

Minutes of the Ridgmont Parish Council Meeting held on 8th March 2018 at Ridgmont Lower School, Ridgmont starting at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs M Spearing – Chair, H Francis, P Francis, P Phillips and Lyn Lyman – Clerk and 4 residents.

In attendance: CB Cllr S Clark & R Morris.

224. To receive apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllrs P Fewings, R Kemeny & J O’Hara and CB Cllr Matthews.

225. Open Forum:

Not to last more than 15 minutes. Residents will have the chance to raise anything relevant to Parish Council business but they will not be able to discuss the subject more than once. A maximum of 2 minutes per subject will be allowed.

Regarding the Draft Local Plan, although many letters of objection have been received by CBC, to date there has been no feedback. All letters of objection will go to the Planning Inspector. It is not known whether the letters of objection can be viewed generally.

As a group of residents, we must keep the momentum going and keep obtaining evidence based information and supplementary data especially those wishing to speak at the public enquiry.

226. Declaration of Members’ Interests:

a) Declaration of member’s interest of a non-pecuniary nature:

(Having membership of a club, charity etc or a close relationship). Cllrs H Francis (PC representative on Ridgmont Charity) P Francis (Trustee on Ridgmont Charity).

b) Declaration of members interest of a pecuniary nature:

(Having a financial bearing on a member or their spouse/partner). Cllr Spearing – Landowner and Ridgmont Village Charity.

227. To Approve Minutes of the previous meeting:

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th March 2018, which were duly signed.

228. To discuss Matters Arising:

Cllr Spearing continues to chase CBC Highways about the state of the paving slabs in Station Road. The contact is now Mark MacDonald. The latest response is that CBC Highways are still trying to decide what to do about the slabs. **Action: MS**

The drains in High Street were also one of our priorities, but nothing has been done, despite there being problems for some two year. We were advised that would be done before the end of the financial year. CB Cllr Morris said he would follow this up on our behalf. **Action: MS / RM**

177 The footpath going to old church needs to be scraped. But as CBC will not do the work, Cllr Spearing agreed to ask the farmer if he could do it and they are to have a site visit to see what needs doing. **Action: MS**

181 The bench on the footpath to the old church needs sanding/varnishing: Cllr Spearing has asked Tony Geddes for a quote and they have agreed to check what needs doing. **Action: MS**

229. **To receive Reports:**

Planning: Cllr P Francis reported on: No plans to consider.

The National Planning Policy is being changed.

PCC/Church:

The event which included the Woburn Sands Band had to be cancelled due to the health of Peter Garratt. It has not yet been agreed whether the event is to be re-arranged or cancelled completely.

Ridgmont Charity: Nothing to report.

Village Maintenance: Nothing to report.

Section 106 funding: There is £12,138.97 Section 106 funding to spend on Leisure/playground facilities. The sub-committee consists of Cllrs Spearing, Fewings & Phillips and The Clerk.

The quote for safety surfacing under some of the existing equipment has been received at the cost of £19,875. The Clerk has advised the figure of the Section. 106 funding and asked if the supplier could possibly reduce the cost to nearer that figure. They have come back asking if we could get someone to remove and dispose of the current rubber saver matting in advance to Broxap commencing work. It was agreed that Cllr Spearing should speak to Tony Geddes.

CB Cllr Clark: Regarding the Draft Local Plan, the next action is the examination in public. All representations will be made public but not absolutely sure exactly when that will be. There is a need to gather other evidence to go forward at the Examination in Public.

CBC reviews all submissions and decide whether anything comes to light to change their plan. Then it is up to Inspector to decide whether the plan is legally sound. All submissions go forward, CBC may make some amendment, may be a council meeting to agree the plans are submitted. An Inspector will be appointed and a public hearing date will be arranged. Various tests need to be carried out and if successful, it can go forward. Site allocations will be considered by the Inspector. There will be an option to speak if you have objected and there will be a time to register, we will be advised about that. CBC can made recommendations but cannot modify the plan.

The new NPPF guidance was published on Monday for consultation until 10th May. The deadline for objections has been extended.

CB Cllr Morris: No report available.

CB Cllr Matthews: No report available.

230. **To receive Correspondence:**

CBC Waste & Recycling Consultation 2018. Between 26th February and 20th April 2018, CBC will be inviting residents to take part in a consultation regarding the proposed changes to waste & recycling services. Forms were circulated.

B & MK News March edition.

We wrote to Duke of Bedford as owner of the land which is reference to NNP?? They have responded that the site refers to Policy SE2. They say they are not aware a planning application having been submitted. Cllr Spearing will write to the Duke, as Prologis have an option on the land and this needs to be clarified.

Defibrillator: A letter has been received from Ridgmont Charity asking why we had chosen that particular defibrillator as it isn't set up to work on children under 8 years old? The Parish Council had no option, this was the one which the BHF prescribed in order to get the funding. Special pads can be obtained to work on children, and can be left in the box. The Charity thought we hadn't spoken to St Johns Ambulance but we have. It was confirmed that the defibrillator will go on the outside of the school premises. The Charity understands that the Parish Council will be the owners. We also need a locked box to contain the machine and equipment. In an emergency, the code to unlock the box would be given to the caller by the emergency service. Cllr Spearing will check with BHF to ensure we are fulfilling all the necessary requirements. We need to get at least 12 people committed to being trained to use the defibrillator. Cllr Phillips said he was disappointed that the charity are not in a position to pay up. Cllr Spearing will prepare an invoice for the Charity once the box has been purchased.

Action: MS

231. **To accept Payments:**

Balance as at 8th February 2018 is £9,877.26

It was **RESOLVED** the following invoices be paid:

Mrs L Lyman (SLCC) Part Payment GDPR Course	51.00	100660
Andy Muskett Ltd 4 th ¼ St Ltd Maintenance	107.76	100661
Mrs Lyman Clerks Expenses Apr 17 – Mar 18	61.66	100662
Kirkham Landscape Planning Ltd Visual Impact report	2,100.00	100663
Cancelled		100664
Wormold Burrows Partnership Ltd Highways Assessment Report	2,400.00	100665
Mrs Lyman Clerks Allowance Feb/Mar	66.68	s/o
Mrs Lyman February Salary	341.20	s/o
Mrs Lyman March Salary	341.20	s/o

e,on	122.70	s/o
Monthly energy charge – February		
e.on	110.83	S/O
Monthly Energy Charge – March	<u> </u>	
	5,703.03	

232. **War Memorial:**

The grant of £2,580 has been received. Once the contractors form has been received, duly signed, Cllr Spearing will return it to the War Memorial Trust and the contractor will be asked for a commencement date.

Action: MS

233. **To consider Parish Plan update:**

There was a suggestion that, as the next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting, that a suggestion box be put in place to see if residents would like the Parish Council to go forward with a Parish Plan. Perhaps forms can be completed advising whether they will help or not. A Project Manager would be needed as it would need strong leadership.

It was agreed a meeting will be held in June to take this forward. Possible Parish Plan meeting dates for June is to be circulated by Cllr Spearing.

234. **Date of Next Meeting:**

Thursday 10th May 2018 starting at 7.15pm. (Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting).

Residents thanked Cllr Spearing and the Parish Council for what they have done regarding the Draft Local Plan. Cllr Spearing said she felt very pleased that she has such supportive Cllrs.

The Meeting closed at 8.55 pm.