

## BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of Barcombe Parish Council held at the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

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**1368. Present:** Councillors A J MacGillivray, C M Arbenz, J C Cornwell, N Gant, N C Lear, D Skan and R A Williams.

Also in attendance were District Councillor D Mitchell and nine members of the public

**1369. To receive apologies for absence:** Received from Cllrs R Hepple, D J Lloyd and J O Cornwell.

**1370. Confirmation and signature of the last Minutes of the Council:** The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2009 as recorded by minutes 1295 to 1310 having previously been circulated were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**1371. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr N C Lear re minute 1376(iii)(a)(i) and Cllrs J C Cornwell, R Williams and N Gant re minute 1377.

**1372. Urgent Business Pursuant to Standing Order No.16:** There was none.

**1373. Public Question Time:** Members of the public were in attendance to raise the issue of housing allocations for the new dwellings at the Willows. The background is covered in minute 1350. Cllr A J MacGillivray gave a helpful resume of the of the entire project and was able to report that he and the Clerk are to attend a meeting with Lewes DC and Hastoe early in October to try and resolve matters to the benefit of Barcombe residents

Other key points emerging were:

- Lewes DC has confirmed priority is to those with a Barcombe connection so scaremongering that the houses will go to those from outside the village is premature.
- Hastoe has not yet completed a Nomination Agreement with Lewes DC.
- Given this is an "exception site" development Choice Based Letting as implemented by Lewes DC may not be the best way to allocate dwellings given the conditions of the Section 106 agreement.
- Hastoe will seek a service level agreement from Lewes DC that could well involve the parish council in vetting the local credentials of applicants.
- This was meant to be a Barcombe project to meet the needs of Barcombe people as identified through the housing needs surveys and there may have been objections to the new development at the planning application stage if this turns out not to be the eventual outcome.
- Lewes DC select lessees or tenants but Hastoe has to agree and vet the applicants so does have some influence in the outcome, although all applicants have to have applied through the Lewes DC housing application process.

The Chairman will report on the outcome of the meeting as quickly as possible with an article in Barcombe News and, if appropriate, by earlier informal communication with those affected.

District Councillor D Mitchell had nothing to add.

**1374. Questions from Councillors:** There were none.

**1375. Report from Chairman:** The Chairman reported that SALC had decided after a meeting of its East and West Executive Committees with “Local Works” to support the Sustainable Communities Amendment Bill. Only two members of the committees attending were sufficiently aware of the original Act to be able to contribute their views at the meeting which demonstrated the failure to include the parish tier of local government in the process. Lewes DC was meeting with the local Sustainable Communities Panel on 24<sup>th</sup> September but Lewes DC’s Cabinet has already agreed to review how it implemented the process.

**1376. Reports of Committees:**

**(i) Transport and Highways:** : After being proposed by Cllr J C Cornwell, seconded by Cllr R Williams, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as recorded by minutes 1317 to 1329 were adopted.

**(a) Parking** – The Clerk has asked ESCC for an update and a reply is awaited

**(b) Strengthening Local Relationships and Highways** – minutes have been circulated and action points will be followed up.

**(c) Deans Meadow car parking** – District Councillor D Mitchell reported that Lewes DC housing officials were reluctant to approach the affected tenant directly. It was agreed Cllr R Williams will have an informal discussion with the tenant concerned and District Cllr Mitchell will then discuss with the Director of Housing.

**(d) Cycle races** – the Clerk reported this item is on the agenda for SALC’s meeting with the Chief Constable

**(ii) Recreation Ground:** After being proposed by Cllr C M Arbenz, seconded by Cllr N C Lear, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as recorded by minutes 1330 to 1342 were adopted.

**(a) grant applications and Wild About Barcombe** – a meeting regarding the grant application is still awaited. Cllr Gant has a meeting arranged to progress the WAB project. The Clerk reported that Lewes DC planning officers had confirmed that the construction of paths on parish council owned land (tennis court field and pump house field) would not require planning permission.

**(b) caretaker** – nothing to add to minute 1338

**(c) Barcombe Mills oak tree** – the Clerk reported he has arranged to meet KPS contractors next week to have the tree assessed.

**(iii) Planning and Community Services:** After being proposed by Cllr C M Arbenz, seconded by Cllr N C Lear, the Minutes of the Planning Application Sub Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> August as recorded by minutes 1311 to 1316 were adopted

After being proposed by Cllr N C Lear, seconded by Cllr R Williams the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as recorded by Minutes 1343 to 1357 were adopted.

**(a) Affordable housing –**

**(i)** update on allocations policy had been covered earlier in minute 1373.

**(ii)** the Clerk had circulated plans for low level bollard lights. It was agreed to object as any street lighting would be inappropriate in a rural village, it would set a precedent, particularly for the existing houses at The Willows and any requirement for “secured by design” could be met by installing porch lights in individual properties.

**(b) Village Action Plan –** Cllr Gant reported he and his wife had analysed about 15% of the completed questionnaires. It was hoped the work would be completed so that a meeting of the Action Plan Group could be held towards the end of October in advance of the November round of parish council meetings. The Chairman thanked Cllr and Mrs Gant for their commitment and hard work.

**(c) Lewes DC/BT red phone boxes –** a article is due to be published in the next Barcombe News

**(iv) Finance and General Purposes:** After being proposed by Cllr N C Lear, seconded by Cllr D Skan, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as recorded by Minutes 1358 to 1367 were adopted.

**1377. Village Halls – letter from Norman Baker, MP –** A draft reply had been prepared by the clerk and it was agreed this should be sent as drafted.

**1378. Correspondence:** A letter from Mrs D Prior concerning tree inspections, dog fouling and litter collection at Barcombe Mills was noted. The Clerk was asked to remind Mrs Prior that Cllr N C Lear was the Parish Council representative to the Barcombe Mills Society

**1379. Accounts for payment:** None

**1380. Outstanding action points:** These were covered in the agenda and the Clerk will update and circulate.

**1381. Date time and place of next meeting:** The Chairman announced the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th November 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe

**1382. Close of meeting:** There being no further business to discuss the chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.