

STEDHAM WITH IPING ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES: Annual Parish Meeting of Stedham with Iping
Held on: Wednesday 13 April 2016
At: The Stedham Memorial Hall

Present: Eddie Lintott, Chairman of the Parish Council, was Chairman of the meeting
Jane Crawford, Parish Clerk, took the minutes

In attendance: Gordon McAra, County Councillor, Caroline Neville, District Councillor, and 37 parishioners including members of the Parish Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone and pointed out that The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations were in force, giving a right to members of the public to record (film, photograph and audio-record) and report on proceedings at the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Rowland Page and Stephen McGairl

2. **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 15 APRIL 2015**

The Clerk read a précis of the Minutes, which had been previously approved by the Council

3. **STEDHAM SCHOOL**

SD, the head teacher, reported that the school had grown to 78 from 62 in the previous year with 23 children in the reception class. There were also a few new older children.

She introduced Jack, Matthew, Ruben. Livi, Jake and Jack, senior students at the school, who talked about the many and varied events that took place throughout the past year.

The full report is attached to the minutes.

4. **PARISH COUNCIL**

4.1. **Chairman's Report:** The report had been circulated in the Parish Magazine, but the Chairman wished to particularly thank his fellow councillors and the Clerk for work undertaken during the year. The report is attached to the minutes.

4.2. **SIPC budget:** A breakdown of the budget had been distributed and is attached to the minutes. There were no questions.

4.3. **St Cuthmans update:** The Chairman said that SMCg, who had splendidly represented the parish council last time, had agreed to continue to do so. He read SMCg's report:

Durand had been using St Cuthmans for a small number of pupils for the last two years, bussing them from London and back again every week. There was no capacity in the existing buildings for more pupils.

Durand had appointed HNW Architects, a Chichester firm, to draw up plans:

- a) Initially for temporary classrooms and boarding accommodation (Portakabins) for an additional 48 pupils;
- b) Ultimately for permanent additional accommodation to enable the Portakabins to be removed.

At a meeting with HNW Architects on 21 March 2016, Durand's planning consultant said that they would apply for permission to put the Portakabins on the site for September 2016. Drawing up the proposals for their replacement by permanent accommodation would take longer.

HNW undertook to let the local community know when a planning application was submitted. So far no planning application had been submitted.

- 4.4. **Annual spring clean** was to be held on the following Saturday 18 April 9.30 at the Recreation Ground. This year it was hoped there would be good turn-out of volunteers as the clean-up was specifically requested by HM The Queen to celebrate her 90th birthday.
- 4.5. **Faster broadband:** The previous day BT had been seen carrying out a survey at Stedham Crossroads. The next step would be that an application for a green cabinet would be made to SDNPA and then the plan put before WSCC who would release the funding for the work.

5. PARISH ACTION PLAN

- 5.1. **Cycleway to Midhurst – crossing near Half Moon.** WSCC was being asked again to look at the safety of the crossing as it was just outside the 30 mph zone and difficult to see.
- 5.2. **Dark night sky reserve status:** The decision on the reserve status was due imminently
- 5.3. **Change Stedham Crossroads lights to downlights:** WSCC Highways had promised to get the job on the right list for action, but so far nothing had happened.
- 5.4. **20 mph limit throughout Stedham** had been rejected by WSCC. The speed loops had shown that The Street did not meet the criteria, but did in School Lane. Gordon McAra would help.
A query was made about the 3 accidents near the Crossroads on the A272. It was thought they had been down to driver error.
- 5.5. **New play equipment for older children on Recreation Ground** – the work had been completed and the equipment was being much used.
- 5.6. **Parish Council website** was now up and running. It had been on the agenda for years and hours had been spent discussing it, but now thanks to Debra Chalton, Lucy Petrie and the Clerk, it was up and running. Debra Chalton gave a short demonstration to show how easy it was to use the site and everyone was urged to do so.
- 5.7. **Iping signs:** The parish council was still waiting for WSCC to issue licences so that the signs could be put up.
- 5.8. **30 mph in Iping:** The speed limit in Iping was 60 mph. In the old days WSCC would have put down loops and provided all the data. Now because of shortage of funding, this would have to be paid for by the parish council. In any event, WSCC Highways from experience knew that generally speeds in the lanes were low and getting changing limits was an expensive procedure and they had already advised that an official application was unlikely to be successful. The parish council, therefore, was not minded to pursue the matter further, but residents could if they wished.
- 5.9. **Iping telephone box – to decide on its use.** The box had been purchased for £1. JCh had suggested it should be made into a visitor centre. This was agreed.
- 5.10. **Recreation Ground/The Street parking.** The RG verge had always been used for occasional parking, but now owing to the loss of the old club car park, it was being much more heavily used. The parish council suggested that Grasscrete (honeycombe concrete blocks through which grass could grow) should be put down. 3 contractors had been approached and their tenders were awaited. The old club builders were prepared to make a financial contribution. If done properly, the Grasscrete would take 10 to 13 tonnes in weight.
The plan was supported as it was felt that it would be better than the current mess
- 5.11. **Defibrillators:** SIPC would pursue the matter further. SIPC was on The British Heart Foundation list for defibrillators if new funding became available.
- 5.12. **To invite further suggestions for consideration.** There were no suggestions.

- 6. **STEDHAM & IPING CHURCHES:** VB, church warden, reported that The Reverend Roger Williamson had retired at the end of July 2015 and that the church wardens were dealing with an interregnum. They had arranged for a team of 6 retired vicars to come and take services.

Fund-raising had continued and a tower open day was due to be held to encourage new bellringers to join the team. The full report is attached to the minutes.

- 7 **STEDHAM MEMORIAL HALL:** BC the new chairman, reported that there were new personnel in most positions on the committee. He thanked those who looked after the Hall and garden. There were plans to improve the lighting and equipment in the Hall. The full report is attached to the minutes.
A parishioner asked if it was possible to install a small freezer in the hall.
- 8 **STEDHAM SPORTS ASSOCIATION:** RP, the treasurer, thanked dedicated members of the SSA who helped maintain the sports field and facilities. He especially mentioned TB, DC, ST and local tradesmen who had offered their services at reduced rates to complete the remaining works on vehicle access, car parking and ground preparation for the tennis court. The sports field was envied by visiting players and now there was an equally beautiful pavilion which was enjoyed by players, spectators, toddlers, school children and villagers.
- 9 **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:** VB, the president, reported that there was a membership of 32 and they had enjoyed a varied programme of speakers. The highlight of the year was the village fete organised to celebrate the 100th year of the WI; the profits were donated to other village organisations. The Annual Report for the SSA AGM with full details of the sports' results is attached to the minutes.
- 10 **HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:** HS, the Chairman, reported that the Hort Soc was now in its 37th year. They had a varied programme which included talks, the village school competition and garden visits. The full report is attached.
- 11 **COMMONS, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH, LUNCH CLUB:**
Sue Payne reported that SWT wished to fence Iping Common and the Public Inquiry would take place for three day starting on 26 April 2016 at Cowdray Hall, Easebourne. She reminded people to keep dogs on the paths during the bird breeding season from now until the end of September.
She thanked all those who helped with the Lunch Club.
All her reports are attached to the minutes.
- 12 **STEDHAM CAMPSITE:** CH had sent a report saying the new study room and new kitchen were both oak buildings which were a vast improvement on the old buildings. The site would not be let out on a casual basis: users would have to be organised groups. He thought SIPC might like to organise a community event at the campsite.
- 13 **QUESTIONS TO COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.**
Gordon McAra, the County Councillor, reported that Stagecoach were stopping Sunday services to Petersfield as the route had not proved to be viable.

Caroline Neville, the District Councillor, raised a number of issues. The Novium Museum's next exhibition would feature Major Tim Peake, the Chichester astronaut who was on the International Space Station and due to return to earth in June.

She reminded all dog owners to have their dogs chipped by June or they would be fined.

The Chairman thanked both Councillors for their efforts throughout the year.

14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The matter of WSCC's decision to reduce local fire vehicles was raised. This decision should be reviewed in view of the fact that they were relying on Hampshire to cover our area, but now reductions in fire vehicles was also planned for Petersfield, Liphook and Borden. There were also problems with the Fire Authority's new vehicles not being delivered. This was not a comfortable position to be in especially with heathland fires being a possibility.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to his fellow Councillors and the Clerk for their work throughout the year.

15 DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING: Wednesday 5 April 2017 (Easter 16 April)

CONCLUSION 8.15

Chairman..... Date.....