

HASCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES of Hascombe Parish Council held on **Monday 10th March 2014** in Hascombe Village Hall, Mare Lane, Hascombe at 6.00pm

Attendees: Mr C Orange – Chairman
Mr P Lye – Vice Chairman
Mrs S Jeffrey – Member
Mr K Kingham - Member
Mrs S Sullivan – Member
Mrs B Weddell – Clerk
Mr Toby Anstruther (part)
Mr Andrew Kinnear (part)
Mrs Janet Long, Planit Consulting (part)
Mr Ian Wilks (Godalming & Haslemere Ramblers Group) (part)
Mr Barry Holland (Godalming & Haslemere Ramblers Group) (part)
Waverley Borough Councillors Mr Maurice Byham and Mr Richard Gates and 44 members of the public were also in attendance.

Apologies: Apologies had been received from PC Tony Kerby and PCSO Philip Snow.

Before the business of the meeting, there was a discussion with Mr Toby Anstruther, owner of Hascombe Estate, his agent Mr Andrew Kinnear and his Planning Agent Mrs Janet Long of Planit Consulting, regarding matters of concern for the parish.

1. Application for Change of use of building from Class B2 (General Industrial) to form 2 units for use within Class B1 (business) and the erection of an extension and alterations to an existing Building at the Woodyard Church Road. The Chairman summarised the background to the application and the current situation, being that over 100 residents had objected to the application, which would be decided by Waverley Borough Council's Eastern Planning Committee on 13th March. The Chairman stated that this was an informal discussion and shouldn't be quoted legally in any way.

Mr Anstruther outlined his position regarding the Woodyard application and his attitude to the parish as a whole. He said that Hascombe had been important to his late father and it was important to him. He is not a developer who is here to make a quick profit and disappear but is concerned with the long term future of the village as a vibrant community that will be able to support its local businesses such as the pub. He thought that the B1 use is less offensive and quieter than the existing B2 use.

The parish council asked whether Mr Anstruther would consider a compromise on the proposed intensity of use by having one unit instead of two and expressed concern about the traffic that would be generated along Church Road. He replied that he had thought that two small scale operators would be preferred by the neighbours. The parish council also asked whether alternative, less intrusive sites could be considered. Mr Anstruther said that he would be happy to find the least offensive use to occupy the space within planning regulations. If planning permission is granted and the units are marketed, Mr Anstruther will go through any applications with the parish council to choose the most suitable occupants. Mr Anstruther also agreed that no action would be taken for six months to allow time to liaise with the parish council.

There followed a series of questions from the public and these were addressed by Mr Anstruther.

The hedge surrounding the site was also discussed, with the possibility of replacing the leylandii with beech or hornbeam. Mr Anstruther said nothing would be decided without further discussions with the parish council.

Regarding possible alternative uses for the site, Mr Anstruther said that he would be happy to consider residential but was doubtful that planning permission would be granted for residential use. The Chairman said that Waverley Borough Council had asked for sites for possible development and, without prejudice, the parish council had submitted a number of sites in the parish, including the Woodyard and other sites owned by the Hascombe Estate. The Chairman also advised that the parish council had recently agreed to embark on producing a Neighbourhood Plan, and one of the major elements will concern the location of housing if that is what the village wants.

Mr Anstruther stated that he would not consider an offer from residents to purchase the site.

2. Proposals to close the Hascombe Hill car park following concerns about professional dog walkers allowing dogs to disturb the pheasants. Mr Anstruther said that there was no question of sacrificing residents' access for the sake of the shoot. The car park was opened as part of the Forestry Commission's 'Welcome Walkers' scheme which had now ceased. Residents were asked to keep an eye open for irresponsible dog owners and let him know if there is a problem. It was also suggested that signs be erected asking for dogs to be kept to the paths and not disturb wildlife or game. Mr Anstruther was thanked for deferring any action on the car park.
3. Housing. As the Chairman had previously explained, Waverley Borough Council had asked the parish council to suggest sites where housing could be considered in the future and the parish council had submitted sites which had been identified by the village for affordable housing as rural exception sites, most of which were owned by the Hascombe Estate. Mr Anstruther said that he had not attended the meeting in order to promote housing but if there is a call for sites for housing and those sites arise out of the parish then he would be happy to discuss them.
4. Mr Kinnear advised that the Estate would be restoring the hedge alongside the footpath up to Nore and although it may look quite brutal initially, it work produce long-term benefits for local wildlife and was part of a plan to reinstate the drovers road.

The business of the parish council meeting started at 19:40.

14/023	Declarations of Interests	ACTION
	There were no declarations of interest pertaining to agenda items.	
14/024	Minutes The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th January 2014 minute 14/001 to 14/022, as circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.	
14/025	Clerk's Report The Clerk advised that Planning Infrastructure Contributions (PIC) money is available for Hascombe. £811.55 was available for playing pitches and Mr Kingham would get details regarding plans to resurrect the cricket club, which may be eligible. £496.86 was available for community facilities, which could possibly be used towards the cost of a back-up generator for the village hall. £496.86 was available for environmental projects, which could include the pond. The Clerk will make further enquiries about eligibility and deadlines.	Clerk
	The Clerk advised that Waverley Borough Council had made a decision to include The White Horse pub on its List of Assets of Community Value and would remain on the List of Assets for a period of five years.	
	The Clerk would check the latest situation regarding fibre optic broadband for Hascombe.	Clerk

14/026

Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report that wasn't covered elsewhere on the agenda.

At 19:45 the business of the meeting was suspended to allow a presentation from Mr Ian Wilks and Mr Barry Holland of the Godalming and Haslemere Ramblers Group. Mr Wilks and Mr Holland explained their actions regarding an Alleged Footpath Claim with the intention that the footpath that runs adjacent to Thorncombe Street through Winkworth Arboretum may be reopened. They were seeking witnesses who may have used the footpath 20 or more years ago and would send the Clerk information and maps to email to the parish council mailing list. Good quality statements under oath by 20 people should be sufficient. In 2026 no more applications for claims for footpaths would be allowed and there will be a definitive footpath map. With regard to the car park, he would find out if his contact at Surrey CC thought that common law rights could be obtained after 6 years.

14/027

Risk Assessment

Members reviewed the risks and noted that there were no issues of risk identified to be addressed.

14/028

Highways, Bridlepaths & Footpaths

- Mr Lye had reported the dangerous pothole in The Street outside Hascombe House and had been advised that the hole couldn't currently be filled as it was full of water and the drain clearing would be carried out.
- Mrs Jeffrey had emailed John Hilder asking for the non-skid surface by Markwick Lane to be reinstated following the recent road resurfacing. There were reports of a car skidding off the road that morning and Mrs Jeffrey would email John Hilder again and advise him of the accident.

Mrs Jeffrey

14/029

Defibrillator

The Chairman advised that he was awaiting confirmation from The White Horse regarding the siting of the Defibrillator cabinet and would chase. It was agreed that the Chairman would go ahead and order the least expensive of the defibrillator cabinets. Once in place, the defibrillator would need to be registered and the Chairman would try to get some training sessions for the village. Consideration may also be given to setting up a volunteer scheme of responders as has been done in Dunsfold.

Chairman

14/030

Crime, Neighbourhood Watch and Speedwatch

PCSO Phil Snow had sent a report which is appended to these minutes.

There was nothing to report from Speedwatch but sessions would start again now that the weather had improved.

14/031

Communications

The Clerk again asked all councillors to have a look at the website and give feedback at the next meeting. The Chairman also asked councillors to consider what news items could be included in an email newsletter.

All

14/032

Neighbourhood Plan

As agreed at the previous meeting, the Chairman had spoken to the Chairman of Busbridge Parish Council asking whether High Hascombe,

which falls in Busbridge parish, could be included in the Hascombe's Neighbourhood Plan Area. Busbridge Parish Council would not be happy for that to happen but would consider doing a joint plan with Hascombe. It was decided that there was no tangible benefit in joining Busbridge to produce a plan and that the Clerk should proceed to apply for the Hascombe parish area to be designated as the Neighbourhood Plan Area for Hascombe.

14/033

Lengthsman Scheme

The Chairman had spoken to Dunsfold Parish Council to ask about their experiences of the lengthsman scheme. They have taken on the maintenance of 26 miles of ditches and culverts and have to supplement the cost of this from the precept. One of the parish councillors had had to attend a Health and Safety course and they had experienced difficulties in getting the scheme off the ground. It was agreed that a decision for Hascombe would be delayed until next year.

14/034

Back-Up Generator for the Village Hall

Mr Kingham reported that the Village Hall Committee had met and agreed that the provision of a back-up generator in the village hall was a good idea, to provide light and heat in the event of long power cuts. Mr Kingham was in the process of getting estimates and advised that grant funding would be required.

Mr Kingham

14/035

Accounts for Payment

B Weddell	March salary	£166.40
B Weddell	April salary	£166.40
B Weddell	Expenses	£36.00
HMRC	4 th Quarter Return	£124.80

14/036

Planning

a) Report on planning issues

The Chairman and Mrs Sullivan advised that there were two planning applications in hand for Hascombe Court, neither of which were a concern.

b) Issues relating to Dunsfold Park.

There was nothing to report.

c) To receive list of Planning Applications for information of recent decisions made by WBC

There were no recent decisions to report.

d) To consider all new Planning Applications

WA/2014/0149 Erection of detached car part. Garden Cottage, Dunsfold Road, Loxhill. **No objection**

DW/2014/0017 The erection of a single storey rear extension which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 4.11m for which the height would be 2.9m, and for which the height of the eaves would be 2.1m. Brook House, The Street, Hascombe. **No comment**

NMA/2014/0017 amendment to WA/2012/1027 to provide a rooflight. Hascombe Grange Cottage, Godalming Road, Loxhill. **No comment**

14/037

WBC Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement Consultation

It was agreed that the Chairman would draft a response and circulate for approval.

Chairman

14/038	Review of Insurance Cover It was agreed that the current cover is adequate or more than adequate. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek alternative quotes to ensure that the parish council is receiving best value.	
14/039	Annual Parish Assembly Arrangements for the Annual Parish Assembly were discussed. The Chairman would invite speakers and the Clerk would investigate the possibility of getting someone to speak about neighbourhood planning and put a notice in the parish magazine.	Clerk/Chairman
14/040	Correspondence There was nothing to report that wasn't covered elsewhere on the agenda.	
14/041	Review Fixed Asset Register This item was deferred to the next meeting. Mr Lye said that he still intended to seek advice from WBC and SSALC about Health and Safety arrangements re the Pond.	Clerk Mr Lye
14/042	General Matters Regarding investigations into ownership of the Rowcliffe Fountain, Mrs Sullivan had found some information that it had been built by the owner of Hoe Farm. Mrs Sullivan would continue to investigate.	Mrs Sullivan
14/043	Next meeting The next Parish Council meeting would be held on Monday 19th May at 7.00pm in Hascombe Village Hall.	

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21:20.