

BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Community Services Committee held at the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe on Thursday 10th July 2008 at 7.35 p.m.

723. Present: Councillors C M Arbenz (who took the chair), D J Lloyd, A J MacGillivray, D Skan, R Williams and Cllr R Hepple

724. Apologies for absence: Received from Cllr N C Lear

725. Election of chairman: On the proposition of Councillor D J Lloyd, seconded by Councillor D Skan, Councillor N C Lear was elected as Chairman of the Committee for the forthcoming year.

726. Election of Vice-chairman: On the proposition of Councillor D J Lloyd, seconded by Councillor D Skan, Councillor C M Arbenz was elected as Vice Chairman of the Committee for the forthcoming year.

727. Declarations of Interest: None were declared

728. Confirmation and Signature of the Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2008 were approved at the Parish Council meeting on 20th May 2008.

729. Urgent Business pursuant to Standing Order No. 16: See minutes 738 and 739

730. Lewes District Council – guidance for members and officers on planning matters: The Clerk has received details of the Council's Constitution which sets out the position on restrictions on Lewes district councillors over planning matters. This is available to view at [http://www.lewes.gov.uk/Files/Constitution Part5 O pages.doc](http://www.lewes.gov.uk/Files/Constitution%20Part5%20pages.doc). and it is recommended that parish councillors review the guidelines.

731. Lewes District Council – planning training for councillors: Councillors Lear and Williams are attending on 15th July at 6.30 pm in Lewes Town Hall – the main topics are “Planning and Climate Change; new government guidance” and “The government's reform of the planning system”

732. Newick surgery dispensing plans: The Clerk reported receiving an acknowledgement from the NHS Litigation Authority of the parish council's letter objecting to the proposals. A letter drafted by Cllr Lear, to be sent to East Sussex LINK, concerning consultation arrangements was approved and the Clerk was asked to organise. Cllr MacGillivray reported that Norman Baker, M.P., had raised this issue in the House of Commons and an Under Secretary of State for Health had confirmed the application was on hold pending the appeal.

733. Barcombe School radio mast: The Clerk reported that Lewes District Council Environmental Health officers had exhausted their expertise in this matter and had

referred the Clerk to Dr Kevin Baker “who it seems has a very good technical knowledge of such matters” and the Health Protection Agency, who might be able to help. It was agreed to write to the governor’s representative to the parish council to ascertain their views over these issues

734. Barcombe School capital programme: Further to minute 660(iii)(e) the Clerk has not had a response from the Chairman of Governors seeking a meeting with councillors so the schools plans can be understood. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the governor’s representative to the parish council to see if she can enlighten the parish council. The parish council does have concerns over the future of the Sports Hall, which is a community asset.

735. Affordable housing: Apparently changes to the entrance to Deans Meadow have been removed from the planning conditions. The Clerk was asked to contact Hastoe to see if they had any news on start dates for construction.

736. Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr Hepple has not had a response from the PCSO over dates for a meeting. He will raise at the full parish council meeting, assuming she attends.

737. Flooding and Emergency Planning: Cllrs Lloyd and Hepple are attending an Emergency Planning conference in October. It is expected that Cllr Lear will update the full parish council meeting on his discussions with the Barcombe Mills Society and the Environment Agency.

738. Policing and PCSOs: Cllr MacGillivray reported on a RVRC meeting where the majority of parishes reported they were happy with PCSO arrangements although Hamsey and Chailey also have concerns. SALC has also had its regular meeting with the Chief Constable where he said he saw the PCSOs as “the eyes and ears of an intelligence led policing system”. He did not want them diverted from this role by doing tasks like reporting crimes. The parish council remains deeply concerned over the PCSO support provided to Barcombe. It was agreed to write to Hamsey and Chailey parish councils to suggest a joint approach to the new Chief Inspector in Lewes, Natalie Carron, over our unhappiness with PCSO arrangements.

739. Clay Hill reservoir: Cllr MacGillivray reported on a presentation event hosted by South East Water explaining its plans for a new reservoir at Clay Hill. Ringmer Parish Council ran a parallel event and are against these proposals. It was agreed this was not an issue of direct concern to Barcombe Parish Council.

740. Correspondence:

(i) Lewes District Council – Planning Public Access website – this went live on Wednesday 2nd July 2008 and allows access to view details of current planning applications, past applications, maps, submit comments on current applications, view appeals information etc. The site is available at the Planning homepage at www.lewes.gov.uk/environment/611.asp

(ii) Crime Reduction Partnership – a request has been received asking if there are any local events coming up in rural areas where the CRP could have a stall. Details would

be passed to the WI for their village fun day. Copies of the CRP's latest newsletter were distributed.

741. Outstanding action points: These were covered in the agenda.

742. Close of meeting: There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25 p.m.