

# Berwick Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Berwick Parish Council held at the Berwick Village Hall, on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2015 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs B. Smith (Chairman), V Burrough, S Carnie and K Winter.  
Parish Clerk Mrs A Stevens. County Councillor N Bennett and Rosemary Barton (Bookings Clerk for the Village Hall) were also present.

## Minutes

- BP.01.07.15 Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr C Bird. Apologies for absence were also received from PCSO S Fenn and District Councillor P Ede.
- BP.02.07.15 Appointment of Chairman:** Councillors **resolved** unanimously to appoint Cllr B Smith as Chairman to Berwick Parish Council.
- BP.03.07.15 Appointment of Vice Chairman:** Councillors **resolved** unanimously to appoint Cllr K Winter as Vice Chairman to Berwick Parish Council.
- BP.04.07.15 Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
- BP.05.07.15 Minutes of the last Parish Council Meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and matters arising from the minutes:**  
The minutes of the meeting were reviewed. The minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters' arising but It was noted that the Parish Council has added a layer of top soil to even out the football pitch for the football club.
- BP.06.07.15 County Councillor Report:** County Councillor Bennett sent a written report in which he summarised some of the key legislative changes that will affect the County Council and the services it provides. The legislation covered included the Childcare Bill, the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill, the Buses Bill and the Education and Adoption Bill. Full details of the County Councillor's Report are available on request from the Clerk.
- BP.07.07.15 District Councillor Report:** There was no report from the District Councillor on this occasion.
- BP.08.07.15 Sussex Police:** There was no report from Sussex Police on this occasion.
- BP.09.07.15 Public Question Time:** No members of the public were present.
- BP.10.07.15 Reports:** Councillors were appointed the following areas of responsibility;
- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Berwick Playing Field        | Councillor K Winter    |
| Sussex Police                | No longer required     |
| Berwick Village Matters      | No longer required     |
| Countryside and Conservation | All Parish Councillors |
| Footpaths and Rights of Way  | Councillor S Carnie    |

# Berwick Parish Council

Highways and Transport  
Tree Warden

All Parish Councillors  
Rosemary Barton

**BP.11.07.15 Appointment of Councillors to Outside Bodies:** Councillors were appointed to the following outside bodies;

Wealden District Association of Local Council  
Village Hall Committee  
Parish Emergency Officer

Councillor Smith  
Councillor Burrough  
The Clerk will bring the  
Emergency Plan to the next  
Full Council Meeting.

SALC AGM 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Deferred until nearer  
the date of the meeting.

Police Local Action Team

Councillor Winter

Berwick Solar Farm Community Fund Meeting

Councillor Winter

**BP.12.07.15 Appointment of Permanent Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer:**

Councillors asked the Clerk to contact SALC and find out what recruitment packages are available. The Clerk will ask other Clerks in the meantime to see if they are interested in applying for the role.

Councillors asked about training possibilities for Councillors. The Clerk will forward details of councillor training sessions when known.

**BP.13.07.15 Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:** The Standing Orders and Financial Regulations will be considered at the next meeting.

**BP.14.07.15 Finance:** Members approved the following payments made since the last meeting;

Cheque Number 100939

A Stevens wages

Cheque Number 100940 - £10.44

Football net clips

Cheque Number 100941

A Stevens wages

Cheque Number 100942 - £54.00

Wicksteed

**BP.15.07.15 Dates of Next Meetings;**

Members agreed the following dates for Full Council Meetings;

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015 7.30pm Berwick Village Hall

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 7.30pm Berwick Village Hall

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016 7.30pm Berwick Village Hall

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016 7.30pm Berwick Village Hall

Any planning applications which have consultation deadlines outside these meeting dates will be considered by a Planning Committee of three Councillors who are available at the time. Meetings will be arranged on an ad hoc basis.

**BP.16.07.15 Questions from Members:** Councillor Winter reported a tree at the bottom of Common Lane which is overhanging the footpath and obscuring the lane. The Clerk will report this to ESCC.

Councillor Winter also asked if the 40mph speed limit by the layby on the Berwick Road can be moved nearer to the Chalvington turning. Councillor Smith explained it is a very costly exercise and ESCC would be extremely unlikely to consider moving it in the current financial climate.

# Berwick Parish Council

Councillor Smith confirmed the potholes outside the Village Shop have been reported to ESCC and the level crossing will be closed for essential works, the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

**BP.17.07.15 Planning Applications:** The following planning applications were considered; SDNP/15/02791/HOUS – The Old Cowstalls, The Village Berwick – Partial demolition and erection of ancillary outbuilding – Berwick Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD2015/1443MRM – Station Farm – Reserved matters relating to WD2014/0981/MAO (Demolition of existing buildings on site and the creation of a new residential development of 11 No. units together with a doctor's surgery and shop space – Berwick Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds;

- 1: There will be three accesses in total onto an already busy road. Councillors agree this will be dangerous.
- 2: The mix of housing does not work for this village. Councillors agree the village needs less four and five bedroom houses and more two and three bedroom houses for young families and the elderly. Councillors would ideally like bungalows for the elderly.
- 3: New House appears to have no access driveway.
- 4: Councillors do not feel that another shop and a doctor's surgery are needed in the village. Members do not feel either would be viable. There is already a shop in the village which is struggling.

**BP.18.07.15 Close of Meeting;** The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.05pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: **24th July 2015**