

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30pm AT WINTERTON
HALL, PLAISTOW**

Present: Councillors - Mr J. Kirby (In the Chair), Mr S. East, Miss V. Forwood, Mr T. Laidlaw, Mr D. Lugton, Mrs R. Perrin, Mr D. Ribbens and Mr D. Wheeler

There was one member of the public present.

The Chairman introduced PCSOs Clair Gamlin and Ian Luxford and PC Philip Hanlon. PCSO Gamlin introduced herself as the new Ward PCSO. She commented that following a spate of burglaries, mainly from garages and garden sheds, all was very quiet in the Parish. She went on to explain that the Neighbourhood Policing Team were setting up Neighbourhood Panels, which would complement the new style Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. The Panels would be multi-agency but would be resident led.

Members asked PCSO Gamlin if attention could be paid to the growth in parking problems outside the School. The issue of speeding through the villages was also discussed.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Gamlin and her colleagues for attending the meeting.

Comments and questions from the floor

There were no comments or questions from the floor

54/08 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr D. Clement (holiday), Mr B. Gravestock (holiday) and Mr D. Wheeler (personal) and Mrs P. Ryder (work commitment)

55/08 Minutes

- (a) The Minutes of the meeting of 22nd July 2008 having previously been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true record
- (b) The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee of 16th September 2008 were received and noted.

56/08 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes

57/08 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest made

58/08 Chairman's Report – including Urgent Matters, as appropriate

(a) Don Smith

The Chairman reported the sad news of the death of Don Smith of Ifold. Members noted that his funeral would be held the following Friday at 3.30pm at Guildford Crematorium. Members asked that a message of condolence be sent to his wife, Pat.

(b) Road Closures

Members noted from the Clerk's Report, details of currently available Councillor Training courses at Dunford House, Midhurst.

(c) SALC and SRCC AGMs

Members noted from the Clerk's Report, details of the above meetings to be held on 7th November. It was noted that Councillor Ribbens would be attending.

59/08 Reports of County and District Councillors

County Councillor Duncton commented that (a) he had done everything he could to reduce the financial burden on the Parish Council regarding the Ifold to Loxwood footpath. He commented that it was a difficult balance to strike between keeping a footpath in a state of reasonable repair and letting it get to the condition where it was too expensive to renovate; (b) he commented that Oak Tree Stores had submitted a grant application for improvements to the shop; (c) that he was currently working with a family and WSCC regarding cross County border student travel; (d) that, following the reshuffle of the Highways Department at Drayton, Tracey Webb, the new Area Highway Engineer would be attending the next Parish Council meeting; (e) that the next County Local Committee meeting would be on 22nd October 2008 at 7pm at Petworth Primary School; and (f) he commented on the new waste recycling plant at Warnham.

60/08 Situation Report on previously reported matters

(a) The Green at Plaistow including Play Area repairs

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report detailing the meeting of the Open Spaces Working Group in August.

It was noted that a quotation for a replacement Information Sign would be available for the November meeting,

It was further noted that a section of the fence was damaged and would be repaired by Councillor Gravestock.

Safety Surfacing for the Roundabout

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report, detailing two quotations obtained for the laying of continuous wetpore surfacing. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

- (i) That the quotation from Abacus Playgrounds Ltd in the sum of £1200 be accepted**
- (ii) That the contractor be asked to separately pile the whole tiles (for use elsewhere in the Play Area) and piece tiles (for disposal)**

Coxes Pond

Members discussed the issue raised at the previous Council meeting by a member of the public with regard to the pond being fenced. Councillor Ribbens commented that he had received a number of comments from parents at both the School and the PreSchool that fencing was not necessary and that children should be adequately supervised.

It was further noted that the only area in the actual ownership of the Parish Council was the Pond itself and not the surrounds; further that the existing metal rail fence on the road side of the Pond was owned by WSCC. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Parish Council would not make any further fencing provision at Coxes Pond

(b) Notice Board at Kelsey Hall

Members noted from the Clerk's Report that delivery of the three new notice boards were expected within approximately eight weeks from the meeting.

(c) Village Design Statement and Action Plan

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report with regard to an invitation being extended to an officer from CDC to attend the next Parish Plan Steering Group meeting, when arranged. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

That an officer from Chichester District Council be invited to attend the next Parish Plan Steering Group meeting, when arranged, to advise on progress of the Village Design Statement.

(d) Resurfacing of the footpath from The Drive to the Loxwood Stream

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report; and that the financial arrangement of the Parish Council paying 50% of the total net cost viz. £1825 over two years had been accepted. It was noted that the current status of the work was not known.

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note this section of the Report

(e) Plaistow Post Office

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report. Members noted that despite original assurances that the same services as offered at Billingshurst Post Office would be available at Plaistow, it had been found that this was not the case, particularly with reference to obtaining Euros and the issuing of Car Tax. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

That enquiries be made as to the level of services offered at Plaistow Post Office

(f) Southern Water issues

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report regarding sewage discharge at Lavender Cottage, Ifold; the water leak in Rickmans Lane, which was now resolved; and an interruption to the water supply in Plaistow on 29th August, to which a response had now been received.

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note this section of the Report

(g) Dunsfold Park

Councillor East confirmed that there was no additional news and that the next development was awaited.

61/08 Finance Matters

(a) Accounts submitted for payment

A schedule of Accounts submitted for payment for the period 22nd July to 30th September 2008 was circulated to Members and is attached to the end of the Minutes.

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the payments submitted for payment be approved

(b) Budget Monitoring to 30th June 2008

Members noted receipt of the Budget Monitoring information sheets. Councillor Lugton asked that Members remove the last line on the last page of the sheets.

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note this section of the Report

(c) Winterton Hall Grant Application

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report. The application was retrospectively requesting a grant of £1500 towards flooring work at Winterton Hall. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

(i) That a grant of £1500 be approved for payment to the Winterton Hall Management Committee towards the recent floor works

(ii) That both Kelsey and Winterton Halls be advised that no Parish Council grants would be made until the Parish Council is satisfied that other avenues of grant funding have been exhausted and grant applications to other sources have been made, where appropriate.

(d) Plaistow Cricket Club – overdue Rent for 2008/2009

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report detailing the Clerk's difficulties in obtaining the rent due, in the sum of £40. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Parish Council Chairman would make contact with the Cricket Club personally

(e) Audited Accounts – 2007/2008

Members noted that the 2007/2008 accounts had been signed off by the external auditor, without comment.

IT WAS RESOLVED

To note this section of the Report

(f) Date of next Finance Committee meeting

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report that the meeting of the Finance Committee would be held on a mutually convenient for both Committee members and the Clerk

62/08 Highway Matters

(a) Directional Sign Posts

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report and expressed their pleasure with the new sign posts.

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Parish Council's thanks be forwarded on to West Sussex County Council

(b) Roadside footpath from Durfold Wood to Plaistow Village

Councillor Ribbens informed Members that a group of mothers from both Durfold Wood and Plaistow were raising a petition for the provision of a pavement from Durfold Wood to Plaistow to provide a safe walking route to School and the Shop. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Parish Council would lend their support to the residents.

(c) Speed Limit on Ifold Estate roads

Councillor Lugton informed Members that a speed monitoring exercise had been undertaken on the Ifold Estate roads and that it had been advised that a 20mph speed limit through the Estate was sustainable, which would only require signage at the entrances to the Estate. This would be addressed by Ifold Estates Ltd.

(d) Matters raised by Members

Members raised the following items –

- (i) Overhanging branches at the lower end of Foxbridge Lane
- (ii) A leaning tree over the carriageway, near the entrance to Strudwick Farm
- (iii) That there had been no response regarding the trees on the Plaistow Road, near to Foxbridge Lane
- (iv) Potholes and depressions in the carriageway near the entrance drive to Quennells, Plaistow
- (v) The hedge of the Golf Club at the Kirdford end of Foxbridge Lane needed cutting back

IT WAS RESOLVED

(a) That items (i) to (iv) above be reported to West Sussex County Council

(b) That Councillor Laidlaw speak with the owner of Foxbridge Golf Club regarding item (v) above

63/08 Plaistow Telephone Box

Members noted receipt of the Clerk's Report. It was noted that it was still now known whether it was BT's intention to remove the facility and until such time as this information was available, any decision on either the Adopt or Sponsor a Kiosk BT schemes should be deferred.

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this item be deferred to the next Council meeting

64/08 Parish Web Site

The Chairman commented that as this could be a lengthy and, possibly, technical item that a small Working Group be formed to progress the issue. Following discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED

That a Working Group comprising of Councillors Kirby, Laidlaw, Lugton, Mrs Ryder and Wheeler be formed to meet on Tuesday 14th October 2008 at 7.30pm

65/08 Affordable Housing Seminar

Councillor Ribbens that as there was a large amount of information on this issue, he would prepare a written Report for Members.

66/08 Matters raised by members for the next meeting -

Councillor East – Parish Christmas Decorations and Christmas Trees

Councillor Ribbens – Provision for First Responders

Councillor Wheeler – (a) Alternative sites for PreSchool Fete

(b) Grass cuttings around trees on The Green

67/08 Dates of next meeting -

Tuesday 18th November 2008 at 7.30pm at Kelsey Hall, Ifold

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm