in the South Downs National Park.

Various sites for the tree were discussed and it was agreed that Drake Hocking (Tree Warden) should be consulted. If anyone has a suggestion for where the tree should go, please speak to Richard Coles.

09/23 TO AGREE THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 2008/09

Jenny Hollington informed the meeting that the accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 had been circulated to Councillors. Jenny Martin proposed the adoption of the accounts and approval of the Annual Governance Statement and David Llewellyn seconded. The Parish Council agreed unanimously to adopt the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

09/24 TO MAKE PAYMENTS IN ACCORDANCE TO THE BUDGET

Payments were made in accordance to the budget to Bridget MacMillan (back pay of annual increment), Jenny Hollington (salary and expenses, including back pay of increment), James Plant (audit for past 2 years) and renewal of insurance policy.

09/25 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

**Common and Hangers:**

- Permission was requested for quotes to be obtained for replacing the broken fencing and gate to the Common – this was agreed.
- Terry has met with Drake Hocking, who is to come up with a plan for planting on the Common
- Hangers – the Dogwood remains a priority, fallen trees have been cleared from Lutcombe Pond and the fly tipping has been cleared (two skips removed!). Fran pointed out that Hampshire Highways propose that the car park at the bottom of the Hangers should be closed in order to prevent further tipping but Terry and the Hangers Committee are strongly against this.
- Jenny Martin and Terry had met with Ian Livermore with regard to a grant application for work on Lutcombe Bottom Pond, to cover the clearing of trees from the stream and repairs to the leak on to the footpath.
- The ownership of the pumping station at Lutcombe Pond was queried as the door to this is often left open/unlocked and is potentially dangerous. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to South East Water to request the door be kept locked.

**Footpaths:**

- The application form for the map board needs to be completed by 17<sup>th</sup> June (this is the same form as for the work on Lutcombe Pond). A sloping map board is proposed so as not to spoil the view, showing local footpaths and with information on Edward Thomas;
- The Hangers Way footpath by The Studio is now only closed for short periods while work is carried out;
- The Rights of Way Officer is anxious about 3 Steep footpaths (22a and b and the one from the Common) all of which are extremely wet and boggy.

## **Roads**

David said that he wrote to HCC regarding a 30 mph speed limit on the C18 and Ridge Common Lane and has received a reply stating that this will be considered in 2010/11! David will continue to chase this. Steep has apparently missed out on a “Village 30 limit” project of which David had been unaware - the Clerk to see if she can find any details in case there is a chance we can still apply.

The hedges on Stoner Hill have been cut back very efficiently by Cllr. Ellis from Froxfield. David has sent thanks via the Clerk.

Work on the Old Coach Road is due to be completed in approximately 2-weeks (barring snags). Concern was expressed that a BOAT was shut without us receiving any notice.

A good job was made of clearing the fly tipping, at great expense – HCC now want to shut the lay-byes to prevent it re-occurring. David will attend a meeting and oppose it on behalf of the P.C., as these local beauty spots are enjoyed by many.

## **South Downs National Park**

David will ask John Venning to produce an article for the Parish Newsletter and website.

## **Steep Village Hall and War Memorial:**

Nothing to report

## **09/26 UP-DATE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Decisions made (March – May 2009)

Steep Parish Council – Minutes of AGM 12.5.09

| <u>Planning Number</u> | <u>EHDC Deadline for Comments</u> | <u>Proposal</u>                                                                                             | <u>Address</u>                                         | <u>Parish Council Input</u> | <u>EHDC Decision</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 32972/008              | 18.2.09                           | <b>New pitched roof over existing buildings and alterations to elevations.</b>                              | Tankerdale Farm, Tankerdale Lane, Liss                 | No objection                | Permission           |
| 51614                  | 9.3.09                            | <b>Prune 3 Beech and 2 Hawthorn trees</b>                                                                   | Land rear of Meadowlands, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh     | No Objection                | Consent              |
| 39994/002              | 12.3.09                           | <b>Farm building to replace existing farm buildings</b>                                                     | Land north of Little Stodham House, Farnham Road, Liss | Objection                   | Permission           |
| 50081/002              | 19.3.09                           | <b>Amendment to plans for two detached dwellings with access and landscaping</b>                            | 53 Church Road, Steep                                  | No Objection                | Permission           |
| 50326/011              |                                   | <b>Retention of steel framed building for use as horticultural storage, administration and office space</b> | Collyers, Ridge Common Lane,                           | No Objection                | Permission           |
| 30871/006              | 14.4.09                           | <b>Detached dwelling to replace single storey dwelling and outbuildings</b>                                 | Aldersnapp Bungalow, Lythe Lane                        | No Objection (with comment) | Refusal              |

Decisions New and Pending

|           |         |                                                                                                                            |                                         |              |
|-----------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| 34291/012 | 29.4.09 | <b>Single Storey Rear Extension, Conversion of Roof Space to habitable space with two dormers and roof light to front.</b> | Ashford Farm, Ashford Lane, Steep       | No Objection |
| 50267/002 | 1.5.09  | <b>Change of use of stables to ancillary accommodation, office use and storage</b>                                         | The Lodge, Bushy Hill, Mill Lane, Steep |              |

09/27 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

The following meeting was pointed out to Councillors:

- EHDATPC – Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June at the Coffee Room, Church Street, Ropley  
On the Agenda – two presentations: Affordable Housing and Amey, HCC Contractors

09/28 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**The Village Hall AGM will be held on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 p.m.**

**The next Meeting will be held on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 p.m.** (Jenny Martin gave her apologies)

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.