

BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Community Services Committee held at the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe on Thursday 8th January 2009 at 7.20 p.m.

985. Present: Councillors N C Lear, C M Arbenz, J O Cornwell, D J Lloyd, A J MacGillivray, D Skan and R Williams. Also in attendance were C Hughes, S Holden, J Potter and J Simpson

986. Apologies for absence: None were received

987. Confirmation and Signature of the Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2008 were approved at the Parish Council meeting on 20th November 2008

988. Declarations of Interest: Cllr J O Cornwell re minute 996, Cllr N C Lear re minute 994

989. Urgent Business pursuant to Standing Order No. 16: None

990. SALC – “strengthening local communities”: This initiative with East Sussex County Council was discussed and it was agreed the Clerk would explore the potential benefit for Barcombe of participating in the forum.

991. Parish Action Plan: It was reported that the next meeting is scheduled for 12th January 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

992. Newick Surgery dispensing plans: Cllr N C Lear advised the meeting that the application by the Newick surgery had been reheard. It had been decided to allow the surgery to dispense to residents of South Chailey only; it is not known if the surgery will proceed with this aspect of their plan; and Lloyds will retain their shop in Newick. This is an excellent result for local action

993. Barcombe School development plans: The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow representatives of the school governors and the public to speak. The governors expressed a desire to know if the parish council were generally supportive of their scheme before formal application for planning permission was submitted. They then reported on the local consultation exercise which had produced an overwhelming positive response to the plans. Various suggestions and possible modifications had been suggested, notably regarding the installation of windows in the sports hall and the use and size of the sports hall kitchen, and these would all be considered before an application was submitted. The governors confirmed the sports hall is a shared facility with the community and the plans only envisaged use by the school for assemblies and lunchtime and it should not interfere with existing community use for sporting activities; the school has no desire to compete with other village facilities, particularly the new village hall, to host events; and the school has felt constrained from planning to expand the sports hall kitchen in case people felt it was looking to compete as an event venue.

The Chairman then continued with the formal meeting. Cllr A J MacGillivray had prepared some papers which had been circulated in advance to parish councillors, although he had not been able to consult as widely as he would have wished. He had prepared a discussion document setting out issues that he felt the parish council should address to protect the community's interest in the sports hall, including the replacement of the floor and changes to the management agreement to ensure the venue did not compete with other facilities and to consider the allocation of running costs. After some discussion it was agreed that the sports hall management committee should consider the issue of the floor and the management agreement and the parish council representatives on the committee would report back to the next committee as soon as possible with recommendations.

It was agreed without objection that the committee supported the proposed development of the school in principle

994. Affordable housing: Cllr A J MacGillivray reported that Hastoe has advised us there are some legal issues causing delays so there is little point in an article for Barcombe News at present.

995. Policing: The clerk reported that the regular meeting with the Chief Constable scheduled for 21st January 2009 has been postponed until February. Cllr A J MacGillivray will be in attendance

996. New village hall: Further to minute 952 Cllr A J MacGillivray had approved the final plans on behalf of the parish council and the application was submitted just before Christmas

997. Conservation Area: The Clerk reported that Chris Morris and Katya Bowen from Lewes DC's Design and Conservation team had accepted an invitation to attend the next parish council meeting on 20th January 2009.

998. Correspondence: The Clerk has received a consultation paper on local authority publicity from Communities and Local Government department. There was nothing directly relevant that required comment so the paper was noted.

999. Outstanding action points: These were covered on the agenda.

1000. Close of meeting: There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 p.m.