

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Mr Richard Coles

CLERK Mrs Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday, 2nd November 2009 at 7.30 p.m. at Steep Village Hall

Present:

Richard Coles (in the Chair)	Caro Robinson	David Llewellyn
Charles Gibson	Fran Box	Terry Cook
Jenny Martin	Jo Bell	Nick Hurst

In Attendance:

Vaughan Clarke (County Councillor)
Jennifer Gray (District Councillor)
Jenny Hollington (Clerk)

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

09/65 APOLOGIES – Drake Hocking (Tree Warden)

09/66 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – David asked for the September Minutes to be amended as per his e-mail to the Clerk of 7th October, regarding Minute 09/49 first paragraph on page 2. This was discussed and the alteration agreed. Once amended it was agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th September could be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting.

09/67 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS - Richard reminded Councillors that any interests should be recorded.

09/68 PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no Public Comment

09/69 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR COMMENT – Jennifer Gray said she is to attend a meeting at Penns Place at which the new Leader and Deputy Leader of East Hampshire District Council would be ratified.

With regard to the problem of fly-tipping, she confirmed that anyone caught would be prosecuted.

09/70 COUNTY COUNCILLOR COMMENT – Vaughan Clarke confirmed that £1,000 from his budget has been set aside for Steep P.C. to help purchase land next to Steep School. He said that Drake Hocking is dealing with the land owner and it is not clear how long this will take to go through. Vaughan said that he will contact Drake to find out if the money is needed for this financial year. If not, the £1,000 for purchase of the land could be allocated from the 2010/11 budget and Steep could finance an alternative project for this financial year. This was discussed briefly and it was suggested that the Hangars Way Footpath would benefit from being duck-boarded as H.C.C. have indicated they are currently unable to fund this badly needed work.

Vaughan also spoke regarding the problem of fly-tipping on Stoner Hill – plans to put up signs warning of a £20,000 fine are being considered. Action is currently being taken against recent perpetrators.

Vaughan hi-lighted the forthcoming meeting on the proposed Shipwright Way – a multi-user way running from Alice Holt Park to the Queen Elizabeth Park – to be held at Alton Maltings on 18th November.

09/71 OUTCOME OF THE MEETING WITH CHURCH ROAD RESIDENTS HELD ON 26TH OCTOBER 2009 - Jenny Martin reported that 7 representatives from Church Road and 4 representatives from the Parish Council had met for a calm, civilised and beneficial meeting. Two papers had been tabled by the Church Road representatives – the first (prepared by Tony Hanlan, who has a certain amount of expertise in planning matters) concerned the legality and process of the proposed sale of the land for affordable housing and the second, miscellaneous questions posed by local residents. These two documents had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the Parish Council Meeting. The Church Road representatives

have requested that these matters be fully addressed before further progress is made with plans for the site, but have stated that they will accept the outcome as long as they are satisfied that the queries over the decision process are cleared up. A tentative date of 30th November for the P.C. to report back to the Church Road representatives has been agreed. A meeting of all Councillors prior to this to discuss the documents and to answer the questions raised in the documents, was arranged for Tuesday, 24th November – it was agreed that the Clerk should contact both Hyde and EHDC Legal Department for input into the response and potential attendance at the meetings.

David asked that the Parish Council also take heed of the feelings of a significant number of Church Road residents who are very unhappy, and look further at alternative options for affordable housing.

UP-DATE ON PLANS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING – The Chairman said that as yet the artist's impressions had not been received. Charles said that, following an in-depth phone conversation with Chris Buchan-Hepburn, he had been invited to attend a preliminary meeting at EHDC (as a representative of the Parish Council) to discuss the draft scheme - EHDC Planning Department, the Rural Housing Enabler, and Highways had also been present. David said that he thought all Councillors should be informed of this type of meeting. Richard explained that he had asked Charles to chase up Chris Buchan Hepburn regarding the artist's impression of the plans and this had resulted in Charles being invited to attend the meeting. Jennifer Gray also pointed out that, in any case, there was no reason for Hyde not to put in a planning application at this point.

09/73 INTERIM PLAN FOR STEEP COMMON – The proposals contained in the Interim Plan received from Drake Hocking, Tree Warden, were discussed as follows:

1. Limited reduction of invasive non-native woody plants in defined areas – this was agreed.
2. Placement of 2 outdoor benches beside the main footpaths – it was thought that this should be discussed further as possibly the originals (in particular the circular seat) could be repaired.
3. Design, produce and install an interpretive information point – this was thought to be a good idea.

Jenny Martin proposed that the Interim Plan be accepted in principle and Caro seconded this. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should inform Drake of the decision.

09/74 UP-DATE ON THE PARISH PLAN – Fran reported that approximately 10 people had attended the meeting held on 19th October. She said it was still hoped to recruit a few more people – in particular representatives from Steep Marsh, Hayes Cottages and The Island. Lisa Mundy from EHDC has also been in attendance at the meetings to offer advice and guidance. Current plans include: coffee mornings to seek residents' views, discussions regarding the possibility of re-instating the Welcome Club, and agreement of a Constitution - necessary in order to apply for funding.

09/75 FEEDBACK WITH REGARD TO THE B.T. PHONE BOX – Fran said she had placed a notice in the last edition of the Village Newsletter to seek people's views about the adoption scheme being operated by B.T. As a result of this she discovered that the Phone Box had been vandalised and set on fire some months ago. Residents at Hayes Cottages are not particularly interested in keeping the phone box and have said they would rather have a post box – this is something that can be flagged up in the Parish Plan. The B.T. adoption scheme was discussed - suggestions included that the phone box be adopted for £1 and moved to the Village Hall site or sold on e-bay. It was agreed that Fran should write back to B.T. and explain that the phone box has been vandalised and see whether they would be prepared to refurbish it before adoption.

09/76 LITTER IN THE HANGARS – Charles said that this is becoming an issue once again – cans, beer and wine bottles are regularly abandoned in the Hangars. He proposed that he place a short article in the next edition of the Newsletter asking regular users of the Hangars to take a plastic bag with them every now and again to help clear the rubbish. This was agreed.

09/77 DOG FOULING IN STEEP – This was discussed and it was agreed to monitor the situation. Fran said she would put an article in the next newsletter to draw attention to the problem.

09/78 UP-DATE ON THE LITTER BIN IN STEEP MARSH – Caro said that she would get in touch with local residents in order to form a rota to clear the area. She said that currently the problem is not too bad, but that she would keep it under review.

09/79 TEMPORARY REVISION OF CLERK’S HOURS AND ANNUAL PAY INCREMENT – Because of the recent extra work involved with Affordable Housing, the Clerk asked that consideration be given to increasing her hours to 10 on a temporary basis – This was discussed and agreed.

It was also agreed that the Clerk receive the annual increment back-paid to September and that this should be reviewed each September.

09/80 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Common and Hangers: Terry asked the Parish Council to insure the annual bonfire and firework display to be held on the Common on 5th November – this was agreed.

Terry said he and Fran had attended a Meeting regarding the Hangars at Queen Elizabeth Country Park – the closing off of the bottom lay-by at Ashford Hangar because of fly-tipping had been discussed, but it was agreed that this would not go ahead without further consultation with the Parish Council.

The Work Day on 22nd November was flagged up – Volunteers should meet at Lutcombe Pond at 10.00 a.m.

Footpaths: Jenny Martin said that she had received 4 photographs for the Village Map Board and will forward them to Justin Harvey at HCC.

Terry raised the issue of the Oak Tree on the Hangars Way which he thought was still under threat. It was agreed that Terry should ask Drake if he can use his influence in this matter. Fran proposed that this tree be recommended as one of the Parish “Favourites” in the Scheme being run by EHDC – Terry to discuss this further with Drake.

Roads: The Village 30 Scheme is on-going. The kerbing in Sandy Lane is to be done before April 2010 and the drain at Bushy Corner has recently been cleared.

Steep Village Hall and War Memorial: It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Rosemary Lilley on behalf of the Parish Council to thank her for the hard work she has put in at the War Memorial over recent months.

The plans for the proposed extension to the Village Hall were discussed – Richard said that no further progress had been made as Architect’s charges are so high. It was agreed that Terry should approach Ken Claxton (a retired Architect and Steep resident) for advice and that this item would then be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.

09/81 UP-DATE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS (See Overleaf)

Decisions made

Steep Parish Council – Minutes of Meeting 2.11.09

<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>
33640/001	25.8.09	Replacement front wall and entrance gate	Bridge Mill, Mill Lane, Sheet GU32 2AJ	No Objection	Permission
29289/011	4.9.09	Replacement single storey home office incorporating double garage	Coppicefield Cottage, Ridge Common Lane, Steep GU32 1AJ	No Objection	Permission
27686/002	28.9.09	Single storey extension to rear following demolition of lean to extension	Kettlebrook Springs, Elmwood Lane, Steep Marsh GU32 2BP	No Objection	Permission
50081/005	8.10.09	Conversion of roof space over garage to habitable accommodation, installation of two conservation roof lights and doors to ground floor	Plot 3, 53 Church Road, Steep GU32 2DQ	No Objection	Permission

Decisions New and Pending

26530/003	15.10.09	Detached dwelling and detached garage	Stoner Rise, Stoner Hill, Steep GU32 1AG	Objection
26264/008	5.11.09	Replacement Stables	Natterjacks, Elmwood Lane, Steep Marsh GU32 2BP	No Objection
34931/010	27.10.09	Prior Notification – Detached building for use as agricultural store	Land west of Gardners Farm, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh GU32 2BJ	Comments (re. size)
32131/004	11.11.09	Single Stable Block (revision to planning permission 32131/001)	Land at Lythe Lane, Steep	
21382/013	12.11.09	Single Storey Extension to Rear and Detached Store Building following demolition of store	Steep Lawn Tennis Club, Church Road, Steep GU32 2DB	
50326/013	20.11.09	Conversion of redundant poultry house/store into tourist accommodation, porch to north elevation and two chimney stacks	Collyers, Ridge Common Lane, Steep GU32 1AX	

09/82 FINANCE – Figures showing the November position against the budget for 09/10 had been circulated prior to the meeting – there were no comments. The Clerk said that the 08/09 Audit had been concluded and notice of conclusion was in place.

Payments were made in accordance to the budget – J. Hollington and Woodthemes

09/83 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- A letter from the Petersfield Society was discussed – it was agreed that a reply should be sent when answers to the Church Road residents' queries were received from Hyde (as the same sort of issues had been raised).
- The Clerk said that correspondence regarding land registry had been received – Caro offered to look into this further and report back at the next meeting.
- The next meeting of EHDAPTC on 2nd December was hi-lighted.

09/84 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday, 11th January 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

The following dates for 2010 were agreed:

Monday, 1st March 2010
Tuesday, 11th May 2010 – AGM (large Hall to be booked)
Monday, 14th June 2010 – Village Hall AGM
Monday, 5th July 2010
Monday, 6th September 2010
Monday, 1st November 2010

The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.