

Minutes of a meeting of the **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held on **Wednesday 6th May 2009** in Telscombe Civic Centre at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: Mr R Maskell (**Chairman**)
Mr T Armour, Mr T Banning
Mr J Livings, Mr D Neighbour
Mrs B Sawyers (Substitute for Ms L Hallett)

APOLOGIES

Councillors: Mr P Howson (**Vice Chairman**)
Mr B Page, Mr J Page, Ms L Hallett

The meeting was adjourned at 7.30 pm to take questions from members of the public.

A member of the public asked for information in respect of the listed correspondence relating to Telscombe Tye, the questioner also asked if the cattle would be returning to the Tye. The Clerk advised that there was a lease with a farmer for grazing the Tye and that there were also rights of common in respect of grazing the Tye. The Clerk stated that the advice from the Council's Land Agent was that the rights of common were for the grazing of the whole Tye throughout the year. A further question was raised in respect of the correspondence relating to Wheatlands Close. The Clerk advised he had met one of the residents who had outlined issues in respect of possible traffic vibration damage to properties being caused by vehicles using the unmade road behind the Close as a shortcut from Telscombe Village. The Clerk confirmed that the issue of traffic crossing the Tye was included in the comprehensive report from the Council's Land Agent that was due for publication shortly. A member of the public requested a copy of a recent Councillor resignation letter and the Clerk agreed to forward a copy.

The meeting was re-convened at 7.32 pm.

299. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Armour declared a prejudicial interest in items of correspondence appertaining to the Tye. He remained at the meeting but took no part in the discussions on these items.

300. **TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 4th MARCH 2009**

The minutes of the above meeting were approved by the Committee and signed as correct by the Chairman.

301. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

302. **TO NOTE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE COMMITTEE TO 31st MARCH 2009**

The Committee noted the income and expenditure accounts to 31st March 2009.

303. **TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING IN RESPECT OF THE PROPOSED COASTAL TRAIL**

The Committee received a presentation from Ms Liz Lee in respect of the aim and funding for the coastal trail project. Ms Lee also answered questions from Committee Members in respect of the project. Ms Lee outlined the role of the County Council in formulating a bid for £500,000 for the total project. Monies were being sought from Sea Change lottery funding £400,000 had been earmarked for works connected with establishing an improved transport interchange at Newhaven Station. With £100,000 being required for works in respect of the trail. Funding was dependant on match funding and the four Town Councils on the route had been approached. Newhaven had contributed £5,000 Seaford £3,000 and Peacehaven and Telscombe had been asked for a joint total of £2,000 with a suggested split of £1,500 from Peacehaven and £500 from Telscombe. The Committee queried the amount of land available in Newhaven for the interchange part of the project and were assured that the County Council had made adequate provision. In response to a question Ms Lee said the request for funding was to allow the bid to be able to demonstrate commitment to the project at a local level. It was proposed by Councillor Livings seconded by Councillor Sawyers and

RECOMENDED that Council be asked to approve a £500 donation to the Coastal Trail project – with funding coming from additional income generated by the Telecoms mast.

304. **TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM PROUD**

Councillor Livings updated the Committee in respect of the latest developments in the High Court case promoted by PROUD. The Committee were advised that recent decision in the Court had effectively ended PROUD's legal challenge to the wastewater treatment works. PROUD was however now committed to working on the liaison Committee set up by Southern Water to oversee and monitor the development and running of the plant. As the group no longer required contributions to legal fees it was proposed that £250 be recommended as a grant to be approved by the Grants Sub Committee. The money would now be used to assist PROUD in its administrative functions such as stationery and room hire to put forward residents' views on the liaison Committee. Councillor Neighbour asked that the Committees thanks for all the hard work undertaken by the members of PROUD be formally recorded. This was unanimously endorsed by the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Neighbour and seconded by Councillor Livings and

RECOMMENDED that the Grants Sub Committee consider the award of £250 to PROUD for the 2009 – 2010 financial year.

305. **TO CONSIDER ACTION IN RESPECT OF ACCESSIBLE CAVES ON TELSCOMBE FORESHORE**

The Committee considered correspondence from Lewes District Council and the Police in respect of caves on the foreshore. The Committee noted that a You Tube clip had increased the public awareness of the caves. The Committee considered the advice from the Director of Planning at Lewes District Council in respect of difficulties in blocking the caves and the option for warning signage. The Committee unanimously

305. **Contd. To Consider Action in Respect of Accessible Caves on Telscombe Foreshore**

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk was instructed to thank the Director of Planning for Lewes District Council for his advice and ask for the warning signage option to be implemented in respect of the caves.

306. **TO NOTE THE NEW POWER OF WELLBEING AVAILABLE TO TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS**

The Committee considered a brief report from The Clerk in respect of the new power. The Committee noted the more flexible range of community expenditure available to Local Councils under the new legislation. The Committee welcomed the proposed training being provided by The Sussex and Surrey Association of Local Councils and noted the requirement for 80% of Councillors to attend.

307. **TO ARRANGE A MEETING DATE FOR THE GRANTS SUB COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered possible dates for the next meeting of the Grants Sub Committee and

RESOLVED that the next meeting of the grants sub committee be held at the Civic Centre on Monday 29th June commencing at 7.30 pm.

309. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS AS URGENT**

The problems associated with a late start to the verge cutting by the new contractors was raised. The Clerk advised that the contractor had scheduled in two further cuts before the end of May to try and resolve issues with long grass in the verges.

A problem had arisen in respect of the use of Lewes District bus passes on routes in Longridge Avenue. Drivers were refusing to accept them as the bus stop was now located on the Brighton and Hove side of the Road. The Clerk was requested to write to the bus company and request a more flexible approach.

The ongoing issue of dangerous potholes on Gorhams Lane the Road to Telscombe Village was raised.

310. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Due to the large number of items the Clerk was requested to identify a method of better listing the correspondence at future meetings. As individual items of correspondence had been discussed earlier in the meeting the item was noted.

311. Correspondence:-
- a) Freedom Group Wayleaves for Tye cables
 - b) PROUD Grant Appeal
 - c) Weekly planning list and 2 applications from Lewes District Council
 - d) Sussex Heritage Trust Awards Literature
 - e) South Downs Joint Committee Dutch Elm Disease control programme
 - f) Peacehaven Town Council community bus info
 - g) The Standards Board for England questionnaire
 - h) Strutt & Parker letter re outstanding invoice
 - i) MacMillan Coffee morning information
 - j) New Register of Electors
 - k) Copy of planning objection letter sent to Lewes District Council
 - l) ESCC details of village maintenance team works
 - m) Lewes District Council new bus pass application form
 - n) Environment Agency Permit for Newhaven Incinerator
 - o) Peacehaven Town Council Agenda for 3rd February
 - p) Strutt and Parker Tye grazing rights letter
 - q) Newhaven Town Council – planning committee agenda for 3rd February
 - r) ESCC Your County Magazine
 - s) Lewes District Council notification of planning appeal dismissal - 11b Nutley Ave
 - t) ESCC Information re Transportation Seminar
 - u) Weekly planning list and 2 applications from Lewes District Council
 - v) Letter from resident re Council Tax increase
 - w) Countryside Voice magazine
 - x) ESCC Your County Magazine
 - y) Letter to ESCC from residents of the Ridings and Wheatlands Close re traffic at rear of properties coming from the Tye
 - z) Hedleys Solicitors copy lease and cheque from Vodafone
 - aa) East Sussex Wildlife Rescue – The Rescuer Magazine
 - bb) Macmillan – notification of walking events
 - cc) Carr Partnership let re sheep on the Tye
 - ee) Strutt and Parker letter re consultancy advice invoice
 - ff) Monarch Security and Fire maintenance contracts for new system
 - gg) ESCC Agenda for Council Meeting
 - hh) Weekly planning list and 2 applications from Lewes District Council
 - ii) Strutt and Parker credit note for Tye consultancy advice invoice
 - jj) Planning inspectorate acceptance of notice for exempt works re Kent carriage gap
 - kk) Weekly planning list from Lewes District Council
 - ll) Newhaven Town Council minutes of meeting of 17th March
 - mm) Hedleys Solicitors update and request for photos re Tye cattle damage
 - nn) ESCC Street lighting maintenance agreement
 - oo) Request for bus stop at Martlet House
 - pp) DEFRA Southdowns National Park information
 - qq) Newhaven Town Council – minutes from meeting on 3rd February
 - rr) Freedom underground cables on Tye – change of contact information

311. Contd. Correspondence

- ss) Letter from WI - thank you for grant
- tt) BT Wayleave letter
- uu) Public Works Loan Board Fixed Rate loan payment information
- vv) Lewes District Council Register of Electors update
- ww) Dept of Communities and Local Government Business Rates Deferral scheme
- xx) Girl guides thank you for grant letter
- yy) High Sheriff Invite to Mayor on 6th June
- zz) Weekly planning list & results from Lewes District Council
- aaa) BT Wayleave agreement
- bbb) Lewes District Council Sustainable Communities Act 2007 leaflets
- ccc) Equality and Human Rights Commission Public Sector Duties
- ddd) Resignation letter from Cllr Field
- eee) ESCC invite to Mayor re Sports Development Awards
- fff) Lewes District Council European Elections 4th June notices
- ggg) Lewes District Council invite to Mayor following ceremony of Mayor making
- hhh) Lewes District Council Casual vacancy in Telscombe Cliffs Ward information
- iii) Southern Water Business Plan 2010 – 2015
- jjj) Peacehaven Town Council agenda for meeting 5th May
- kkk) ESCC Community Transport Developments

Signed
CHAIRMAN - Cllr R Maskell

NB The next meeting of the Committee will be held on **Wednesday 8th July 2009 at 7.30 pm**