

STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Caroline Robinson

CLERK: Mrs. Jenny Hollington

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 7th July 2014 at Steep Village Hall

Present:

Cllrs. Caroline Robinson (in the Chair)
Jim MacDonald
Charles Gibson
Jenny Martin

Terry Cook
Simon Bridger
Peter Cruttenden
Peter Thackrey

In Attendance:

County Councillor, Vaughan Clarke
Clerk, Jenny Hollington

There were 2 members of the public in attendance throughout the meeting.

14/75 **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. Nick Hurst and District Councillor, Nick Drew.

14/76 **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 16th June were approved as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed.

14/77 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any interest in any matter on the Agenda.

14/78 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Clarification was sought on road repairs at Sandy Lane in Steep Marsh – signage is in place indicating that work is due to start next week and yet, according to Mike Pillans' report at the Steep Marsh Meeting, repairs to this road are not scheduled. The Clerk was asked to check whether the signage has been correctly placed. The Chairman confirmed that work is due to start soon in Elmwood Lane and the road will be closed for up to 3 days.

14/79 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – the County Councillor's report is attached to the Minutes. The County Councillor was asked to request Hampshire Highways to level the new tarmac laid in Mill Lane as the road now dips up and down considerably.

14/80 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – The District Councillor was unable to be present at the meeting and no report had been received.

14/81 **NETWORK RAIL** – The HCC traffic survey results had not been available in time for the meeting between representatives of Steep and Sheet Parish Councils and Camilla Bushill of Network Rail and Gary Hedges of Hampshire County Council - it is now thought that because of the summer holidays, the public exhibition will be delayed until September.

A letter has been sent to Ms. Vye-Parminster expressing the Council's gratitude to Network Rail's representatives' for their help with the installation of the new bridge at the Stodham Crossing on the Shipwright's Way.

14/82 **ROADS AND TRAFFIC** –

Maintenance - Following the Parish Council Meeting held in Steep Marsh confirmation has been received from Mr. Pillans of the following work:

- Elmwood Lane, Steep Marsh – Resurfacing is programmed for late July, nearer the time the Operation Resilience team will send out notification to give further details of start times and

durations. Following the resurfacing the existing passing bays will be made good and brought up the level of the new road surface and the ditches will be cleared and the material used to fill any verge overrun.

- Ashford Lane – The Waterfall – order in the system to clear pipe and river bed (Op Res)
- Rockpits Lane, near Coldhayes – ditch filled by new access, the local Engineer will investigate and follow up with any action if required.
- Sandy Lane – will be submitted for resurfacing, hopefully to be carried out this financial year with additional government pothole repair funding
- Ridge Common Lane, junction of Sandbury Lane – Patching has recently been carried out to repair the potholes, but there is still water flowing from Sandbury Lane, HCC will investigate to see if this can be collected and piped or ditched down to the pond.
- Church Road Steep, Speed and Traffic Management issues – The Traffic Management team will look into this and see if they have any concerns or plans for Church Road
- Church Road Steep, carriageway surface condition – This is not in this year's programme for treatment at this time, however it will be submitted for consideration for patching or resurfacing next year.

Working Party - Cllr. Gibson has not yet been able to contact any members of the Working Party to establish the current position. It was agreed that Cllr. MacDonald should speak to Mrs. Openshaw and ask her to forward up to date information to Cllr. Gibson as soon as possible in order to progress this important piece of work.

Accident at Steep School - Two children had been injured in a traffic accident at the School during the week – luckily, on this occasion, although shocked and grazed, the children were not seriously hurt, but the issue of turning and parking in Church Road needs to be addressed. It was agreed that both Cllr. Gibson and the County Councillor should contact Ian Janes (HCC) as a matter of urgency and ask him to look at the situation with a view to having a no parking zone either side of the pinch point to provide a clear sight line at school drop off and pick up times. The Head Teacher at Steep School is arranging for a survey to be carried out to see if the School would be eligible for a Lollipop person. Various options for parking were discussed but not felt to be optional at this time.

14/83 DEVELOPERS CONTRIBUTIONS

The current sums held by EHDC and available for use in Steep are as follows:

Open Space and Recreation	£10,407.00
Environmental Improvement	£ 3,029.00

This money is only available until mid-2015 when the SDNPA Community Infrastructure Levy scheme will replace EHDC Developer's Contributions and therefore needs to be used as soon as possible. Various projects for the Parish were discussed, including:

- improvements to Footpath 23 and new kissing gate to replace stile;
- replacement steps at the Coach Road on Stoner Hill (the old ones have disintegrated)
- cleaning out the ditch, and covering pipework at the Village Hall car park
- clearance of scrub/trees on the boundary with a view to improvement of the car park

It was agreed that Cllr. Martin should liaise with the HCC Ranger regarding the footpaths and, if appropriate, get estimates for proposed work. Cllr. MacDonald will liaise with the Tree Warden

regarding the trees and scrub on the boundary of the Village Hall land and both this and the pipework issue will be referred to a meeting of the Village Hall Trustees. Feedback and decision on the use of the Developer Contributions will be made at the September P.C. meeting.

14/84 ANNUAL PLAY INSPECTION REPORT – The annual play inspection report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Medium risk repairs are required to safety surfacing edging/grass and sanding down of wooden equipment. It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr. MacDonald should obtain quotes for the work which should then go ahead during the summer.

14/85 REVIEW OF STEEP SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREA – It has been hi-lighted via the Parish Plan and the Parish Council Meetings that families in Steep Marsh would like the right for their children to have a place at Steep (rather than Sheet) School. It was agreed that Cllr. Martin will liaise with the Head Teacher at Steep School to agree how this should be approached.

14/86 FEEDBACK ON STEEP MARSH MEETING – The Parish Council Meeting held in the marquee at the Brickyards had been well attended and residents' feedback was appreciative. The marquee worked out well, although its use limits the date of the meeting to the summer months. It was pointed out that the Marsh currently has issues which need addressing and which encourage attendance – there may not be such a good turnout in the future if there are no specific issues to raise and discuss.

It was agreed that P.C. meetings in Steep Marsh should continue and the next one will be arranged for the summer 2015.

14/87 CITIZENSHIP AT STEEP SCHOOL – Cllr. Drew had forwarded the issues highlighted by the children at Steep School during their Citizenship discussions. These included school starting too early, poor internet and the sound proofing curtains not working. It was agreed that Cllr. Thackrey should visit the school and respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

It was also noted that 5 out of 12 children will have a longer journey time to school if the Sheet Crossing is closed.

14/88 RURAL HOUSING QUESTIONNAIRE – The questionnaire had been circulated and was discussed. It was agreed that Cllr. Robinson should respond on behalf of Steep P.C.

14/89 FINANCE

(a) The following cheques were approved:

100004	£54.60	Play Inspection
100005	£1040.00	Clerk (May and June salary)
100006	£60.00	Website

(b) It was agreed that any cheques requiring payment in August will be approved via e-mail and the Clerk should contact the signatories once approved by a quorum of Councillors.

14/90 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – Monday, 8th September at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.