POYNINGS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Mr Colin Warburton

Minutes of the meeting of Poynings Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd July 2024 at 7.00pm

Present:

John Digby Chairman

Michael Crowther Vice Chairman

Andrew Delaney Bethany Roney

Geoff Zeidler - MSDC Mark Hind - Fulking PC

Colin Warburton - Clerk to the Council

14 members of the public attended.

1. Apologies

Janis Scott - Accepted

2. Minutes of last meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were unanimously agreed, and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising

J Digby thanked the outgoing postman, Paul, for being a great postman, and the residents who contributed to his outgoing gift.

4. MSDC and WSCC

MSDC - G Zeidler

GZ asked if the councillors had received his report which they had.

J Digby expressed his frustration at the DVLA, MSDC, Police etc at the total lack of concern about abandoned vehicles in the area. There is still a van and car in the car park neither of which are taxed or insured, these should not be in public car park. There are also four caravans on the road to the Devils Dyke. There has not been any progress with the erection of a barrier in the car park. The car and van are stopping other vehicles from parking there. G Zeidler advised that he will contact Joe Reid at MSDC.

5. Public Participation

N Digby thanked everyone who helped and came to the church fete. Also, there is a meeting at Newtimber Church at 10.30am to discuss the provenance of N Church.

6. Expenditure for April 2024 and May 2024

The following amounts have been paid for April 2024 and May 2024

Date	Payee	
	•	Amount
30/04/2024	JAF Graphics Village Hall sign	
00/07/07	The or apriles village Fluit sign	£240.00
03/05/2024	Castle Water - Cemetery	C42.20
		£43.28
1//05/2024	Clerk Exp - Ink - Stamps - clear wallets	£28.46

	17/05/2024	Clerk Wages - March - April 2024		£756.68
	17/05/2024	Plastic Letters - Cora's corner info sign		£54.00
	17/05/2024	M Brennan - Grass cutting - Inv. 2-3-4-5	5	£440.00
	21/05/2024	HMRC - March - April 2024		£160.00
	23/05/2024	Zurich Insurance		£264.00
	29/05/2024	WSALC and NALC annual sub		£104.35
	31/05/2024	Newtimber Forge - Brackets for village I	nall sign	£25.00
	31/05/2024	Heritage Mulch - Coras corner	<u></u>	£214.28
	31/05/2024	DM Payroll - annual fee		£100.00
			TOTAL	£2,430.05
Receipts for April 2024 and May 2024				
	Date	Payee		Amount
	30/04/2024	MSDC - 6 month Precept		£4,550.00
			TOTAL	£4,550.00
	total .	20 02		

This was unanimously agreed.

7. Planning Applications

a. SDNP/24/02233/LDP Lawful storage of touring caravan. Small Acres Clappers Lane Fulking West Sussex BN6 9NH

After a long discussion it was unanimously agreed to object to this application for the following reasons.

1) The applicant is looking to replace a small disused, derelict touring caravan (wheels and tow bar), sited at the far southeast corner of the plot with a very large mobile home with a 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom mobile home measuring $65' \times 22'$, with raft foundations. The proposal is for a "Lawful storage of touring caravan", not mobile home.

The recent decision of the Planning Inspector H. A. Orr on 9th April 2024 upheld the enforcement notice issued and required the use of land for settled gypsy accommodation to cease for the following reasons.

Paragraph 30 stated "... the appeal development now fills a previously undeveloped gap that helped to add a sense of transition, between the village and the more open countryside beyond. It therefore has the effect of extending the built development towards the cricket ground. This is particularly apparent from the various public paths and viewpoints including Devils Dyke, cumulatively making the sites more prominent in this highly sensitive landscape."

Paragraph 48 stated "... great weight is to be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in national parks, which attracts the highest status of protection. I have also found that the appeal development in addition to the existing permitted sites, result in a cluster of sites, that fail to conserve or enhance the landscape and scenic beauty of the area, or to respect the scale and pattern of development of this small rural village, such that it dominates the nearest settled community. In combination I have attributed significant weight to this combined harm."

Paragraph 49 stated "Overall, in my judgement, the combination of factors in favour of the development are not sufficient to clearly outweigh the significant harm I have identified to

the character and appearance of the SDNP and the settled community." A replacement of this size will cause irreparable harm to the character and appearance of the SDNP and conflict with the primary purpose of the South Downs National Park Authority and the decision of the Planning Inspector. A replacement caravan to be on a "like for like" basis i.e. a touring caravan.

2) The application states that the touring caravan could be located anywhere within the site. However, there is not any lawful hardstanding available. There is no space on the current hard standing to site a touring caravan of the size now proposed. The existing unlawful mobile homes should be removed to consider a re-siting of the derelict touring caravan and it is not clear where the large touring caravan would be sited. The touring caravan should be located in the same position as the touring caravan marked on the Planning Inspector's decision dated 9th April 2024 and in particular cannot include any structure that requires hard standing and/or raft foundations.

Foundations and yet more hard standing do not fall under Permitted Development.

3) The application states that the requirement is for storage, the proposal includes two bathrooms, three bedrooms and a kitchen. This is not appropriate for storage and the plans are labelled "home plans" not storage, which suggests unlawful residential occupation b. SDNP/24/01022/LDP Insertion of opening to rear elevation with new sliding/folding doors, and new hinged door to existing opening on east elevation. Hilva. The Street Poynings West Sussex BN45 7AQ

Decision - Passed

c. SDNP/24/00592/LDP Stationing a caravan to be used for residential purposes as ancillary accommodation to the existing dwellinghouse Laying a hard surface. Rushfield House Henfield Road Poynings BN45 7AY

Decision - Passed

8. Bridge at Garage/Downmere.

The clerk informed the council that the new owners of Downmere had hoped to come to the meeting but were unable to. Their comments on the bridge are:

- We recently moved in and our first impression was that it's both unsafe and unsightly currently, and recent repairs by Mid Sussex may have helped the integrity of the bridge, but overall it's been left in a worse state visually than previously.
- We met with Tim Boxall who as I understood it confirmed that there's no further plans from their side to improve it or add barriers etc, and so he'd be happy for us to improve the area ourselves.
- It's a high priority for us to get a solution in place, as the drops are dangerous, the blue barriers left are unsightly (and often pushed into the stream) and we have members of the general public walking across our garden.
- Our current plan (which we discussed with Tim) is to extend the fence by one more panel, and then put in place a lower-level fence/balustrade between the fence posts so that everybody can still enjoy the view down the stream from the footpath. Materials and design still to be decided.

- Because of the current path width, the sleepers, the trees, and because of the way it's been left, the footpath is going to be quite narrow around this area by necessity.

J Digby commented that it is a good idea to put in a lower-level fence/balustrade.

9. Cemetery

The clerk thanked Hurstpierpoint collage for providing volunteers to remove the chalk, cut back creepers of the walls, and creosote the shed. There is still more to do but it is a good start, and the volunteers may be able to do more. The waste outside the gates now needs to be removed. The council unanimously agreed for the clerk to hire a digger to "loosen" the waste and hire a grab lorry to remove it.

10. Car park - Abandoned vehicles

This was covered in item 4.

11. Village Party

The clerk advised that a band, single singer, bouncy castle, and Wooley Mammoth have been booked. Raffle prizes also organised. BR advised that she would look into a caterer for food, possibly entering via the field with permission from the owner. The clerk suggested that the PC purchases 3 Polypins (1.5 barrels) of Harvey's rather than a barrel because if it is not used it lasts longer. A pint works out at about £2.40 pint, it was agreed to sell a pint at £5 to cover costs. The clerk also suggested buying G in and Tonic cans for £1 to sell at £2.50 (with ice and lemon). This was agreed by the council. J Digby and clerk to meet to see how much wine and soft drinks to purchase.

12. Village Hall

J Digby advised that a free metal shed has been acquired, which will be available shortly. He was a bit concerned that it was a bit like a garage. M Crowther pointed out that it would propose less of a fire hazard than a wooden one. It was agreed by the council that with some paint and the wall round it, it would be okay as a temporary structure. The PC is still looking into grants for future development and the clerk is hoping that the village hall can host Instrumental music featuring young musicians from Glyndebourne Sinfonia on November 9th.

M Crowther advised that he has received a quote from SeSurveying for £2,370 plus VAT to do a full survey of the village hall which would be needed for any grant. It was unanimously agreed to go ahead with this.

13. Items for next month's Agenda Parking Survey

14. Date of next month's Meeting Sept 3rd then Nov 6th

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.10pm

The following amounts have been paid for June 2024 and July 2024

	Date	Payee		Amount		
	05/07/2024	Chairman Allowance 2024		£175.00		
	05/07/2024	Clerks Wages May - June 2024		£740.68		
	05/07/2024	HMRC May -June 2024		£176.00		
	05/07/2024	Clerk expenses Paper, preservative, manh	ole	£22.65		
	05/07/2024	Skip for village hall		£408.00		
	05/07/2024	Village party - Wooley mammoth		£250.00		
	05/07/2024	Sand and Cement - Village Hall		£261.12		
	05/07/2024	M Brennan - Grass cutting - Inv 6-7-8		£390.00		
	05/07/2024	Village party - License		£21.00		
			TOTAL	£2,444.45		
Receipts for June 2024 and July 2024						
	Date	Payee		Amount		
	29/07/2024	Village party card income		£282.24		

TOTAL £282.24

4/4/24