

**HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2009, 7.30 PM**  
**AT HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** Mrs Archer, Mr Baker, Mrs Clark, Mr Davis, Mr Harmer, Mrs Holmwood, Mr Hough, Mr Kerby, Mr Newnham (Vice-Chairman, in the Chair) Mrs Plant, Mr Waterhouse, Mr Wood and Mr Woodhouse.

The Clerk was in attendance.

Also present: County Councillor Simmons  
District Councillors Angel and Mrs Kirkpatrick  
1 Member of the public  
1 representative of the press

09/18      **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mr Loveday said that he was pleased to see that work had commenced on the A265/A267 junction improvements.

09/19      **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Apologies from County Councillor Dowling and District Councillor Mrs Fox.

Mr Simmons gave details of the recent Audit report which highlighted improvements in social care and children's care. An area for future improvement was highway maintenance.

Mrs Kirkpatrick spoke regarding the Parish Planning Conference and clarified the situation regarding tree works along the Heathfield section of the Cuckoo Trail, which would bring longer term benefits.

Mr Angel reported on a partnership with ESCC which had enabled a new "extra care" facility to be built in Uckfield. Affordable housing was still a high priority for Wealden and the housing waiting list had increased due to higher numbers of homeless people.

**The meeting commenced at 7.47 p.m.**

09/20      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Bassingthwaite, Mr Chambers, Mrs Gander, Mr Hart, Mrs Kentish-Barnes, Mrs Muddle, Mrs Oakes and Dr Rayner

09/21      **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

There were none.

09/22

**MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2009, having been previously circulated, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

09/23

**MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

09/24

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman had attended the SALC training evening at the Community Centre as well as a joint event with Heathfield Partnership when the High Sheriff of Sussex had visited the town.

The Vice-Chairman reported his attendance at the AGM of the Twinning Association and the Waldron Community Play. He also read out a thank you card from Mrs Clark who had received some flowers from the Council.

09/25

**CLERK'S REPORT**

A correspondence list as at 3 March 2009 had been circulated to all Members.

09/26

**HEATHFIELD CARNIVAL**

It was agreed that a float should be entered into the 2009 carnival and a Working Party should be set up. Mrs Plant indicated her willingness to progress this.

09/27

**TO APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2009/2010 FINANCIAL YEAR**

It was **RESOLVED** to re-appoint Mr Parish as Internal Auditor to the Parish Council for the next financial year, at a cost of £25 per hour with 40p per mile travelling expenses.

09/28

**WDC – STREET TRADING CONTROLS**

Members noted the latest information regarding the above.

09/29

**COPPICING OF CUCKOO TRAIL**

An email had been received from Miss Hannington objecting to the recent coppicing work. Members noted that a number of local residents had raised concerns about the extent of the work being carried out but that the Cuckoo Trail was the responsibility of WDC and ESCC and the Parish Council should take no further action.

09/30

**COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS**

Mrs Clark and Mrs Holmwood reported that they had attended the opening of Little Punnetts Pre-School.

Mr Hough raised concern about the condition of some fingerpost signs and the Vice-Chairman stated that he and Mr Baker were going to carry out an inspection of all the signs to enable a report to be made to HPS Committee.

The Vice-Chairman urged Members to think about nominations for Chairman and Vice-Chairman in time for the May AGM.

09/31 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

09/31a **Finance and General Purposes Committee**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments made between 1 March 2008 and 28 February 2009 as circulated.

09/31b **Highways, Planning and Street Lighting Committee**

Minutes of the meetings held on 19 January, 9 and 16 February 2009 (previously circulated). Minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2009 (unadopted) were circulated at the meeting. Mr Newnham reported thereon.

09/31c **Burial Grounds Committee**

Mr Newnham reported on the meeting held on 9 March 2009. Minutes of the meeting would follow.

09/31d **Recreation Grounds and Properties Committee**

Minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting held on 4 February 2009 (previously circulated), Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2009 (unadopted) were circulated at the meeting. Mrs Plant reported thereon.

Waldron Recreation Ground Management Sub-Committee held on 21 January 2009 (unadopted) (previously circulated). Mrs Plant reported thereon.

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meetings reported above be approved and adopted by the Parish Council.

09/32 **TO APPROVE THE USE OF COUNCIL'S SEAL ON TRANSFER OF LAND TO ESCC RELATING TO THE A267 JUNCTION**

It was duly **RESOLVED** to approve use of the Council's Official Seal on the above document.

09/33 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

There were considered to be no implications under the above Act in relation to matters discussed at the meeting.

09/34 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The re-appointment of the Internal Auditor was considered to be a positive risk management measure.

09/35 **TO CONSIDER MOTIONS**

There were none.

09/36 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Annual General meeting will take place on Tuesday 12 May 2009, at 7.30 pm in the Ian Price Room, Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield and that the Annual Parish Assembly will take place on 7 April 2009.

09/37 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion of the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

09/38 **LAND FOR BURIAL GROUND**

The Clerk reported that the exchange of contracts had taken place in respect of 10 acres of land at Theobalds Green and that future uses, including burial ground and allotments would be the subject of public consultation.

**The meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.**

**Signed**

**Chairman**

**Dated**