



Rottingdean Parish Council meeting
Monday 9 April 2018

Parish Councillors present:
 Butler, Bryant, Fenwick, Fitsall, John, Rogers, Sheppard, Webzell & Clerk

PUBLIC SESSION -7.30PM	RPC response/ action
<p><i>Members of the public may speak for up to 3 minutes before the start of the main meeting. Councillors aim to respond during the evening, but if not feasible will respond later in writing.</i></p>	
<p>Cllr Bob Webzell (RPC Chair) welcomed all to the April 2018 meeting of the Parish Council (RPC). He informed there would be a private session for Cllrs to discuss a confidential issue at the close of the public session.</p> <p>Inviting 3 residents in attendance to make any representations to the public meeting, he additionally welcomed Bernard Turnbull, Atlanta Cook and Jay Butler from The Beacon Hub Centre to give a presentation on the scope of a future project.</p> <p>Bernard Turnbull (Chair, Beacon Hub Eco-education & Visitor Centre) provided background to the City Council granting a 15-year rent-free lease to the Beacon Hub Charity. Bernard outlined the objective to provide some 400 schools (within a 1-hour travel radius) with educational opportunities promoting an environmental protection agenda for the South Downs and coastline. He said an RPC grant had already facilitated the car park opening and the Centre, currently supported by a team of some 20 volunteers & traders has been able to run the café too. An extensive events programme is now being compiled which includes a first partnership event being run shortly with the SDNPA.</p> <p>Aided by an aerial video film, he explained that fulfilling the full remit of the Education Centre is likely to need extending the current premises to provide classroom facilities and an accessible toilet; a gateway to the east of the Park; appointing a full time Centre manager & utilising professional teaching resources. He stressed that the appearance of the current building should not alter but input from a structural engineer and architect had indicated that some £200k could be needed. The video had been commissioned to support the fund-raising, and Bernard informed that speculative donations are indicated from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veolia Environmental Services [£75k] • Rampion Wind Farm [£50k] • The National Park Trust [£40k] • Events, community & 'crowd' funding [£23k] • Private offer [£30k] <p>He thanked Cllrs for providing the opportunity to present the scope of the Beacon Hub' ambitions.</p> <p>Ken Bodfish said congratulations are well deserved by Harold Williams succeeding after many years to persuade the <i>Hop-on hop off'</i> tourist bus route to stop in Rottingdean.</p>	



<p>Sean Flanagan: updated Cllrs on his intention to press for full reinstatement of the architectural features of Cavendish as this Rottingdean' Conservation Area dwelling is in the National Heritage List for England (HMLE Grade 2 category).</p> <p>Sean said an insurance policy would allow for legal costs to be met for enforcing a restrictive covenant for the building. If the covenant was enforced by a legal judgement this could create helpful precedent for enforcing other restrictive covenants in the Village such as one that he believes protects St Aubyns Field from being used for the building of flats.</p> <p>St Aubyns site</p> <p>Sean also had information for councillors on arguments he is pursuing for publishing the full Economic Viability Report (EVR) for the current St Aubyns planning applications which still remain for determination. So far – despite a recent change in City Council policy to allow for publication of future viability appraisals in planning - his requests for retrospective publication have been refused. Sean emphasised to RPC the importance of the benchmark land valuation used in an Appraisal, as well as the financial case being put forward by the current Developer on the costs of maintaining any portion of the Field which is not developed for housing plus the remaining structures such as the sports pavilion, chapel etc.</p> <p>In his representation to RPC, Sean stressed: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - current disagreement between the District Valuation Service & City Council planners; - false financials to justify development is needed on the field to subsidise the wider Listed building refurbishment; - need for Councillors to appreciate these issues. 	<p><i>RPC' research into potential costs should the field, sports pavilion & chapel be gifted to the Village are under Item 6.5 below.</i></p>
<p>Cllr Webzell thanked all for their contributions before opening the Councillor's discussion.</p>	

	PUBLIC SESSION -7.30PM	Agreed action /lead
1.	<p>Apologies for absence: Cllr Delow had sent his apologies for being unable to attend Parish Council meetings during April and May 2018 due to moving home.</p>	
2.	<p>Co-option of 9th parish councillor</p> <p>Cllr Webzell gave some background to the casual vacancy which arose following the resignation of Ian Wilson. Following formal Notice of the vacancy and local advertising, Jo Davies had come forward and had met with the Chair and Vice Chair, who were recommending to Council that Jo be co-opted to serve on RPC until the next election of councillors in May 2019. There was unanimous agreement for Jo to be co-opted to RPC. Jo completed a formal acceptance of Office, countersigned by the Clerk.</p>	



3.	Declarations of interest in agenda items: There were none declared.	
4.1	Agreement of minutes for meeting on 5 March 2018. These were signed by the Chair noting that the City Council invoice for the first two phases of street lighting work in Rottingdean should be for £16,416.70.	<i>Clerk to post agreed minutes on RPC website</i>
4.2	Actions & matters arising from the previous meeting Cllr John updated on RPC correspondence with the Senior Executive team at BHCC to try to reinstate regular meeting opportunities between the two tiers of local government. She explained there needed to be consideration of next steps to be taken as the formal partnership-working protocol had all but broken down over the last 12 months. See item 6 below. Cllr Butler reminded that RPC is required to review its policies for the Annual Governance return and so far, she had received only a few comments. The Clerk reminded that Europe-wide GDPR regulations coming into force in late May needed to be considered. Rottingdean (2018) Annual Village meeting on 19 April: Unfortunately, a full B&H Council meeting scheduled for the same evening had meant the local Ward Councillors would be unable to attend in Rottingdean and had sent apologies.	
5.	FINANCE	
5.1	RFO's monthly finance update Cllr Bryant had circulated his financial report for the period to 31 March 2018. See https://secure.toolkitfiles.co.uk/clients/24209/sitedata/2018/2018_other_updates/Copy-of-RPC-Treasurer-Report-31-March-18.pdf He drew attention to month-12 income including VAT reclaimed of £1130.39, and early receipt from BHCC of 6 months council tax precept for 2018/19 of £23,755. Cllr Bryant said he is awaiting final figures for the Annual audit.	
5.2	Audit: Cllr Bryant reminded that he had circulated a timeline for the audit on 17 May 2018 by Peter Frost. The full audited accounts would be presented to full council for approval at the 4 June 2018 RPC meeting.	
5.3	Outstanding payments: Cllr Bryant proposed payment of the following 4 items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £210 inc. VAT – Payroll services • £89.10 -Distribution of Village Newsletter (MAD) • £204 – Printing of Village Newsletter (One Digital) • £38.75 -Clerk's consumables. Payment was seconded by Cllr Butler receiving unanimous agreement.	
5.4	Consultation on Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): A consultation period is open until 8 May 2018 on a Draft Charging Schedule (DCS) for a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Representations are invited from RPC and Cllr Bryant has been examining the B&H Developer Contribution webpage which has details to evidence funding that is	



	<p>potentially raised by CIL. Cllr Bryant said it is important to identify Rottingdean's infrastructure needs and make links with the emerging Neighbourhood Plan policies for Rottingdean. See 6.4 below.</p>	
5.5	<p>Grants: Cllr Sheppard informed an application had been received that afternoon from <i>Rottingdean in Bloom</i>. This would be considered by the RPC Village Community Advisory Group (VCAG) with a recommendation brought to the next full Council meeting.</p> <p>Saltdean Lido: Cllrs raised the recent (match) fund-raising initiative to enable continuing renovations to the Lido. Although a specific grant application had not been submitted to RPC it was agreed to check on the regulations for RPC grants being made beyond Parish administrative boundaries.</p>	<p><i>Cllr Sheppard to cover at next VCAG meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Cllr Bryant RFO to check technical rules governing grants & donations.</i></p>
6.	<p>STRATEGY & COMMUNICATION ADVISORY GROUP</p> <p>6.1 Cllr Webzell informed that preparation for the Annual Village Meeting on 19 April 2018 had been greatly aided by Cllr's Fenwick's efforts to coordinate/edit a wide range of contributions needed to produce a succinct Newsletter summarising the plethora of issues that parish councillors have worked on over the last 12 months. Nearly 1700 Newsletters had been distributed to every Rottingdean household, and he hoped to see as many residents as possible at the AVM.</p> <p>6.2 SCAG had met on 19 March to prepare also for the forthcoming Council Annual meeting at which a range of formal governance matters are decided (including positions of responsibility) for the year ahead. As well as considering the application from Jo Davies for co-option, SCAG undertook assurance that 'fit for purpose' Standing Orders and policies could be agreed at the May 18 Annual meeting.</p> <p>6.3 Cllr Webzell mentioned that a sound amplification system has been purchased by the Whiteway Centre which will be used at future parish council meetings.</p> <p>6.4 Rottingdean Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr John informed a working group will convene on 16 April to draw together policy development and the draft chapters of the emerging planning guidance for Rottingdean. Chapters are anticipated to include bespoke planning policy to meet the needs and aspirations of Rottingdean for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community (including recreational) facilities • Environment & Biodiversity • Housing & Design • Employment & Enterprise • Traffic & Air Quality <p>Cllr Webzell added RPC may look at covering health care provision in the Plan as a vital aspect of ensuring the wellbeing of the Community.</p>	<p><i>NPWG Members to meet on 16 April.</i></p>



<p>6.5</p> <p>6.6</p>	<p>Cllr John expressed appreciation of the contribution made by Andrew Ashcroft to guide RPC through the planning policy-making process. She said there is possibility for RPC applying for some further Central Government funding to complete the Plan and take it through to public referendum.</p> <p>St Aubyns planning applications: Cllr Webzell reminded that there is no news on when the applications go before the City Council planning committee for determination. He informed that RPC is awaiting independent advice on what future maintenance obligations could amount to should the applications be approved and assets including the Sports Pavilion, Chapel and remaining portion of the playing field be gifted to the Village as is envisaged in the current applications under consideration.</p> <p>City Council Partnership working: Cllr John had written to the BHCC CEO to express increasing concern of local councillors that for the last year there has been no face-to-face contact from anyone in the senior team at Brighton & Hove. She said she or the Chair would write a further time requesting that the formal protocol between RPC & BHCC is implemented on a strategic level.</p>	<p><i>Chair to contact BHCC CEO.</i></p>							
<p>7.</p>	<p>PLANNING:</p> <p>Cllr Butler presented the April 2018 Planning report. See https://secure.toolkitfiles.co.uk/clients/24209/sitedata/2018/2018_other_updates/d.-Planning-report-April-2018.pdf</p> <p>Cllr Butler updated on RPC plans to attend the 4-day Public Inquiry at Hove Town Hall on 24 April 2018 to determine the appeal concerning residential development of the Meadow View site. As BHCC are not defending the planning appeal, the Inquiry will allow the Inspector to hear significant third-party representations. RPC will be supporting the Deans Preservation Group' ecological evidence that the site should be protected against any development, as well as dozens of residents who submitted objections to the proposals.</p> <p>Recent applications in the Parish</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="316 1496 1190 1664"> <tr> <td>BH2018/00887</td> <td>27 Grand Crescent</td> <td rowspan="3">RPC had no objections to Applications. The Falmer Rd proposals are noted to limit access to an identified 'Urban Fringe' potential development site.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BH2018/00812& 813</td> <td>Margos Mews</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BH2018/00789</td> <td>4 Falmer Road</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Trellis Café- http://www.brightonandhovenews.org/2018/03/23/rottingdean-tea-shop-ordered-to-remove-its-ivy-coat-very-carefully-by-hand/ Cllr Butler is to speak to Ward Cllr Mary Mears on the property charge that is understood to have been taken out by BHCC to meet future public costs that could arise for ensuring adequate conservation of this Listed structure.</p>	BH2018/00887	27 Grand Crescent	RPC had no objections to Applications. The Falmer Rd proposals are noted to limit access to an identified 'Urban Fringe' potential development site.	BH2018/00812& 813	Margos Mews	BH2018/00789	4 Falmer Road	<p><i>Cllr Butler to contact Ward Cllr Mears re legal charge</i></p>
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<p>8.</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p> <p>8.4</p> <p>8.5</p> <p>8.6</p>	<p>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Traffic volumes/air pollution Cllr Bryant informed the RPC meeting with the BHCC highways officers had taken place on 22 March. RPC heard that data has been assembled for Consultants to simulate traffic patterns and make predictions for the impact of various traffic management scenarios including for a chicane system. Their report is expected in June.</p> <p>A259 Big Petition Cllr Bryant said the meeting of ESCC, BHCC, LDC and SDNP went ahead on 23 March. A response from the Chair of the Environment & Transport Committee of BHCC indicates that the authorities do not accept that the impact on the area of increasing traffic congestion on this major route is such to warrant their investment in further studies.</p> <p>Road & pedestrian safety Cllr Bryant had attended 'Speedwatch' training on 28 March which is aimed at volunteers safely taking part in local speed checks using speed detector guns. He had taken part in a survey on the Falmer Road at a peak commuter time which (ironically) meant that the volume of vehicles (400/hr) had acted to restrain drivers speeding. Nonetheless the survey detected drivers - including Rottingdean residents-exceeding the maximum speed limits.</p> <p>National Clean Air Day on 21 June 2018 Cllr Fitsall informed BHCC are preparing awareness-raising literature which will highlight everyday behaviours that can help reduce air pollution. He intends to contact local schools too to explore ideas for young people being involved in raising awareness of the issues. See also 9.4 & 9.9.</p> <p>Ducks crossing from Rottingdean Pond Following a duck having been killed crossing the road, Cllr Fitsall will investigate more effective warning signs for motorists.</p> <p>RPC investment in Parish infrastructure Cllr Bryant updated that work is continuing to take forward with the City Council the larger schemes envisaged by RPC to improve the Village (especially the Lower High St area) and facilities such as the public toilets in Park Road.</p>	<p><i>Cllr Fitsall to explore the literature available plus involvement of local schools.</i></p>
<p>9.</p> <p>9.1</p> <p>9.2</p>	<p>VILLAGE COMMUNITY</p> <p>Whiteway Centre – Cllr Sheppard had attended the Whiteway Centre AGM. A sound amplification system has been purchased which will be used at future parish council meetings. The Whiteway committee has been asked to consider making the two sets of doors into the Main Hall easier to open.</p> <p>Meadow Parade GP – on 27th March a petition signed by approximately 1,400 was handed to the CCG & BHCC Director of Health & Social Care, Rob Persey on local concern for a diminishing GP service. Cllr Sheppard advised of longer-term concerns about provision at the Longridge Avenue site as in the next few years GPs are likely to retire & there are nationwide difficulties for attracting doctors to set up in General Practice.</p>	<p><i>RPC to note max seating capacity in RWC main hall is 80. Standing is 150</i></p>



9.3	<p>Defibrillator – signs have been installed to indicate the location of the defibrillator in Park Road.</p>	
9.4	<p>Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School: Paul Beverton, Head of OLOL School has let RPC know that the School is considering building an outside classroom at the top end of the school grounds and said that he welcomes thoughts on making future facilities available for the wider community.</p> <p>Speeding posters – The Head would also be pleased to support the RPC anti speeding campaign and pupils will work on poster designs.</p>	
9.5	<p>Business Bins The head of City Clean, Damien Marmura will meet Cllr Sheppard in Rottingdean to try to resolve the issues of businesses placing bins in public spaces.</p>	
9.6	<p>Beacon on the Beacon: The Chair of the local British Legion is anticipated to contact RPC re lighting a beacon on Beacon Hill on November 11th on the centenary of the end of World War One.</p>	
9.7	<p>Community resilience: Cllr Sheppard attended the local Neighbourhood Watch AGM giving a well-received presentation on the Deans Resilience Self-help tips/contact list now on the RPC website. NHW need co-ordinators for the following streets. Gorham Avenue, Lenham Rd West, Little Crescent, Park Crescent, Park Rd, Royles Close, Romney Rd, Newlands Rd, Ely Crescent & Ely Drive.</p>	
9.8	<p>Donation of bench: Rottingdean Bazaar designers have proposed that a bench donated by the Vivian Westwood Group could be sited in the PO Sorting Office Square. Cllr Sheppard has contacted the City Council about moving the existing bench by the SO to replace one previously sited at The Park.</p>	
9.9	<p>Martlets Hospice fundraising – Rottingdean was invited to participate in the Martlets <i>snail-trail</i>. See Parish Notes https://secure.toolkitfiles.co.uk/clients/24209/sitedata/2018/2018_other_updates/d.-Parish-Notes-April-2018.pdf</p> <p>Discussions within RPC and with <i>Visit Rottingdean</i> have concluded that this time around it will not be possible for the Village to be involved due to resources, finances and time.</p>	
9.4	<p>Bikeshare scheme - Following an RPC request, BHCC are to install a bike hub in Rottingdean. An onsite meeting will take place during April to consider its location.</p>	
9.5	<p>Trees – BHCC has promised to complete pruning of overhanging trees and other works in Kipling Gardens in the next few weeks.</p>	
9.6	<p>Tide / Clock Tower: Cllr Sheppard updated from a recent working group that estimated costings are £25k. On completion of the project RPC were suggested to take on ownership of the clock tower. This was agreed in principle by RPC.</p>	
9.7	<p>Town twinning: The RPC Village Community Group considered a request from St Germain-au-Mont-d’or (village just outside Lyon) and have proposed that initially a link might be better served by local schools..</p>	<p><i>Cllr Sheppard to contact all parties</i></p>



9.8	Village Fair Saturday 4 August. It was agreed that RPC would have an information stall.	<i>Cllr Sheppard to liaise with RFO re £10 to cover Fair insurance.</i>
9.9	Parish council article: 200-250 words are required by the end of April for the June / July issue of Rottingdean Village News.	
9.10	Fostering: BHCC have contacted RPC to support their campaign to recruit more in-house foster carers which are need for rising numbers of looked after children in the City and the high cost of using external agencies. Leaflet will be available at the Village meeting on 19 April.	<i>Cllr Fitsall to write RVN article on National Clean Air Day on 21 June</i>
9.11	New Priest at Our Lady of Lourdes Church: It was agreed the Clerk would draft a letter of welcome to Mgr. Benedict O'Shea (Father Benny), the newly appointed Priest at OLOL RC Church.	<i>Clerk to draft letter</i>
10.	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & SEAFRONT	
10.1	Cllr Webzell updated on local initiatives including an Ovingdean Green Festival in June for raising awareness of green issues. See Parish Notes https://secure.toolkitfiles.co.uk/clients/24209/sitedata/2018/2018_other_updates/d.-Parish-Notes-April-2018.pdf . He said these initiatives have the welcome support of the Parish Council.	
10.2	Beacon Hill LNR mini project: following the enlargement of BHLNR by 40% in September 2017, Cllr Webzell had previously provided information on a range of items identified by the Natural Environment Advisory Group including for picnic tables, noticeboards, information laminates, new information flyers and wooden dispensers. Following further discussion, Councillors were in agreement to proceed with <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Repairs to the existing picnic tables (one lacks a side bench at the moment) b. Upgrade the signage to incorporate the extension c. Enhance the Information flyers. 	
10.3	Posts around the Green: Cllr Webzell will also follow up work needed to replace & refurbish the wooden posts on the Village Green.	<i>Chair to write to Rob Walker BHCC</i>
11.	NEXT MEETINGS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Village Meeting 7.30pm Thursday 19 April in Main Hall • Annual RPC meeting is 7.30pm Monday 14 May Youth Hall RWC (7 May is a Bank Holiday) 	
12.	The meeting closed at 9.55pm	