

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Jim MacDonald

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, 8th January 2018 at Steep Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Jim MacDonald (in the Chair) Peter Cruttenden Terry Cook
Nick Hurst Jenny Martin Jeff Graham
Chris Laycock

In Attendance: District Councillor, Nick Drew (for the first part of the meeting)
Jenny Hollington, Clerk

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Minute	Item	Action
18/01	<u>APOLOGIES</u> – Apologies had been received from Cllr. Simon Bridger and County Councillor, Russell Oppenheimer	
18/02	<u>MINUTES</u> – The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 4 th December 2018 were approved and signed.	
18/03	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any interest in any matter on the Agenda - none declared.	
18/04	<u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u> – None	
18/05	<u>COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT</u> – Cllr. Oppenheimer’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting (attached) and was discussed in his absence. Questions arose on the item on new electric vehicles saving £210,000 – the Chairman will contact Cllr. Oppenheimer to clarify details of cost projections, and will also ask how he is getting on with his campaign to protect BOATS.	Chair
18/06	<u>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT</u> – Cllr. Drew reported on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• E-mail correspondence with Steep resident expressing concerns at EHDC investment portfolio and lack of consultation/communication of this with the public - Cllr. Drew has responded explaining reasoning/risk management and how this is communicated to the public.• Electric vehicle charging points are available at EHDC• Grant Funding – Cllr. Drew is supporting a grant application from the Rosemary Foundation towards a specific project within the District.• EHDC Leaf Sweeping – There has been no response to the letter sent from Steep P.C. to Cllr. Richard Millard, Leader, EHDC about the lack of leaf sweeping. Cllr. Cook reported that HCC have cleared one of the drains in Ashford Lane – however, when he asked if they could clear the other drains, the operative was unable to help as he said he did not know where they were. It was agreed that the Chairman should ask Cllr. Oppenheimer to investigate this issue further - it is imperative that EHDC/HCC communicate and that operatives have all the necessary information.	Chair
18/07	<u>PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY</u> – The vacancy is being advertised via the parish noticeboards, website and will also be in the February newsletter. It is hoped to co-opt a new Parish Councillor at	

the March Meeting.

18/08 COUNCILLOR EXPENSES – The wording of the draft policy has yet to be finalised but will be circulated in time for discussion/approval at the February meeting. The policy will help to ensure that there are no barriers to becoming a parish councillor. PC

18/09 FINANCE

- (a) The bank reconciliation for December was approved and signed.
- (b) The following cheques for January payment were authorised and signed:

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
100160	£1,260.00	HCC	Progression of traffic scheme
100161	£8.40	Petersfield Town Council	Dog Bin
100162	£1,169.94	J. Hollington	Clerk (Nov and Dec)
Total :	£2,438.34		

18/10 PRECEPT – As per budget discussion at the December meeting, it was agreed that the precept should be kept at £14,000 for 2018/19. This will result in a small increase per household because the council tax support grant from EHDC has now ceased. The Clerk was asked to ensure that this information is made available to residents via the February newsletter. Clerk

18/11 HCC CUTTING LIST – Priority hedge cutting within the parish was discussed and the following paths agreed 501, 505, 713, 13, 22a, 3. However, it was acknowledged that unless communication is improved (no-one really knows when and if the paths will be cut by HCC) it may perhaps be easier to ask the Lengthsman to do the work. It was agreed that the Chairman should discuss this issue with the County Councillor before the priority cutting list is returned to HCC. Chair

18/12 ON-GOING ISSUES

Roads and Traffic:

- Amended Plans for Stoner/Bell Hill – The amended plans are being advertised on the website and will be highlighted via the February newsletter. Any comments on the amended plans should be sent to the Clerk for onward transmission to HCC. Clerk
- Speed Indicator Device – It was queried whether purchase of a speed indicator device should be considered as part of the traffic management scheme on Stoner/Bell Hill? Cllr. Laycock was asked to circulate the details for further discussion at the February meeting, but it was agreed that re-lining of the road and the speedwatch initiative should take priority. CL
- Roadside damage at Rockpits Lane – Joe Lait, Hampshire Highways, has requested the necessary repairs but there has been no indication of when they will be carried out;
- Water Leak at Pratts Lane – This issue has been referred to Joe Lait at Hampshire Highways;
- Leaf Sweeping – No response has been received from Cllr. Millard, Leader at EHDC;
- Speedwatch – The Chairman will chase John Payne to see if there is any up-date on health and safety training, etc. The Clerk will ask for a free trial of the equipment as used at Selborne. Chair Clerk

Footpaths

- Footpath 22a – The bad weather has made it impossible for the repairs to this footpath to be carried out.

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- Stiles at Footpath 26 – The repairs to the broken stiles have still not been carried out – the Chairman will follow this up Chair
- The Coach Road – Natural England require a HRA screening form which is holding up the process. In the meantime, the bad weather has caused further damage to the path. Chris Budd will be asked to submit a new quote. Clerk/
JM

Steep Common

- Tree Audit – No report has been received from Joe Jackman - the Chairman will follow this up via Drake Hocking. Chair
- Bonfire/Firework charges – Cllr. Cruttenden has requested a search of records for Steep Common and will report further at the February Meeting PC

18/13 MEETINGS ATTENDED – The Chairman had attended the HCC Autumn Briefing which had proved to be a very informative evening – the new highways contractor, Skanska, appear to be environmentally responsible, have a good workforce and have invested a lot in modern machinery. The best way to report any issue with the highways is via the on-line reporting system which is manned 24 hours.

18/14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of Steep Parish Council will be on Monday, 5th February at 7.30 p.m. at Steep Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.