

DRAFT

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Jim MacDonald

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 3rd June 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Steep Village Hall

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

In Attendance: Russell Oppenheimer, County Councillor
Nick Drew, District Councillor
Jenny Hollington, Clerk

There were no members of the public present

Minute Item Action

19/96 APOLOGIES – Apologies had been received from Cllr. Simon Bridger

19/97 MINUTES – The Minutes of the AGM held on 13th May 2019 were approved and signed.

19/98 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare an interest in any matter on the Agenda - none declared.

19/99 PUBLIC COMMENT – None

19/100 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – Cllr. Oppenheimer’s monthly report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was discussed.

The Chairman queried whether the SDNPA campaign to create a haven for pollinators could be extended to all of Hampshire? Cllr. Oppenheimer said he would raise this at Select Committee and report back.

In respect of an improved recycling scheme for Hampshire, Cllr. Oppenheimer explained that, although keen to be positive, HCC are waiting for results of a government consultation and more should be known in 6-months’ time.

Cllr. Oppenheimer’s full report is appended to the Minutes.

19/101 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Following the recent EHDC Cabinet Meeting, Cllr. Drew has been allocated the Governance and Legal Portfolio – a role which he thinks will be both interesting and useful.

Cllr. Drew also reported EHDC’s significant investment in Rams Walk retail site in Petersfield which is intended to raise revenue and keep Council services high whilst keeping council rates low.

With reference to the Steep & Stroud Speedwatch Group, Cllr. Drew has been sharing their success with other parishes in his ward and hoped that Steep P.C. would be willing to share ideas and resources with other parishes if required. He also suggested that the success of the scheme should be advertised - it was agreed that Cllr. Drew should set this in motion via EHDC.

19/102 FINANCE

- (a) The bank reconciliations to 10th April and 10th May had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved and signed.
- (b) A grant of £100 was approved towards the Petersfield Shakespeare Festival held at Bedales School in July.
- (c) The following cheques were approved for June payment:

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
100256	£430.23	Came & Co	Insurance
100257	£112.50	"Frank & Bill"	Lengthsman
100258	£363.08	DNE Services	Refurb of the B.T. Phone Box
100259	£357.00	HALC	Affiliation fees
100260	£694.99	J. Hollington	Clerk - May
100261	£100.00	Petersfield Shakespeare Festival	Grant
Total :	£2,057.80		

19/103 LENGTHSMAN – There are various footpaths around the parish badly in need of being cutting back, including Footpath 1, Footpath 13 and Footpath 15 – the Clerk was asked to check which paths are on the HCC cutting list and any paths not on the cutting list will be added to the Lengthsman worksheet.

19/104 STEEP COMMON – Quotes for repairing the bench have not yet been received – the Clerk was asked to chase this. The Annual Play Inspection Report has also not been received yet.

Clerk

19/105 ROADS AND TRAFFIC –

Stoner Hill – Speed recording devices are in place on Stoner Hill – this is the first step in the HCC process of extending the 30mph speed limit. Because of the proposed 30mph extension, the Parish Council’s proposals will be reviewed and amended to incorporate this. It was agreed that a public meeting should be held on 9th July at 7.00 p.m. at Steep Village Hall, to consult with members of the public on Parish Council proposals before applying via the Community Funded Initiative.

Ridge Common Lane – Cllr. Laycock has reported the condition of the lane via the on-line portal on the HCC website.

SID – EHDC have confirmed that Steep will be included in the scheme to share a Speed Indicator Device with various EHDC parishes. The device will be installed on Bell Hill near the Dunhurst entrance for 2-weeks and feedback on results provided by EHDC.

Leaf Sweeping - Cllr. Cook queried whether Mill Lane had been included in the recent leaf sweep carried out in Steep? Cllr. Drew said he would investigate.

Hedges – Overgrown hedges continue to cause problems in the narrow rural lanes of the parish – the Clerk was reminded to write to residents whose hedges are causing problems. Cllr. Laycock will liaise with Cllr. Bridger about the issue on Stoner Hill.

19/106 FOOTPATHS

Footpath 13 – The condition of the top end of the path was brought up at the last meeting - this is the only part of this well-used footpath that hasn’t been resurfaced. It was agreed that Cllr. Martin

should ask Chris Budd to provide an estimate for the work required.

JM

19/107 CORRESPONDENCE

- SDNPA East Hants Representative – There are two nominations for this role – Doug Jones, who has represented EHDC for 8 years, is Chair of the Planning Committee, and is prepared to stand again, and Phoebe Hiscock who is a relative unknown. It was agreed to vote for Doug Jones

19/108 PRESS OFFICER UP-DATE – Items for the next parish newsletter were agreed and will include a reminder about cutting back hedges, items of interest from the County Councillor’s report, and an item on the SDNPA Local Plan.

19/109 FORTHCOMING MEETINGS – The next EHAP&TC Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26th June at Buriton Village Hall – the speaker will be Dawn Hamblet, CEO of HALC.

19/110 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of Steep Parish Council will be held on Monday, 1st July 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT
TO
ALL PARISH COUNCILS
IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS**

1 JUNE 2019

1. HCC Leadership and District Council elections

At our AGM on Friday 17 May 2019, Hampshire County Council elected a new leader, Cllr Keith Mans. A former MP and a former RAF pilot, Keith Mans represents the County Division of Brockenhurst in the New Forest. The Deputy Leader is Cllr Rob Humby and the new Chairman is Cllr Charles Choudhary.

For the next year I shall continue as Chairman of the Economy, Transport and Environment Select Committee. Deputy Leader Rob Humby retains his Transport and Environment portfolio.

I was honoured to be elected to East Hampshire District Council on 2 May, representing Liss. I am looking forward to helping to build closer working links between HCC and EHDC, especially on transport and environment issues.

2. Climate Change Cabinet

In response to public concern, the new Cabinet at HCC will hold a special Cabinet Meeting to discuss climate change. Deputations will be heard from many Councillors, residents and experts. This will be an opportunity to consider carbon reduction targets across Hampshire from schools, farms, traffic and transport through to waste and recycling.

Hampshire County Council has a good record on the environment. We have pioneered electric vehicles in our fleet and installed electric charging points across Hampshire. We have invested in cycling infrastructure, Country Parks and countryside access. We have dimmed streetlights to reduce carbon emissions. We have successfully improved air quality through highways schemes.

We realise we need to go further. We therefore want to build on our strong environmental record and the special Cabinet meeting will be a chance to consider future interventions.

3. New permit scheme for vans using HWRCs

From 1 June 2019, Hampshire residents will need a permit to use a van, pick-up or trailer longer than 1.8m to transport their own household waste for disposal. The permit will cost £15 and will be valid for 12 months or 12 visits, and provides access for vans and larger vehicles at any of the 24 HWRCs across Hampshire.

Separate arrangements are in place at Hampshire's HWRCs for traders and businesses to dispose of commercial waste on a chargeable basis, depending on the scale and type of waste. All HWRCs have an accessible parking bay for blue badge holders. Blue badge holders will also now require a permit if they wish to use a larger commercial-type vehicle for their household waste.

Residents wishing to apply for a permit can do so

at: www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/recyclingcentres/wastepermits

4. Surface dressing underway on Hampshire's roads

If you are like me, you may have wondered why loose chippings are sometimes applied to road surfaces along with a temporary 20mph sign.

This is called "surface dressing" and it is carried out when the weather is warmer and drier. Like applying a lick of protective paint to a garden fence to prolong its life, surface dressing helps protect road surfaces against the elements. It provides a waterproof seal to help prevent the formation of potholes and restores any lost skid resistance.

Surface dressing keeps roads in good condition for longer, and that means our resources can be directed to fully resurface the roads that need it most. It is also more sustainable, reducing demand upon non-sustainable resources such as bitumen and aggregate and protects the road for around 10 years.

The thin layer of new stone chippings is essential to the success of the dressing. They improve skid resistance and also reduce the risk of aquaplaning and therefore

potential accidents. We put up advisory signs to remind drivers to slow down to avoid damage to their cars (and to others) when a road has just been treated. We go back to sweep the loose chippings as soon as possible after treatment, before the road markings are repainted.

5. “Bee Lines” campaign to help save the bees

A campaign has been launched to create a haven for pollinators in the South Downs National Park and help reverse the decline of bees in the South East.

The South Downs National Park Trust, the official charity for the National Park, is bidding to raise £75,000 to help restore flower-rich habitats that will protect bees and other important pollinators and allow them to thrive.

The campaign, called Bee Lines, will work with farmers and other landowners to create new wildflower corridors – essentially a “road system” for insects – that will link habitats and encourage pollination. Through its fundraising, the Trust hopes to create new wildflower corridors across the National Park.

As part of the campaign, people are also being encouraged to support pollinators in their gardens and public spaces through initiatives such as planting wildflowers and creating a “Bee B&B”, a cheap but perfect home for the insects.

For a step-by-step guide on how make a Bee B&B, made from a plastic bottle and hollow bamboo sticks, for your garden, visit www.southdowns.gov.uk/make-a-beehouse

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers