

# POYNINGS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council  
Mr Colin Warburton

Hideaway Cottage  
6 Poynings Road  
Poynings  
BN45 7AP  
Tel: 01273 857024  
colin@poynings.net

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of the meeting of Poynings Parish Council held in the Village Hall on  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Mr Mike Airey Chair  
Ms Sheila Marshall  
Mr Jake Richards  
Mr John Digby  
Mr Matthew Cutress

Mr Colin Warburton Clerk to the Council

Peter Griffiths - County Councillor  
Colin Trumble - District Councillor  
Richard Speller - Highways

Ten members of the public attended

## 1. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed by MC seconded by JD.

## 2. Matters Arising

### **Peter Griffiths - County Councillor**

- a. The council are making plans for housing etc. for Syrian refugees
- b. Southern Rail service is to be improved
- c. PG asked if there were any solar projects planned for Poynings. No one knew of any.
- d. PG to represent SDNP for Broadband summit 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2015
- e. There is a £3,000 voucher for small businesses to obtain fast broadband but unfortunately the provider costs are high. Poynings should have fast broadband - eventually.

### **Colin Trumble - District Councillor**

- a) Key issues at the moment are Devolution and Solar Farms.
- b) Solar subsidies are coming to an end. The panels must be near sub-stations and will be 5'-6' off the ground so that cattle can still graze under them.
- c) Devolution started in Scotland and Cornwall has devolved powers. E/W Sussex and Surrey are looking at this. Not sure what the benefits are, possibly infrastructure savings. There is a concern about another layer of administration.
- d) The local plan is on target for 2017. The housing numbers locally are low, possibly 8 in Pyecombe.

- e) There is a planning application for a permanent gypsy site in Clappers lane.
- f) Mayfield is not in the Mid Sussex Plan although planning at Gatwick may change this.

### **3. Church Renovations**

Details about the planned renovations had been emailed to the councillors prior to the meeting. More details and plan are contained in them.

Alan Currer said that at a recent consultation in the church, 99% of the people were enthusiastic about the proposals.

He wanted to discuss this evening, funding and ideas for the church and on a separate issue the possibility on having a toilet outside the church.

The aim is to make the south transept a warm area with flexible space and a refreshment point both for church and community purposes, and also to preserve and display the heritage of the church. All work on memorial / heritage stones to be undertaken by specialists.

SM commented that she supports the proposal and she has spoken to other parishioners who are also in agreement.

JD remarked that anything that will help keep the church open has to be good for the village. MA and JR agreed.

It was explained that any funding has to be for the use of the community and AC read the proposed suggestions out.

AC said that there are no plans to sell the village hall.

MC and JD asked if other grants had been looked at and AC said yes.

JD commented that it would cost about £22,000 for the outside toilet and that it should be open for events.

JD asked about the timescale and AC said it would be about 3 months.

AC said that the Pantomime and other events had raised money along with the Church Council and generous individual donations. The National Park and Heritage Lottery had also been approached.

AC said it would be helpful if the Parish Council supported the proposal and all agreed that they did.

JD asked if the Parish Council could be kept informed and AC agreed to this.

AC said that they had received a grant for the £200 which it cost to have the slabs looked at so they are not out of pocket if nothing happened.

It costs £17,000 pa to keep the Church running - Donations

JR asked what stage it was at and AC replied that they were still at the "Grant applying" stage.

### **1. Garden Cups presentation**

SM started by thanking John Murrell for yet again judging the competition and it will be the last one he can do.

MA presented the cups.

The best vegetable cup was presented to Sue Brookes

The best flower garden cup was presented to Nigs Digby

The best Pots and Hanging baskets cup will be presented to June Nunne at a later date.

### **2. Safe Pathway**

JR has said that the best route to look at initially is between the village hall and the church. His is going to meet with a chap in Bolney who has carried out a similar scheme. It would have a basic surface (Type 1).

It would be fine for pushchairs and cars parking half on.

JR is looking at Community initiative funds and SM commented that she is also looking at this for her Ping Pong table.

SM and JR are to attend a Community Fund meeting.

Richard Speller advised them that they have to be quick as they are going to run out of funds soon.

The rest of the proposed path to the Roundabout would be looked at at a later date. MC commented that the owner's permission would be needed for this.

### **3. Traffic Calming**

No progress has been made on this so far.

SM said that she has spoken to some parishioners and they are not if white "Gates" are suitable.

RS said that surveys have been done and that they can be more effective as they are visually more prominent. SM commented that you have to be careful to ensure that space is made for pedestrians.

### **4. Operation Watershed**

3 member of the public came to the meeting to ask what is being done about the road drain near the roundabout that was damaged by SE Water back in March. There has now been an accident and two cars were written off. They explained that the overflow from the 6 houses also use that drain and it is causing a health hazard as the overflow cannot discharge properly. RS said that he will put it on a 5 day notice.

Caius Sheppard reported that BT, who have been working on the road between the School and the Church, have left the hole they dug with a badly finished surface. RS to look at. RS to meet interested parties to finalise the work MSDC will do re- Operation Watershed and the siting of possible "White Gates"

### **5. Bonfire Night**

Approximately £2,300 was raised on Bonfire Night and the costs were £2,500. As there was £200 left over from last year (Donated by the Royal Oak) there is not a shortfall.

A cheque was issued for £200 and MC to issue invoice.

All said a big thank you to Helen, Mark and Nicki for their hard work in making it happen. 1,300 were clicked in.

Everyone agreed it was a great success considering the poor weather and hope that it can be done again next year.

### **6. Any other Business**

#### **a) Defibrillator**

MA suggested that this should go in the Telephone Box in Four Wheel Drive and not at the Royal Oak. Dave Fletcher from HART has obtained a backboard. It doesn't need much power, just a heater for when the temperatures are low. There will be an advert for donations otherwise there are no costs involved. When installed anyone who wants training (Although none is really needed) should contact MA.

b) Jan Nichols commented that the hedge by the Ginger Fox needs cutting back. MA to approach Rupert Crowther.

## **7. Dates of Next meetings (2016)**

12<sup>th</sup> January

8<sup>th</sup> March

10<sup>th</sup> May

5<sup>th</sup> July

6<sup>th</sup> September

10<sup>th</sup> November

**The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00pm**