

# ARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Arlington Parish Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.30pm in Arlington Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Cllr J Parsons (Acting Chairman), P Stenning, J Robinson-Sivyer, V Radtke, N Kinghorn and J Sellars.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** A Stevens (Clerk) and one member of the public were also present.

## 55. PUBLIC SESSION

Residents asked for updates on the following;

- The hedge cutting in Tye Hill Lane and Tye Hill Road.
- The hole in the hedge opposite Old School House.

The Clerk will chase Highways.

## 56. APOLOGES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor M Garner and were accepted by those present.

## 57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS.

Councillor N Kinghorn declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in planning application number WD/2018/1897/F and left the room when discussions and voting took place.

Councillor P Stenning declared that he attended a South Coast Alliance for Transport and the Environment (SCATE) Meeting as a resident on the 12<sup>th</sup> September.

## 58. MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018.

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018 were read, approved by all and signed by the Acting Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## 59. PLANNING

### a. Planning Applications:

WD/2018/1804/F - Yew Tree Cottage, The Street, Arlington, BN26 6RX - Rear extension in replacement of existing garage and sun room and loft conversion – Arlington Parish Council has no objections to this application as long as it conforms with the requirements of being in a Conservation Area and meets the Archaeology requirements.

WD/2018/1807/F - Camberlot Hall, Camberlot Road, Upper Dicker, BN27 3RH - To replace an all-weather tennis court with a partially walled garden and open sided garden shelter, returning a portion (82.5 m. sq.) of the tennis court to open garden – Arlington Parish Council has no objections to this application on any planning grounds.

WD/2018/1979/F - Bangalore, Hempstead Lane, Hailsham, BN27 3PR - Rear extension – Arlington Parish Council has no objections to this application on any planning grounds as long as it does not impact on the neighbouring properties.

### b. Approved Planning Applications – The following planning applications have been approved by Wealden District Council;

WD/2018/1239/F - Robin Post Stables, Arlington Road West, Hailsham, Bn27 3rd - New Lunge Pen

WD/2018/1224/F - Claverham Manor, Wick Street, Berwick, BN26 6TL - Minor external and internal reconfiguration works (revisions to planning permission WD/2017/2832/F).

WD/2018/1225/LB - Claverham Manor, Wick Street, Berwick, BN26 6TL - Minor external and internal reconfiguration works (revisions to listed building consent WD/2017/2833/LB).

WD/2018/1125/FR - 9 Old Forge Close, Upper Dicker, BN27 3YJ - Retrospective formation of two single storey conservatories to the side and rear of the property

The following application have been refused;

WD/2018/1561/F - Henties, Coldharbour Road, Upper Dicker, BN27 3QF - Removal of existing wall and hedgerow to the boundary at the front of property and construction of new wall to front boundary and side boundary.

WD/2018/1087/F - Benedicts, The Street, Arlington, BN26 6SE - Replacement of existing garage.

- c. Planning Matters – No other planning matters were discussed at this meeting.

## 60. FINANCE.

To approve list of payments – Councillors resolved to accept and approve the list of payments to the 20th September 2018 which totalled £2912.86

1901	Arlington Village Hall - Hall Hire	£ 20.00
1902	ESCC - Pension	£ 210.39
1903	Mass Media - Website	£ 42.00
1904	Stripes - Grass Cutting	£ 270.00
1905	Recycling Partnership - Bin Emptying	£ 77.87
1906	T Hoad - Grass Cutting	£ 135.00
1907	A Stevens - Salary	£ 568.90
1908	A Stevens - Salary	£ 569.10
1909	ESCC Pension	£ 420.78
1910	HMRC PAYE	£ 478.82
1911	Arlington Village Hall - Hall Hire	£ 20.00
1912	Cuckmere CCB Grant	£ 100.00

At the last meeting it was agreed the Parish Council would pay £100 to the residents of each property burnt down by fire earlier in the summer (3 in total) but the Clerk has been unable to find out who to make the cheques payable too. Councillors suggested she writes to The Plough at Upper Dicker who are understood to be organising a collection.

- b. To approve the accounts to date – Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018.

61. **WEALDEN LOCAL PLAN** – Arlington Parish Council accepts the housing allocation figures and the Lower Dicker Employment Corridor as shown in Proposals Map 44., but objects to the addition of approximately 200,000 square meters of SHLAA sites (SHLAA Report August 2018, Appendix 5, Suitable Sites), much of which is currently greenfield, south of the A22 towards this Parish. The addition of these sites makes the Employment Corridor considerably larger and allows drift into a rural area, obviating the usefulness of the A22 as a logical barrier between industrial and rural.

## 62. HIGHWAYS –

- i: Update on the A27 - Councillor Stenning read from his report from a meeting he attended along with the Clerk. The meeting was organised by SSALC for those Parishes that would be the most affected by any changes made to the A27.

His report is as follows;

### Attendees

Maria Caulfield MP (Chairman A27 Reference Group)  
Stephen Lloyd MP  
Cllr Keith Stevens, Chairman East Sussex Association of Local Councils

Trevor Leggo, CEO Surrey and Sussex Association of Local Councils Ltd

Arlington PC – Cllr Peter Stenning  
Cuckmere Valley PC – Cllr Nick Giles  
Beddingham & Glynde PC – Cllr Kim King  
Long Man PC – Cllr Jeremy Christie  
Seaford TC – Penny Lower  
Wealden District Association of Local Councils – Alison Stevens (Secretary)  
CPRE – Kia Trainor (Sussex Director)

There were also representatives from; Alfriston, Alciston, Berwick, Chalvington with Ripe, Firle, Lewes, Polegate, Selveston and Willingdon & Jevington.

The meeting opened at 14:00 with the Chairman's (Cllr Keith Stevens) welcome and introductions.

Maria Caulfield gave a background introduction to the A27 Reference Group, which included their remit and responsibilities. She stated that the sole purpose of the Reference Group was to put forward the economic and business case to secure funding of £450 million for dualling the existing A27 or creating a new off-line road.

Ms. Caulfield also made the point that even if funding were available now, it would still be 10 years before "spades were in the ground", and in any event the question of funding being available was still a "big if". Further, before work of any kind is carried out there would, as a matter of course, be a Public Consultation, Public Enquiry and Planning Consideration.

Stephen Lloyd agreed with MC's comments but stated unequivocally that he and 98% of Eastbourne wanted a new off-line dual carriageway A27 between Polegate and Lewes.

One of the councillors present pointed out that there seemed to be inconsistencies in Wealden District Council's stance on an off-line A27, with the Director of Planning Policy and Economic Development stating that WDC "fully support a new off-line A27", however the Portfolio Holder for the WDC's Local Plan has stated "The Draft Local Plan does not need an off-line A27".

Maria Caulfield said that in the past a business and economic case for an off-line A27 hadn't "added up" but now it seems it does. She went on to say that should this be proven and funding made available, it will be for Highways England (HE) to determine the route and present the case to the Department for Transport (DfT). She also stated that the preferred choice of the A27 Reference Group was for a new off-line road, however she personally preferred the option of widening the existing A27 but in any event what kind of road should be built and its eventual route would be the DfT's decision and theirs alone.

Kia Trainor (CPRE) asked if the potential corridors for a new road and the business case would be publicly available.

Maria Caulfield replied that any potential routes, the economic and business study, were not and would not be made publicly available at this stage, this is due to the process being competitive between different areas of the country, and County Councils wanting to withhold "sensitive economic data" that has been included in any bid for funding. She also seemed to imply that the maps/graphics of potential corridors/routes had been circulating for many years since a previous study was carried out in the 1990's, and reiterated that the sole purpose of the A27 Reference Group was to put forward the economic and business case for an upgraded or off-line A27 but they were not responsible for decisions on the eventual route should it reach a point where funding was made available. She also said she expected a funding decision by the end of this year or early 2019 but whatever the outcome, the already agreed RIS 1 improvements for the existing A27 will go ahead as planned.

One councillor present asked if the bid for funding was an "all or nothing bid", Maria Caulfield responded that this was indeed the case.

Another councillor stated that the transport policy for Sussex appeared to lack any strategic planning i.e. road, rail, bus and cycle routes etc. Both MPs agreed with this statement, and referred to a new Transport for Surrey, Sussex and Kent Organisation that they believed would have Statutory Body status in 2020 to consider the transport policy strategically for this part of the country.

Finally, both Maria Caulfield and Stephen Lloyd committed that from now on the A27 Reference Group Agendas and Minutes would be published on the ESCC website, but with the caveat that ESCC might be

reluctant to do this. Both MPs also agreed to give the representatives of the Parish Councils present at this meeting an up-date every three months.

The Chairman thanked both MPs for their time and the meeting closed at approx. 15:20.

Councillor Stenning also said that Wealden District Council Director of Planning Policy and Economic Development Nigel Hannam, states the Business Case for the A27 is looking positive and a decision is expected by Government in 2019. It is an integral and critical component of the Wealden Local Plan and if it is successful the road would be completed by 2030 and the current A27 would be downgraded to a local road.

There is some confusion however as the Lead Member for Planning Policy, Ann Newton, seemed to contradict Mr Hannam by saying the Local Plan does not need an 'off line' A27.

Plans understood to be showing the three corridors are available to look at in Arlington Village Hall.

ii: update on the SLR Meetings – Councillors approved the draft agenda for the next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

- 63. RISK ASSESSMENTS** – Councillor Stenning risk assessed the defibrillator in Arlington at the end of July and again at the end of August. There were no immediate causes for concern. Councillor Sellars will check if the Upper Dicker defibrillator needs new batteries and the Clerk will order new batteries for the one in Arlington and the one in Upper Dicker (if they are both required).

Councillor Radtke risk assessed the Play Park and Recreation Ground in Upper Dicker. There were no immediate causes for concern.

- 64. ALLOTMENTS** – There is currently one vacant allotment which the Parish Council hopes to be able to fill soon.

- 65. VILLAGE GREEN PROJECT** – Councillors Radtke, Robinson-Sivyer and Kinghorn meet on Friday afternoons to tidy up and look after the Village Green. Additional volunteer are always welcome. Gravel boards are to be fitted either side of the borders to make mowing easier. The Clerk will chase up the contractors for the boards. Naturalising plants will also be planted.

Councillors also discussed alternative ideas to the planned cream tea.

- 66. REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS** – Councillor Robinson-Sivyer said she has been asked who made the Upper Dicker Village Green sign. The Clerk said she will see if she can find out and get back to her.

Councillor Kinghorn said that concerns have been raised about the footpath that runs from the side of the shop across the playing field, because it is not clearly identified. Rights of Way at ESCC has confirmed they will ask Bedes to clarify the route of the path with appropriate signs. Rights of Way are also said to have confirmed that they would be unlikely to grant permission to move the path. Councillors agreed any public path problems can be delegated straight to her and said she can write a note in Dicker Links offering to take up any problems residents have with public paths.

Councillor Stenning asked the Clerk to chase up the contractor who is repairing the fingerpost outside The Yew Tree because it has still not been repaired. He also said the inspection manholes have also not been repaired yet either. The Clerk will chase up the contractor about the fingerpost sign. Councillor Parsons advised that he has the issue of two loose communication equipment covers on the agenda for the next SLR meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

- 67. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA** – There were no items for inclusion at this stage.

- 68. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting will be the Full Council Meeting which will take place on Thursday 18th October 2018 at 7.30pm at Upper Dicker Village Hall.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 8:50pm.

