Washington Parish Council Planning and Transport Committee Meeting

**MINUTES of the Committee Meeting held on Monday, 16th February 2015 at Washington Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Britt, Cook, Heeley (chairman), Jolley, Turley

**ALSO:** Clerk to the Council Petrina Kingham

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**: 1

**ABSENT**: Cllr Beglan

**Councillor Heeley opened the Meeting at 19:58 hrs**

**1. Apologies for absence**Apologies were receive and accepted from Cllr Beglan (Holiday)

**2.** **Declarations of Interest from members in any item to be discussed and agree Dispensations**

Cllr Jolley declared an Interest as a Trustee of Sandgate Conservation Society in Item 9 on the Agenda relating to Sandgate Park. The interest was not pecuniary. Matters relating to the Interest were intended for report only.

**3. To approve the Minutes of the last Planning & Transport Committee meeting**

The minutes of the Meeting of 16th February 2015 were **AGREED** as being a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**4. Public question time**

No members of the public wished to speak

**5. Planning applications and consultations:**

DC/15/ 0231 - Little Yew Georges Lane Storrington Pulborough West Sussex RH20 3JH

Increase the length of an existing extension by 3.5m to 7.5m. This application had not been validated by Horsham District Council and was therefore withdrawn.

DC/15/0184 Aerial Mast Highden Reservoir Glaseby Lane Washington West Sussex Notification to install telecommunications apparatus - notification only. No comments were required on this application.

**6. Enforcement issues update**

There were none.

**7. To receive planning department decisions**

Councillors **NOTED** the following decisions:

\*Washington Parish Council objected to these applications

Application Number: DC/14/2389 Decision: Application Permitted

Site: 7 Gorse Bank Close Storrington Pulborough West Sussex RH20 3AQ

Description: Erection of a single storey 3 bedroom dwelling

Date of Decision: 30/01/2015

\*Application Number: DC/14/2612 Decision: Application Refused

Site: 4 Gorse Bank Close Storrington Pulborough West Sussex RH20 3AQ

Description: Erection of a detached dwelling and garage

Date of Decision: 05/02/2015

\*Application Number SDNP/14/05743/HOUS Decision Application Permitted

Site: New Cottages, 3 The Holt, Washington, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 4AN

Description: Two storey side extension of 3m width

Date of decision: 03/02/ 2015

Cllr Britt expressed her disappointment at the granting of permission for SDNP/14/05743/HOUS

For information only -

Application Number: DC/15/0184 Decision: Prior Approval Not Required

Site: Aerial Mast Highden Reservoir Glaseby Lane Washington West Sussex

Description: Notification to install telecommunications apparatus

Date of Decision: 04/02/2015

**8. Appeals**None advised

**9. Planning and Transport issues**

**9.1 To Receive a Report from Cllr Jolley on his Meeting with Malcolm Westcott (Barratts) on 23rd January 2015 and review a Parish Response to the issues of:**

**The Escarpment, Screening (Hampers Lane), Knot Weed, The Road Surface (A283), Country Park and Gates**

**Cllr Jolley acted on behalf of the Council on Items 9.1.1 and 9.2.1 only.**

**9.1.1 The Escarpment (Hampers Lane)**

Cllr Jolley reported as follows:

It appears from the Hampers Lane side of the boundary with the development that the slope running up to the fence line is much closer and steeper to the fence than its original location and slope. There is great concern over the stability of the slope due to the heavy lorries that use the lane, for deliveries, refuse removal etc. On inspection from the development side the slope does not look as severe. There is along its steepest slope a timber framed earth reinforced wall to reinforce the slope at its toe. New plants have been placed over the entire length of the slope but Malcolm was not sure what they were or how dense the foliage would become.

Cllr Jolley suggested to Councillors that in order to assure the residents and owners of the lane it was requested that Barratts civil engineer responsible for the slopes stability confirm in writing that the slope is indeed capable of supporting the traffic from Hampers Lane and is suitably constructed to prevent weather corrosion that may also effect the stability and integrity of the slope. Furthermore Barratts should provide some form of written guarantee stating that should the slope fail in anyway and as a result cause damage the integrity of Hampers Lane itself, including the name of the organisation who would be responsible for the cost of its reinstatement and names of those who would carry out the necessary slope reinstatement works to the appropriate standard to restore its should be provided.

Councillors **AGREED** with Cllr Jolley’s suggestions and requested that Cllr Jolley email his full report to the Clerk in order that her and the chairman could draft a letter outlining concerns of stability and responsibility to Barratts on behalf of the Council. Copies were to be sent to WSCC and HDC.

**9.1.2 Vegetation (Hampers Lane)**

The vegetation density is considerably less than its original density along one specific area of Hampers Lane. There had been some clearance of trees and vegetation to create a parking and storage area for vehicles working on the new footpath. This had now stopped. In respect of the hedgerows it was suggested by Barratts that prior to any remedial action grow back in spring be awaited to ascertain what the density of the current screening would be. Malcolm Westcott stated that he would instruct his landscape contractor to fill any large gaps with appropriate planting.

**9.1.3 Japanese knot weed (for information only)**This had been treated over two years and under development conditions imposed on permission.

**9.1.4 Country Park Path (for information only)**

There had been some debate over the material used to define the pathways.

###### Report end

###### 9.2 A283 Light Scheme

Cllr Jolley had carried out further research on lighting in the locality and Cllr Heeley asked that this be forwarded to the Clerk for further consideration. The projected date for the lights becoming functional is May 2015.

**9.3 Road surface**

The Clerk reported that the projected date for the new road surface is May 2015.

#### **9.4 To Review, Consider and Agree a Parish Response to the Street Lighting at Milford Grange**

Prior to the Meeting the Clerk had received a request from the West Sussex County Times to draft a press release with Cllr Circus on the matter of the road surface and street lighting. Cllrs agreed a form of words from a draft prepared by Cllr Turley and Cllr Heeley. The Clerk was asked to forward this to the West Sussex County Times, Worthing Herald, SDNP press office, WSCC, HDC and District and County Councillors.

**9.5 To Receive an update from the Clerk on the issues of:**

**9.5.1 The relocation of the Washington sign,**

This will be in May 2015 it it might be a new and smaller sign as WSCC have provided a sign that does not fit in the correct location.

**9.5.2 The Parish Notice Board**

No update

**9.5.3 The installation of the Washington and Storrington Bus Shelters**

These are now in situ. Cllrs expressed concern over the location of the Storrington shelter (north side of the A283). It was felt that the location was hazardous, being close to a sharp bend with limited visibility. It was noted that Compass/Stagecoach drivers were still using the temporary stops. Malcolm Westcott of Barratts had advised the Clerk that he would contact the bus companies to confirm usage. This has now been done via email and confirmed as being actioned by Compass.

###### 9.5.4 Post Box at Clayton Kennels

The Clerk had already written to WSCC, Barratts and HDC expressing the view that the box be left where it was. The general view of Councillors was that as it was not in use it should be left where it was and a new box installed in the estate.

**9.6 To Draft and Agree a Press Release for the 30mph Speed Limit (and 50 mph reduction)**

Cllr Heeley had circulated a form of words prior to the meeting and this was agreed. The Clerk was asked to circulate the release to the West Sussex County Times, Worthing Herald, SDNP press office, WSCC, HDC and District and County Councillors on Tuesday morning.

**9.7 To Receive an Update on the Progress of the VAS**

A site visit and assessment has taken place and engineers have been given photographs and specification.

**9.8 Neighbourhood Plan - To discuss, review and agree dates and arrangements for drop-in sessions for the Neighbourhood Plan 6 week public consultation period.**

It was **AGREED** by those present that the attendance at these sessions would not warrant the organisation of them. There was no real centre in Washington to catch residents. Cllr Heeley was keen to use the Annual Parish Meeting as a vehicle to promote voting on the Plan. Storrington and Sulllington were proposing to have events in the village and the Steering Group members would be discussing the organisation and attendance of these at the meeting of 17th February. Washington could be part of this arrangement and utilise the facilities and footfall of Storrington.

##### **9.9 Pot Holes - A283 Rowdell Lodge**

## The Clerk had reported two pot holes to highways 13.02.15. The Clerk has since been advised that the potholes are caused by sunken drain covers owned by BT and were on the 5 day repair plan schedule.

**9.10 Road Closures**

Updates provided on the Parish Website.

**10. Items for the next Agenda**

There were none suggested.

Date of next meeting 16th March 2015

The meeting closed at 21:03

Signed………………………………….. Dated………………………………..