

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Mrs. Caroline Robinson

CLERK: Mrs. Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Meeting held on 7th March 2011 at Steep Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr. Caroline Robinson (in the Chair)
Cllr. Charles Gibson Cllr. Richard Coles Cllr. Terry Cook
Cllr. Jo Bell Cllr. David Llewellyn Cllr. Fran Box

In Attendance: Cllr. Vaughan Clarke (County Councillor)
Cllr. Jennifer Gray (District Councillor)
Jenny Hollington (Clerk)

There were 2 members of the Public present.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Jenny Martin and Nick Hurst

11/20 MINUTES: The Minutes of the Meetings held on 10th January and 7th February 2011 were agreed as an accurate record and signed accordingly.

11/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – The Chairman reminded Councillors that any interests should be recorded as necessary.

11/22 PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were received with regard to the application for outline planning permission (SDNP/24385/010) for four affordable dwellings and two market dwellings in Steep Marsh. The District Councillor informed the meeting that Hampshire Highways have concerns over the proposed access and the plans will therefore need to be rethought.

11/23 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR COMMENT

The District Councillor reported on the following items:

- The South Downs National Park will come into effect from the beginning of April.
- East Hampshire District Council have completed their budget and balanced the books.
- Parish Plans are necessary for localism and Cllr. Gray was pleased to note that Steep have this in hand.
- Further sites are being considered for Affordable Housing in Steep. More information on this should be available within the next couple of weeks. The number of families on the waiting list is now in the high 20s.
- Nicholas Drew will be standing as District Councillor in May and Cllr. Gray will be replacing Cllr. Elizabeth Cartwright in Liss.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR COMMENT

Hampshire County Council has now set their budget – a further £1 million will go to “Aiming High” which provides relief for disabled children, and an extra £1 million towards the concessionary fares scheme.

Concerns have been raised with regard to the condition of roads following repairs by utility companies – 50% have been found to be non-compliant. In future, H.C.C. will be carrying out checks and Parish Councils should report any repairs thought to be unsatisfactory.

Alternative signage for the Hangers was discussed as the South Downs National Park wishes all their parks to have corporate fibre-glass signage. Pictures of various options were circulated to the meeting. It was felt that this was an un-ecologically sound proposition and there were probably much better things to spend the money on.

11/25 ELECTION

Nomination and Consent forms for the election to be held on 5th May were circulated to current Councillors. These should be returned to the Clerk by 25th March and will then be delivered by hand to EHDC. Posters from EHDC encouraging people to consider standing for election are currently being displayed on noticeboards in the Village. It was agreed that the Clerk should produce further posters to be displayed around the village and on the website, advertising for nominations for election to the Parish Council. It was noted that unfortunately the next Village Newsletter will be delivered too late for this item to be included and suggested that the Clerk should contact the Petersfield Post for an article to be included in one of the “News in Brief” columns instead.

11/26 PARISH PLAN

Delivery of the questionnaire has been delayed because of the elections and Census and concerns over the amount of paper through letterboxes. The Steering Group has agreed that there will be one questionnaire per household with a slot for up to 5 people to complete and it will also be available on-line. Concern was raised that too much information is being covered and that this will be off-putting. It was pointed out that it is important to get the right information back and this is another reason for the delay

The Landscape Characterisation Assessment is progressing well.

11/27 PARISH LOGO

Several options for up-dating the Parish Council’s logo were considered. It was agreed, however, that Councillors preferred the current design showing the Village Hall and that the Clerk should determine whether this could be better defined.

11/28 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Commons and Hangers – An e-mail from Drake Hocking (Tree Warden) up-dating the Parish Council on progress with the Common was read to the meeting

Footpaths - Complaints have been received with regard to the condition of Footpath 20 which runs from the Common to Mill Lane - this has now been re-instated to some degree.

Roads and Traffic – Cllr. Richard Coles asked if something could be done about the flooding from the spring in Ridge Common Lane (between the track to Melstock Barn and Aldersnapp Farm). This is always a problem and the gulley needs to be dug out properly to sort out the problem – Cllr. David Llewellyn agreed to chase this up with H.C.C.. The situation is the same outside Cobblers in Mill Lane and the Chairman will follow this up. A kerb has now been installed at the T-junction of Mill Lane and Ashford Lane – it was pointed out that lorries will still drive over it!

Village Hall and War Memorial – An application form for a grant from Fieldfare has been received and will be completed in the next couple of weeks. It was agreed that nothing should be done about moving the B.T. Phone Box until there is an up-date on the funding situation.

The flooding at the War Memorial will be followed up in the next few weeks.

I.T. – No report available.

11/29 CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

SDNP/24385/010	Outline – 4 Affordable Dwellings and 2 Market Dwellings following Demolition of a Farm Building	Steep Marsh Farm, Rockpits Lane, Steep Marsh GU32 2BN	Objection
SDNP/20651/001	Single Storey Extension to Rear	17 Church Road, Steep GU32 2DW	Objection
SDNP/38455/001	Alterations to Fenestration and New Oil Tank	The Hop Barn, Rockpits Lane, Steep Marsh GU32 2BN	No Objection
SDNP/22408/024	Wooden Balcony with Wrought Iron Balustrade to Side/Rear	The Brambles, Pratts Lane, Steep Marsh, GU32 2BL	No Objection
SDNP/29289/012	Replacement Single Storey Home Office/Granny Annexe and Double Garage (Revision to permission 29289/011)	Coppicefield Cottage, Ridge Common Lane, Steep GU32 1AJ.	No Objection with comment
SDNP/49484/002	Detached Dwelling	Oakley Cottage, Bell Hill, GU32 2DP	Objection
SDNP/53059/001	Single Storey Extension to Rear Following Demolition of Conservatory	The Lodge, Stonerwood Park, Ridge Common Lane, Steep GU32 1AH.	No Objection
SDNP/33281/003	2 Storey Extension to Rear to Include Veranda, New Porch to Side, Conversion of Garage to Log Store/Utility Room, Addition of Velux Windows, Revised Fenestration, Internal Alterations and Relocated Access	Bees Cottage, Ashford Lane, Steep GU32 1AB	No Objection
SDNP/33281/004	Notification of Listed Building Consent Application (as above)	Bees Cottage, Ashford Lane, Steep GU32 1AB	No Objection

11/30 FINANCE –

Payments to the following were agreed: J. Hollington (salary and expenses), D. Hocking (Steep Common), R. Street (web site), C. Dandridge (deer fencing).

The transfer of money from the Parish Council Account to the Steep Relief in Need Charity Account was discussed. The Clerk had circulated details of income received since 1987 prior to the meeting. It was pointed out that approximately £1,000 had been spent on hedging in 2007 and this needed to be taken into account along with the cost of the land survey carried out by Jacobs & Hunt. It was agreed that the Clerk should re-circulate the figures also showing any outgoings.

The insurance quotation from Came & Co. was discussed and it was noted that this is approximately £100 cheaper than currently with Aon. It was agreed that this item should be deferred until a quote for the year is received from Aon and a new price discussed with them.

11/31 CORRESPONDENCE – Forthcoming meetings were noted.11/32 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – Monday, 4th April 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at the Village Hall (short Planning Meeting)

The Meeting closed at 10.05 p.m.