

LYMINSTER & CROSSBUSH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held at Lyminster Parish Church on Tuesday 2nd May 2017 at 7.30pm

Members Present: Chairman Paul Burzio, Derek Hulmes, Grant Roberts, Denise McRae-Adams, Tracey Frampton and Jenny Le Page.

Additional Observers: Robert Wheal, Chairman Emeritus Caroline Harriott and approx 25 parishioners.

AGM:

1. **Election of officers to the Parish Council:** Grant Roberts opened the AGM and welcomed everyone. He proposed Paul Burzio as Chairman for the forthcoming year. The council members unanimously agreed and voted him in. The newly re-elected chairman then chaired the ordinary meeting.

Ordinary Meeting:

1. **Apologies:** Penny Bernard, Clive Wickes.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2017 were approved and a copy was signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. **Points arising from these Minutes:** Derek reported that Ben Whiffing stated that the budget for traffic calming initiatives (re: potential Church Lane widening) is fully allocated for 2017/18 but suggested that the parish develop a plan and submit an application for the 2018/19 budget. The council agreed to consult local residents and develop a plan - Derek and Paul will be the working committee for this project.

5. **Financial and Accounts Update:** Grant reported that there is £1,692.63 in the main account and £331.46 in the secondary account, totalling £2,024.09. He reported that the Parish Council had received grants from two separate funds for the purchase of computer equipment and building a website. The councillors voted to spend £210 on this year's insurance renewal. Derek made a suggestion to contribute some money from this year's precept (which has remained at £978 after the councillors decided not to raise it) to the church building works as "matched funding" if we were to apply for a grant from the Community Grant fund. In theory the councillors were supportive. Two specific areas of the church have been identified as unsafe for the general public and may qualify for a grant application. However, Denise raised a concern: she believes the Church Wardens were previously informed that the Heritage Lottery Fund do not permit additional grants to be applied for once their funding is in place. After a discussion it was agreed that the Church Wardens would raise this issue with the Vicar at their next meeting and ask him to seek clarification on the matter from the HLF.

6. JDAC Report: Derek reported that JDAC has been dissolved and instead there is a new replacement body called the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee. Their next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th July at the White Swan Hotel, Chichester Road, Arundel (time not stated on the letter but WSCC website declares 7pm). The Chairman encouraged as many parishioners as possible to attend as well as Derek (who represents Lyminster and Crossbush Parish Council at the meetings). Derek is uncertain whether there will be continuity between the last JDAC meeting and the first JEAAC meeting via minutes - if not, he will pursue his request for an administrative body to better manage peripheral areas of public land around new developments which are often neglected once building work is complete.

7 & 8. Lyminster Bypass Update (and A27 Update) and views from the residents of North Lyminster: Derek reported that the Lyminster Bypass was back to the planning stages while the County applies to the District to get authority to build. There are two sections of the Bypass - and presently the Southern end connecting to the Worthing road seems more likely to proceed first, but there are still ongoing issues around funding from the developers and the Highways Agency. A long discussion followed with a number of parishioners expressing anger and frustration at the delays, the money already spent (approx. £500,000) and more being spent on the re-submission of the planning, the lack of accountability for the £1.3m already paid by developers, disagreement about the planned route, the lack of suitability of the road at the Northern end of the village just before the Crossbush roundabout and grave concerns over pollution and safety, and quality of road surface along several stretches of road.

Robert Wheal confirmed that the A27 plans look much more positive and announced that money has been allocated for this project from the Highways Agency and the project will go ahead - starting in 2020 and scheduled for completion in 2022. Robert and also Roger Everitt of the lobby group "OneArundel - www.onearundel.co.uk" also firmly back the "pink-blue" route as being the best solution for the Arundel bypass and asked the parishioners to lend their support to this choice.

Some concluding suggestions offered by the Chairman and Chairman Emeritus for individuals and the Parish Council were:

1. Compose a letter to Ben Whiffing asking when resurfacing work on Lyminster Road - especially the "bends" - will take place (promised in the 2016/17 financial year). (Chairman Emeritus)
2. Lobby for a special update meeting re: Lyminster Bypass and escalating costs either from Nigel Peters' replacement or Nick Herbert, MP. (Chairman)
3. Contradictory disagreements over the proposed Lyminster Bypass might result in the whole scheme being withdrawn or scrapped.
4. The A27/Arundel Bypass is probably the priority.
5. As many people as possible should attend the JEAAC meetings, submitting questions in advance via email. The Parish Councillors have limited time and resources.
6. Seek answers from Nick Herbert or the new County Councillor once elected. (Chairman and Parishioners)

9. Changes to Bus Routes: The Chairman mentioned the changes to local bus routes and said that he had been planning a joint letter with Peter Herbert to Stagecoach to complain but as residents pointed out the changes came into effect on 24th April so it may be too late for protests.

10. Website Update: Jenny reported that since funding for the website had been received a site has been commissioned and built. She hoped that the site would go “live” in a couple of weeks once the final editing has been done and will email anyone who leaves their details when the site is ready to view.

11. PQT: 1. It was hoped that if Church Lane is to be widened near the church that the grassy bank opposite may be considered. Derek and Paul confirmed that this was already being considered. 2. A news article will be in this week’s Littlehampton Gazette following Carol’s campaign to protest at very slow internet speeds in Lyminster. BT has promised that there will be an upgrade but possibly not until the end of 2018. Carol will continue to raise this issue with the new County Councillor for Arundel & Wick (replacing Nigel Peters).

12. AOB: 1. The Chairman Emeritus asked the date of the Church Fete in 2017. Mr Langmead confirmed that it will be on 22nd July. The Chairman announced that the Parish Council will run another Pimm’s Bar this year to raise money for the Church. 2. Roger Everitt asked everyone to support “OneArundel” and asked that a link could be made from the Parish Council’s new website to “OneArundel”. 3. A new Parish Councillor, Roger Davies, was co-opted onto the Parish Council - proposed by Denise and unanimously voted by other councillors.

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting: 26th September 2017 at 7.30pm. Venue to be confirmed as the Church will be closed for building works.