

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Brightling Parish Council held on Monday 30th July 2018 at 7.30 p.m. at Brightling Village Hall

Parish Councillors present: Cllrs Caroline Croft, Chris French, David Gasson, Daniel Lambert-Gorwyn, Jane Oxenford, Andrew Wedmore (Chair) and Rodderick Wrenn.

Parish Councillors absent: None

District / County Councillors present: None

In attendance: Brian Holdstock, Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for absence RDC Cllr Eleanor Kirby-Green

2. Disclosures of interest Cllr Lambert-Gorwyn declared an interest in item 8.1.1 should it be discussed.

3. Additional agenda items

The Chairman approved the addition of the following agenda items due notice of which has been given to the Clerk on the day before the meeting by 12 noon:

At 6.2.2.5 Payment to RALC £25

At 9.3 Appointment of tree warden

At 11.2 Correspondence on night flights

4. Minutes

4.1 The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14th May 2018 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

5. Open Forum

There were no district or county councillors present and no members of the public.

6. Finance and Governance

6.1 RFO Report

6.1.1 Member received the bank reconciliation to the 30th June 2018. The Chairman advised that he has logged in to the bank account and verified the totals as stated.

6.1.2 Members received the income and expenditure report against budget for the first quarter ending 30th June. There are no significant variances.

6.2 Receipts and Payments

6.2.1 Members approved the schedule of receipts and payments in April, May and June 2018.

6.2.2 On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Cllr Croft members approved the following payments -

6.2.2.1 Zurich Insurance – renewal - £257.60 (retrospective)

6.2.2.2 Douglas Andrews – finger post repair - £344 + £68.80 vat

6.2.2.3 Jon Avery – Church yard grass cutting first half year - £300 + £60 vat

6.2.2.4 Clerk Expenses - £47.79

6.2.2.5 RALC – Subscription renewal - £25

6.3 Governance

- 6.3.1 The Chairman advised members that the clerk has expressed the wish to retire but is happy to continue for up to a year from now. Members asked the clerk to take positive steps to recruiting his successor.

7. Community and Business Development

- 7.1 Newcomers' orientation and information pack – no new deliveries.
7.2 Village web site – the redesigned website has been well received and traffic continues to grow.
7.3 Rural broadband – The Chairman reported on the impending roadworks on behalf of BT that are part of the roll out of fibre to the premises. From Rectory Hill the roadworks go to Oxleys Green from where they go in all three directions. The premises who will benefit will leapfrog those with the existing provision supplied as fibre to the cabinet. The remaining areas in the parish who are not being well served are those along Willingford Lane including the Worges.
7.4 Other utilities – no further comments at this time.

8. Planning Matters

- 8.1 Existing applications – members noted progress and outcomes of those tabled at a previous meeting.
- 8.1.1 RR/2017/2919/L – Prinkle View, Battle Road, Brightling TN32 5JA - Removal of lobby to the rear. Erection of single story extension to rear with conversion of roof space to bedroom *Listed BC granted.*
- 8.1.2 RR/2018/325/P - 1 Grants Cottages, Cackle Street, Brightling TN32 5HZ - Erection of an oak framed conservatory. *Parish Council has supported. Planning permission refused.*
- 8.1.3 RR/2018/491/P - 3 Hollingrove Cottages Kent Lane, Brightling TN32 5HU - Demolition of existing garage and workshop and replace with single storey 2 bay garage and store.
PC objected to visual impact on skyline and requested that structure be sunk. Approved conditional with requirement to lower the structure going part way to meet the PC's concerns.
- 8.1.4 RR/2018/628/P - 2 Poplar Cottages, Brightling Road, Salehurst/Robertsbridge TN32 5EY - Alterations to first floor rooflines, including a new side gable and rear dormers. Extension to ground floor kitchen, addition of double garage.
PC offered no objection but questioned visual appearance of glazing. Approved conditional
- 8.1.5 RR/2018/480/P - Coldharbour Farm Estate, Battle Road, Brightling TN21 9LQ - Proposed replacement of redundant farm buildings with B1/B8 units. *PC gave conditional support. Remains undecided.*
- 8.2 New applications – members noted the following and the council's response. *(Ital)*
- 8.2.1 RR/2018/1464/L - Little Sprays Farm, Penhurst Lane, Brightling TN33 9QN - Underpinning and new foundation record. (Part retrospective) *Undecided*
- 8.2.2 RR/2018/1548/P - 2 Poplar Cottages, Brightling Road, Salehurst/Robertsbridge TN32 5EY - Alterations to 1st floor rooflines, including new gable and dormers. Extension to ground floor kitchen. Erection of double garage. *Undecided – parish council has no objections.*
- 8.2.3 RR/2018/1589/P - 1 Poplar Cottages, Brightling Road, Brightling TN32 5EY - Erection of extension to the rear of timber garage. *Undecided – parish council has no objections.*
- 8.2.4 RR/2018/1598/P - 1 Grants Cottages, Cackle Street, Brightling TN32 5HZ - Erection of oak framed conservatory. *Undecided – parish council questions appropriateness of flat roof.*

8.2.5 RR/2018/1825/P - The Forge, Brightling Road, Oxleys Green, Brightling TN32 5HD - Demolition of existing rear and side single storey extension. Construction of new single storey, and two storey extension to West elevation. *Undecided. The redesign is based on paid for planning pre-advice and members thought it to be an improvement. Clerk will speak to the planning officer before the council's position is determined.*

8.3 Breaches and Enforcement – the following update was noted.

8.3.1 Telegraph point – site allocations document shows the deadline of 17 Jul 18 as the end date for lawful occupation of the caravan. *This marks the end of the three year temporary permission. Members will question RDC Cllr Kirby-Green at the next pc meeting regarding future steps to be taken by RDC including future provision of traveller sites.*

9. Highways Matters

9.1 Finger posts

9.1.1 The post at the top of Rectory Hill has been refurbished and set upright.

9.1.2 The post at Darwell Hole has been damaged in a road traffic accident. Douglas Andrews will be asked to inspect and advise on appropriate remedial action.

9.2 Strengthening Local Relationships

9.2.1 Street naming – the changes discussed at the SLR meeting were mostly acceptable to RDC except for Battle Road. Having advertised them for a long period without comment, members agreed that it is now time for the clerk to write formally to RDC with the proposed changes which include Cackle Street remaining as such and the name Battle Road being restricted to that in use by Royal Mail, i.e. Battle Road, Dallington and Battle Road, Brightling, both being part of the B2096. RDC's offer to assign the name Coblye Lane to the loop near Avenue Lodge will be accepted.

9.2.2 Drains – none of the actions agreed at the SLR meeting in June (minute 4 of that meeting) appear to have happened and the clerk will pursue with East Sussex Highways.

9.3 Countryside matters

9.3.1 Eucalyptus planting in part of Great Wood, Brickyard Lane – the clerk has written to Bruderhof, the land owners, to enquire if they plan to comply with the felling license and is awaiting a reply.

9.3.2 Tree Warden – Brightling does not have a tree warden but Doug Edworthy, the Dallington Tree Warden has offered to act as Tree Warden for Brightling as well. Members were pleased to accept his offer and the Chairman will convey this to Mr Edworthy.

10. Training

No current proposals

11. Correspondence received

11.1 1066Community are proposing a touring Coffee Stop and Information Service around the villages. They offer to integrate with existing regular social events where they exist rather than setting up their own.

Members suggested they be invited to take a table at the Village Market to distribute information but not to offer coffee.

11.2 Correspondence from residents has been received regarding night flights at Gatwick. Members discussed the extent of the noise nuisance resulting but did not feel that any action in terms of lobbying by the parish council is appropriate as the level of perceived nuisance is subjective.

12. Parish Councillors' Forum

12.1 Cllr Jane Oxenford asked if the clerk could use his offices to effect the removal of the abandoned vehicle on the verge opposite the village hall. It was abandoned in January 2018 and her efforts to get it removed have not produced a result.

13. Circulation Folder

Clerks and Councils Direct
CPRE Newsletters

14. Information for Councillors / Future Agenda Items

14.1 Members' Lead Responsibilities – following the appointment of a tree warden (9.3.2 above) the Chairman reminded members that it is a statutory requirement to publish online the lead responsibilities which each councillor takes on. He asked members to consider their positions in preparation for discussion at the next meeting.

15. Next meetings

15.1 Meetings of the parish council will be in Brightling Village Hall at 7.30pm on a Monday.

15.2 The following are the remaining dates for council meetings in the current council year:
2018: 1 October, 19 November.
2019: 14 January, 11 March, (8 April Annual Assembly), 13 May (AGM)

.....
Signed (Chairman)

Date