

FAIRLIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Fairlight Village Hall on Tuesday 23rd June 2015 at 7.15pm.

Present: Councillors A. Mier (Chairman), Mrs J. Annetts, Mrs C. Gallagher, Rev. V. Gibbs, A.King, S. Leadbetter and D. Thatcher. Also present: Dist Cllr. C. Saint, Parish Clerk J. Edmunds and 11 members of the public.

15091 Apologies for Absence: were received from Cllr Greenup (holiday) and District Cllr R. Bird (holiday).

15092 Agenda additions: None

15093 Code of Conduct and Disclosure of Interests: Item 5(b) – Fairfest request, Cllrs Mrs J. Annetts and S.Leadbetter.

15094 To Approve The Minutes Of the Meeting held 19th May 2015.

The minutes having been distributed prior to the meeting and made available to the Public at the meeting, were approved and signed by The Chairman as a correct record.

15095 Matters arising from the Minutes not otherwise on the Agenda: None

15096 Financial Matters

(a) Fingerposts – agree contractor and expenditure

Cllr Greenup had prepared a report using the information received from the three businesses who had been asked to quote for the repairs/replacement of the three fingerposts in Fairlight. He had recommended B.Patience as the preferable choice.

The Chairman read out the report and it is added as an appendix to these minutes. Members discussed the report.

Cllr King proposed that the quote from B.Patience in the sum of £1897 + VAT be accepted subject to the cost to add directions to the Recreation Ground being possible at minimal cost.

Cllr Leadbetter seconded the proposal. **Resolved**, all members voted in agreement with the proposal.

(b) Fairfest request to cover the cost of the public liability insurance (£152) for the July festival

Cllr Mrs Annetts advised that the grant request was for £152 and that it was to cover the Insurance for Fairfest's event in July. They had additional funds but these were required to pay for marquees and the bands, amongst other things. Cllrs Leadbetter and Mrs Annetts left the room at this point (7.24pm) as they both had declared personal and prejudicial interests in this Agenda item (5b). Cllrs discussed the request and Cllr Mrs Gallagher reminded members that previous requests of this nature had been approved and was for the good of the Village. She proposed that the request for £152 to cover the public liability insurance be agreed. Cllr Revd Gibbs seconded the proposal. **Resolved** all members voted in favour of the proposal.

Cllrs Leadbetter and Mrs Annetts then returned to the room and rejoined the Meeting (7.26pm).

(c) Appoint the Internal Auditor for 2015/16

The Clerk reported that Alison Hillman had indicated her willingness to continue as the Internal Auditor for 2015/16 and that she had been very efficient with her duties and previous reports.

Cllr Thatcher proposed Alison Hillman be re-appointed as the Internal Auditor which was seconded by Cllr King. **Resolved**, all members voted in favour.

15097 Firehills Visitor Centre

The Chairman read out the recently received letter from Hastings Councillor Davies who has direct responsibility for the Visitor Centre at Hastings Country Park and then asked Cllrs how they wished to proceed. In the letter Hastings Councillors continued to deny Fairlight PC a representative on the Project Board, but promised to raise the issue again at a meeting for which no date was fixed.

A discussion then took place and all different options considered. It was also mentioned that there had never been an objection to a new Visitor Centre in Principle, only to its location, design and future use. It was noted that Hastings were paying for the venture but it could not be understood why their view seemed to be "only those who pay have a say". It was particularly unsupportive of the residents and businesses who are immediately affected and who wholly live in Fairlight as there are no directly affected Hastings residents. It was also noted that many Hastings residents enjoy the facilities Fairlight has to offer.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders at 7.40 pm to give the public a chance to give their views. Generally, the views supported the existing business and residents objections and felt that as no Hastings resident lives in close proximity that it was not fair or ethical to discount the views of Fairlight

residents living nearby. It was felt by the public to be both arrogant and un-neighbourly especially as it is thought nobody in Fairlight has opposed the idea of a new Visitor Centre. It was accepted that a place on the Project Board would be a fair solution but as there is no fixed date for their next meeting then a decision to do something needed to be made.

The Chairman re-instated Standing Orders at 7.47 pm.

The Chairman requested a proposal. Cllr Mrs Gallagher proposed "That Fairlight Parish Council make a formal complaint to Hastings Borough Council regarding the process of the Visitor Centre at Hastings Country Park thus far and the lack of a representative on the Project Board from Fairlight"

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Revd Gibbs.

Resolved all Members voted in favour of the proposal.

15098 Councillor Vacancy

Following a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk will contact Rother to advertise the Councillor Vacancy on the Rother website and put the notices on the Parish Notice Boards.

If no one is nominated within the time frame allotted, then a new member can be co-opted.

15099 Highways

The Highways Report had been circulated by Cllr. Revd. Gibbs prior to the Meeting and made available to the Public at the Meeting. The Report is attached as an appendix to these Minutes.

The only additions to the report are the sign for Waites Lane has finally been replaced and that the Clerk will remind Clubs using the Village Hall about the dangerous parking in the Broadway leading towards Waites Lane.

15100 Planning

The Planning Committee`s report and notes from their meetings for the last month had been circulated prior to the meeting and made available to the Public at the meeting.

The Report was noted and is attached as an appendix to these Minutes. Cllr Leadbetter highlighted some of the main points of the report and also advised that Rother planners appeared to be taking notice of the issues when considering applications for properties near the cliffs.

Cllr Leadbetter advised that the initial meeting with AirS in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan would be taking place on 24th June 2015.

15101 Land Management:

(a) Monthly Report

Cllr King reported the following:-

(1) The wild flower signs in Wood Field had been removed by persons unknown and the motive was also unknown.

(2) The playground area had not been cut. The Clerk will speak with Derek Catt about this and the clearance of bracken on the verge opposite the Post Office.

Cllr Thatcher advised that he expected to be arranging a bonfire towards the end of the week to get rid of a large amount of foliage which had been recently cleared from Knowle Wood.

The Chairman having declared an interest as a Tennis Club member advised that the Club had been the subject of vandalism recently with both the door to the court and the fence surrounding the court being damaged. The gorse is also overgrown. Councillors had no objection to the Club cutting back the gorse.

Cllr King advised that a quote had been received late today from Wicksteed with various options on the replacement of the play-bark at the playground. He would look at it in detail and report back at the next meeting although first impressions suggested it was expensive.

Cllr Mrs Annetts advised she had seen the grass matting at Icklesham`s playground and offered to contact them to find out who had laid it. This item will be discussed at July`s meeting.

(b) Re-conductoring of the electric supply in the Fyrsway Area

The Chairman circulated an email from Terry Still (UK Power Networks) prior to the meeting which advises that all the permissions have now been granted and the agreement has been given to go ahead.

The Chairman read out the planned changes.

(c) Southern Water

The Chairman recapped the situation. There is still no agreement from SW regarding the minutes of the meeting in March and asked members to decide the way forward.

A discussion took place about the various options and one option is to take the matter up with the Water Consumers Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Revd Gibbs "If in seven days a reply has not been received from Southern Water, then a complaint be made to the Water Consumers Council and other appropriate bodies". The proposal was seconded by Cllr Mrs Gallagher.

Resolved, all members voted in favour of the proposal.

(d) Gardening Club`s plan for The Circle

The Chairman advised that the submitted plan from The Gardening Club had been approved by East Sussex Highways and that the work would begin later in the year, probably in September.

(e) Salt/Grit bins and Litter bin replacement

Cllr King gave an update regarding the bin replacements. A discussion took place amongst members around which bins would suit the Village best and confirmed the choices of Cllr King. Although a recommendation was for two salt bins to be replaced immediately it was advised that others would need to be replaced soon.

Cllr Leadbetter proposed that 5 bins be ordered, 5 be emptied, removed, bases installed and new bins filled. Cllr Mrs Annetts seconded the proposal. It was noted that East Sussex Highways have agreed to pay for two bins. **Resolved**, all members voted in favour.

Cllr Thatcher suggested that some residents may like the old bins for storage.

Cllr Leadbetter then proposed that the 4 dog bins be replaced as suggested.

Cllr Thatcher seconded the proposal.

Resolved, all members voted in favour of the proposal.

Cllr King advised that the litter bin at the junction of Shepherd Way and Channel Way needed replacing as it is not fit for purpose and that the house owner on the opposite corner had agreed a new bin could be placed on his land.

Cllr Leadbetter proposed that the bin be replaced and the old one removed.

Cllr Thatcher seconded the proposal.

Resolved, all members voted in favour.

15102 Vice-Chair`s Report

The Vice-Chair had nothing to report this month.

15103 County and District Councillors Reports:

County Cllr Maynard was not present so a report from County could not be received.

Dist Cllr Saint advised that very little had happened for reporting purposes since the Election. There had been concern over the missed bin collections since the change of collection dates for some residents and he apologised for the missed collections but assured residents that everything was being done to rectify the problems.

He advised anyone with a complaint to go via the Rother Call centre as they are well equipped to deal with any issues and he also advised that the Monitoring Officer (John Collins) is willing to come and address a future Parish Meeting if Members so wished.

The Boundary review which Rother are undertaking, has been discussed at Rother`s Cabinet meeting and has been referred to the full Council for acceptance. Basically the suggestion is for the number of Wards to remain at 38 and each Ward to have approximately 2000 electors.

15104 Approval and Payment of Accounts

The Clerk tabled a list of payments to be made at this meeting.

Approved as follows:-

Cheque No.	Payee	Gross £	VAT(Reclaimable)
1677	Mopps (Lutman Award)	150.00	
1678	AB Fire & Security	49.39	8.23
1679	Mrs V King	104.88	
1680	J Edmunds (Sal & Expenses)	559.56	
1681	HMRC	111.80	
1682	Miss T Robertson	30.00	
1683	A Hillman (Audit)	119.85	
1684	Action in Rural Sussex	7827.00	1304.50
1685	Rother District Council (Election)	165.35	
1686	Fairlight Gardening Club	50.00	
1687	A Mier (expenses)	41.00	
1688	Kemp & Catt Ltd	680.00	113.33

15105 Information and/or Future Agenda Items

- **Correspondence**

Correspondence Received:-

AirS

Cllr D Poole – re Visitor Centre

ESCC Highways re Circle Planting

LWL Maintenance Association – copy of letter to Highland Maintenance

Rother District Council – election expenses

Southern Water complaint update

**Victim Support
Weekly Rural News
Weekly Police updates
Wicksteed**

Correspondence Sent:

**AirS
HBC re Visitor Centre
Kemp & Catt
Natural England
Planning Applicant x3
Rother re Election expenses
Southern Water**

- The Boundary Review was mentioned and had been covered in Dist Cllr Saint`s report above.
- Highways have agreed that Fairfest can put an A3 size poster on The Circle to advertise the Summer Bash
- The Police report was read out (in the Appendix to these minutes). It will be sent by the Clerk to the Fairlight Residents Association and Fairlight Website for publication
- Post Office community purchase - progress can be found on their website - <http://www.fairlightvillageshop.co.uk/>

15106 **Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 28th July 2015, 7.15pm at Fairlight.
The formal part of the meeting closed at 8.48 pm

Open Forum

- Michael Hall (Resident) referred to the missed bin collections and advised that Rother had told him the missed bins would be collected within 5 working days.
Dist. Cllr Saint advised that the missed bins were all on narrow lanes and not main carriage ways. He had escalated it to a senior level.
- Mr Hall advised that dog bins sited on poles are the best choice and that Glasdon are the best company to buy from. He also suggested placing weep holes in the salt bins to allow water to escape and not harden the salt.
- A resident enquired if the PC had a policy for bonfires. Cllr Mier advised that the PC policy mirrors Rother`s and the details could be found on Rother`s website for full details on anti-social behaviour and suggestions for the timing on bonfires. One of the most neighbourly ways is to allow anything to be burned to be thoroughly dry first.
- Kevin Cornwell (resident) enquired on the latest information for faster Broadband for the Village. Cllr Mier had to refer him to the BT website, which indicates July as the likely date for Lower Waites Lane and nearby roads to go “live”.
- Mrs King (resident) thanked the Gardening club for brightening up the village with their strategically placed flower pots near to bus stops. They will however need volunteers to undertake watering the plants. She also had a complaint about the thoughtless parking on verges around the village, in particular in Meadow Way and Commanders Walk where a hedge is now overgrown. Cllr Revd Green will advise East Sussex Highways.

Cllr Mier suggested the verge parking and signs to deter it be discussed at the next meeting and maybe distribute letters to the households in the affected areas.

It was also mentioned by Jacqui Lait (resident) that some of the verges will be privately owned. Cllr Mier said that in some cases privately owned verges were nevertheless part of the highway.

- Paul Capps (Fairlight Preservation Trust) advised that the study for the berm had got the go ahead and Rother have sent the forms to the Environment Agency. The FPT have met with the East Kent Partnership.

Repairs to the pipe-work and de-silting of secondary drains/gullies have been undertaken by Rother which will help reduce landslips. Fairfest in conjunction with the FPT undertake a beach clean-up in August.

There being no further business, The Chairman thanked everyone for their participation and closed this part of the Meeting at 9.15 pm.

(Cllr A Mier – Chairman)

Dated -----

APPENDICES

1. Highways Report

I hope everyone is appreciating the various tubs and planters by the bus stop stops. Congratulations and thanks to the Gardening Club for these, they do help to make Fairlight look nicer. However this is spoiled by the County who now do not replace the granite setts on the kerbs where repairs have been made. The gaps are being filled in with asphalt instead which looks awful. A case in point is outside the Post Office, the kerb there looks dreadful. This issue has been taken up with Cllr Carl Maynard and the ESCC Highways department and I am looking for a reversal of that decision.

Cllr Thatcher has reported the missing Wildflower verge signs, goodness knows who has taken these and why. A bit of mindless vandalism which serves no purpose what so ever.

Speeding is still an issue in the village especially along Waites Lane. For the sake of an extra minute or two on your journey, please SLOW DOWN.

The remaining blocked gullies on Battery Hill are to be dealt with by ESCC in due course.

Lastly and not actually in our area but for your information, Church Lane Guestling will be closed between the hours of 7 am and 5pm on Weds,Thurs Fri 24,25 and 26 June for resurfacing work.

Val Gibbs. Highways Officer Fairlight Parish Council.

2. Planning Report

Planning Report for Fairlight Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 23rd June 2015

1) Planning Applications

Planning report week 19

Nothing for Fairlight

Planning report week 20

RR/2015/1248/P

1 The Close, Ness View, Fairlight TN35 4AQ

Proposed dormer for en-suite shower room and internal alterations.

Parish Council comment:

- 1) The Parish Council has no objection to the proposed development.
- 2) Any comments made by neighbours should be considered.

RR/2015/1273/P

17 Woodland Way, Fairlight TN35 4AU

Conservatory to front. Alterations to fenestration and wall infill to rear. Removal of existing habitable garage.

Parish Council comment:

- 1) The Parish Council has no objection to the proposed development.
- 2) Any comments made by neighbours should be considered.

Planning report week 21

RR/2015/1289/P

72 Lower Waites Lane, Hedgerows, Fairlight TN35 4DD

Existing bungalow ground floor extension and loft conversion together with the erection of a detached garage with home office over.

Parish Council comment:

- 1) The property known as The Ark shown on the block plan no longer exists due to cliff erosion requiring its demolition.

- 2) It is stated that storm water drainage will discharge to the existing system. We would wish to clarify that this means either into the Lower Waites Lane stream or the main drainage system.
- 3) Planners need to consider whether the proposed dormer window on the southern elevation would overlook the garden of the adjoining property to an unreasonable degree.
- 4) Any comments made by residents of adjoining properties should be taken into account.

Planning report week 22

Nothing for Fairlight

Planning report week 23

RR/2015/1498/P

Lower Stonelynk Farm, Rosemary Lane, Fairlight TN35 4EB

Replacement of existing conservatory roof with solid roof and rooflight, additional rooflight to utility and additional french doors to conservatory

Parish Council comments: Not yet considered by Parish Council.

2) Planning Decisions

RR/2015/459/P

Windover, Sea Road, Fairlight, TN35 4DR

Demolition of existing garage/annexe. Construction of new house. Swapping of annexe use from former garage/annexe to original house. Revisions to parking arrangements.

Decision: Application rejected for the following reasons - (my summary).

1. Overbearing effect on Applegarth due to proximity and higher level of Windover at the front.
2. Would erode open character of area by being closer to the road than neighbouring properties.
3. It is in a vulnerable cliff top location and inappropriate in relation to the long term security of residents.
4. It is not demonstrated that the construction would not pose a risk to the stability of the cliff.

RR/2015/583/P

Cherry Garden Farmhouse, Peter James Lane, Fairlight TN35 4AH

Erection of 2 bay garage with domestic office above.

Decision: Approved

RR/2015/774/P

Hillcliffe, Fyrsway, Fairlight TN35 4BG Provision of dormer to rear elevation.

Alterations to roof including raising of ridge.

Decision: Approved

RR/2015/1060/P

Pangkor, Sea Road, Fairlight, TN35 4DR

Variation/deletion of Condition 3 (site loading), variation/deletion of Condition 6 (demolition of existing building) and deletion of Condition 8 (removal of trees) RR/2013/1094/P Conditions(s) 3 and 8.

Decision: Refused – All 3 conditions to remain.

Stephen Leadbetter
 Planning Committee Chairman
 17th June 2015

3. Planning Committee notes

**Fairlight Parish Council Planning Committee – 19th May 2015
 Notes of Meeting**

Present: Councillors S. Leadbetter (Chairman), A. Mier, Mrs C. Gallagher, Mrs J. Annetts.

Apologies for Absence - Revd V. Gibbs.

1) Code of Conduct and Disclosure of Interests:

None

2) Planning Applications

RR/2015/947/P - Dreams End, Channel Way, Fairlight TN35 4BP

Variation of condition 2 of RR/2013/247/P to replace ridge glazing with rooflights; Variation of rear dormer detail; Insertion of rear rooflight; Removal of second floor room.

Councillors discussed the proposed variations and considered that the variations made little difference to the impact of the building.

Comments to Rother to be:

- 3) The Parish Council has no objection to the proposed variations.
- 4) As with RR/2013/247/P the rear dormer should be glazed with obscure glass equivalent to Pilkington scale one.
- 5) Objections made by neighbours should be considered.

RR/2015/1060/P - Pangkor, Sea Road, Fairlight, TN35 4DR

Variation/deletion of Condition 3 (site loading), variation/deletion of Condition 6 (demolition of existing building) and deletion of Condition 8 (removal of trees) RR/2013/1094/P Conditions(s) 3 and 8.

Councillors discussed the proposed variations to conditions 3, 6 and 8. It was felt that each condition was important and should remain.

Comments to Rother to be:

- 1) The original conditions were imposed for legitimate reasons and should remain.
- 2) Site loading studies are particularly important because of the continuing erosion / landslip nearby at Cliff Way which is not protected by engineering works and the apparent bulk and weight of the proposed structure. There is no guarantee yet that proposed remedial work will be carried out at Cliff Way.
- 3) Comments made by neighbours should be taken into account.

RR/2015/1138/P - Firecliff, Shepherds Way, Fairlight TN35 4BD

Proposed New Conservatory

Councillors discussed the proposal and raised no concerns.

Comments to Rother to be:

- 1) The Parish Council has no objection to this proposal.
- 2) Any comments made by neighbours should be taken into account.

3) Any Other Business

Hastings Country Park

Councillor Mier gave brief feedback on a meeting held on 18th May between Hastings and Fairlight representatives concerning the proposed country park visitor centre. As this was due to be discussed at the Parish Council meeting it was agreed that the matter would be minuted as part of that meeting.

Meeting closed at 6.30pm

4) Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Tuesday 2nd June 2015 at 2.30pm in Fairlight Village Hall, subject to confirmation.

Fairlight Parish Council Planning Committee – 2nd June 2015 Notes of Meeting

Present: Councillors S. Leadbetter (Chairman), A. Mier, Mrs C. Gallagher, Mrs J. Annetts.

Member of the public: Mr M Cotter – 17 Woodland Way

Apologies for Absence - Revd V. Gibbs.

Code of Conduct and Disclosure of Interests:

None

Planning Applications

Planning Application – RR/2015/1273/P – 17 Woodland Way, Fairlight, TN35 4AU

Conservatory to front. Alterations to fenestration and wall infill to rear.
Removal of existing habitable garage.

Councillors discussed the proposal and had no objection to it.

Comments to Rother to be:

The Parish Council has no objection to the proposed development.
Any comments made by neighbours should be considered.

Planning Application – RR/2015/1248/P - 1 The Close, Ness View, Fairlight TN35 4AQ

Proposed dormer for ensuite Shower room and internal alterations

Councillors discussed the proposal and had no objection to it.

Comments to Rother to be:

The Parish Council has no objection to the proposed development.
Any comments made by neighbours should be considered.

RR/2015/285/P -12 The Close Fairlight TN35

Amended application

Councillors discussed the proposal and noted that the proposed roof height had been reduced.

Comments to Rother to be:

It is noted that the proposed roof height has been reduced
Any comments made by neighbours should be considered.

Any Other Business

Hastings Country Park

Councillor Mier reported that there had been no reply to his recent letter yet.
Meeting closed at 2.45pm

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Tuesday 16th June 2015 at 2.30pm in Fairlight Village Hall, subject to confirmation.

**Fairlight Parish Council Planning Committee – 16th June 2015
Notes of Meeting**

Present: Councillors S. Leadbetter (Chairman), A. Mier, Mrs C. Gallagher, Mrs J. Annetts.

Apologies for Absence - Revd V. Gibbs, Lyn Cooke (applicant).

Code of Conduct and Disclosure of Interests:

None

Planning Applications

Planning Application – RR/2015/1289/P - 72 Lower Waites Lane, Fairlight TN35 4DD

Existing bungalow ground floor extension and loft conversion together with the erection of a detached garage with home office over.

Councillors discussed the application and had no major concerns. The question was raised about whether the proposed rear dormer window overlooking the rear garden of the adjoining property may create a problem.

Parish Council comments to be:

The property known as The Ark shown on the block plan no longer exists due to cliff erosion requiring its demolition.

It is stated that storm water drainage will discharge to the existing system. We would wish to clarify that this means either into the Lower Waites Lane stream or the main drainage system. Planners need to consider whether the proposed dormer window on the southern elevation would overlook the garden of the adjoining property to an unreasonable degree. Any comments made by residents of adjoining properties should be taken into account.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman reminded members that a meeting had been arranged with the Action in Rural Sussex (AirS) Consultant at 2.30pm on Wednesday 24th June.

He emphasised that the work involved in developing a Neighbourhood Plan would need to be shared and could not be left to a very small number of people.

He suggested that the key things for the first meeting would be:

- Arranging service of a notice on Rother together with a map of the area covered.
- Inviting relevant organisations such as the FPT and FRA to involve themselves in the core group and arranging to brief the core group on what is required.
- Setting a skeleton work programme identifying tasks, resources and timescales
- Other issues as identified by the Consultant.

Councillors agreed – Chairman to draft agenda.

Any Other Business

The Finches – Drainage

Councillors discussed the continuing surface water drainage problems and lack of clarity of the plans. Councillor Mier will write to Tim Hickling, Head of Planning, to seek clarification on the current position.

Knowle Wood

Clarity to be sought from East Sussex CC to establish whether the footpath through the wood could still be declared as a public right of way. A resident of Broadway may be able to give advice on the process.

Robin's Holt

The Chairman advised that the unauthorised structure in the front garden had been removed by the owner.

Meeting closed at 3.30pm

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Tuesday 30th June 2015 at 2.30pm in Fairlight Village Hall, subject to confirmation.

4.Fingerpost report

As requested I have read the three estimates and would like to make a recommendation.

I took particular note of the way in which detailed information about the project varied and this gave a clear way forward.

Both JAKK and B.Patience gave comprehensive overviews and I noted that the replacement cost varied a little

ie £975.50 versus £836 which with VAT gives a differential of £163.91 per post.

I believe that the presentation of our village is important to both ourselves and fellow villagers and it is essential for future residents to inherit a good legacy.

From the previous meeting I understand that the County Council will make a donation and this may not be available in the future.

I therefore recommend that the Parish Council accept the Quote from Mr Patience.

I am aware that this is the largest quote but although I am not an expert I think we do need 2 new posts as recommended by him.

Cllr Derek Greenup