

Randwick and Westrip Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.15 pm on Thursday March 16th at
Randwick Village Hall

Present

Councillors:

Shaun Egan

James Holder

Matt Reed

Chris Smith

Robert Davies

Marina Fontenla

Debbi Smith

Clerk - B Parsons

1/3/17 **Apologies:** Cllr Cheryl Byford.

2/3/17 **Public Forum:** There were five parishioners present and
District Cllr Edmunds.

3/3/17 **Declarations of interest in items on this agenda:** None.

4/3/17 **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on February 16th
were approved and signed.

5/3/17 **Report from the Officer of the Council:** Cllrs noted the
contents of the Clerk's report.

6/3/17 **Correspondence:** Cllrs noted the correspondence listed in the
Clerk's Report.

Action: The Clerk to reply to a parishioner who had requested a grant.

7/3/17 **Questions from Councillors:** Cllr Fontenla spoke about a
'Facebook' page, Randwick Gateway, and suggested that the Council could
consider publishing information on 'Facebook' and also suggested that the
Council could consider a 'Youth Council'. The Council agreed to consider
this.

Action: Cllr Fontenla to create a post on 'Facebook' asking whether there
was enough interest within the Parish to sustain a youth council.

9/3/17 (b) **Effectiveness of the Village Design Statement:** This item
was brought forward to allow members of the public to speak.

Cllrs were disappointed that planning applications did not refer to either the Village Design Statement or use the Pre-application Community Involvement Protocol. The VDS had taken a number of years to produce and had been accepted as Supplementary Planning Guidance and seemed to be ineffective. No developers had used the protocol.

Mr Simon Maher, a parishioner who is the Neighbourhood Planning Officer for Stroud District Council, spoke about Neighbourhood Plans as a tool for shaping development. He suggested that if the Council considered the VDS to be ineffective then a Neighbourhood Plan might be appropriate.

He explained that by referencing the Village Design Statement through a Neighbourhood Development Plan policy, or by incorporating aspects of it into an actual policy, the VDS would become a material planning consideration and applications that didn't adhere to the policy could be refused on those grounds.

Neighbourhood Plans could also do more than just reference sites for development and could protect important views, open spaces, wildlife sites etc which would be relevant to Randwick. A NDP could reinforce and refine SDC's Local Plan policies to safeguard areas and shape future development on a local scale.

Cllrs discussed potential development sites in the Parish, which is described in the Local Plan as having "some limited scope for developmentshould this be required to meet specific needs identifiedin any Neighbourhood Plans".

Mr Maher commented that the future could hold more pressure for development. Future planning applications would have to address any Neighbourhood Plan which would have the same weight as The Local Plan: a Neighbourhood Plan would be statutory, not just supplementary advice like a VDS. Applications for development outside the Plan would be refused, although they could still be appealed against.

District Cllr Edmunds mentioned affordable housing and remarked that young people couldn't afford the large houses that had been built lately in Randwick village.

Cllr Egan commented that producing a Plan required much time and commitment and explained that the Council had sought volunteers to join a Neighbourhood Plan working party without success.

Planning consultants could assist in producing a plan but would have to be

paid before a plan was submitted and approved. Gloucestershire Rural Community Council could support the Parish in creating a plan.

Resolved: To ask an officer from GRCC to speak to at a Council meeting.

Action: The Clerk to ask GRCC if a representative would speak at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Action; The Clerk to write to the Head of Planning at SDC to ask what could be done to get applicants to use the VDS and Protocol.

8/3/17 **District and County Cllrs reports:** Cllr Edmunds was thanked for sending Cllrs his written report in advance of the meeting. There were no questions.

9/3/17 **Planning, Traffic and Transport:**

a) **Planning applications:**

S.17/0427/HHOLD - 2 The Lawns, The Lane - Construction of a new two-storey/side extension and the reconstruction of an existing parking deck - object: the proposed wooden cladding conflicts with the VDS. The Council asked that if permission were to be granted a construction method statement should be made a condition to ensure highway and pedestrian safety during construction.

S.17/0411/AGR - Far Westrip Farm - extension to the dry cow barn to provide cubicle accommodation for heifers prior to calving - no comment.

Noted:

Permission: S.16/2830/HHOLD - Cosmos, Church Road, Randwick - Proposed works and extensions to existing dwelling and outbuilding.

Permission: S.17/0121/TCA - The Old School House - willow - reduce crown and lateral spread - fell holly.

Permission - S.16/2876/HHOLD Blenheim Lodge, Townsend Two storey extension. Replace existing conservatory with an orangery.

Refusal - S.17/0124/FUL - Land at 1 Coxgate - erection of dwelling.

c) **Repairs to the playing field:** Cllr Reed was concerned that if the area used for parking were to be repaired with turf only it would erode

relatively soon after being returned: he had had further discussions with a contractor. He recommended reinforcing the turf with a plastic grid system Bodpave 40. Cllrs agreed that the wear is on the track leading to areas where cars park on the grass and decided that reinforcement was the minimum that could be done to sustain the use the field is being put to.

Resolved: To repair the grass using Bodpave 40, subject to cost.

Action: The Clerk to ask a contractor for a site meeting to determine the area to be reinforced and repaired.

10/3/17 Finance:

a) **Bank reconciliation:** Cllrs considered the bank reconciliation for February.

b) **Quarterly review:** Cllrs considered the review for the fourth quarter.

c) **Handyperson's contract:** Cllrs approved a revised contract for the handyperson.

Resolved: To offer Mr Lammas an extension to his contract.

d) **Internal Auditor:**

Resolved: To reappoint Mr Lavis.

11/3/17 Environment:

a) **Report from RVH&PFC:** Cllr Egan had emailed cllrs a report of the previous RVH&PFC meeting. The Committee was working hard to reduce the numbers of cars parking on the field and had contacted the user groups. Saturday mornings appeared to be the busiest times: cllrs commended the success of the youth football.

RVH&PFC intended to formalise the rules concerning use of marquees on the field, in particular noise levels and finishing times.

Cllrs confirmed that the Council would pay the insurance and maintenance costs for the playing field play area and consider any claims for grants for maintenance and improvements to the VH and field.

The Trustees of the Randwick Village Hall Charity had written to the contractor about the excessive amounts of glass and other materials being found in the soil used in the landscaping work at the Village Hall demanding that the substandard soil is removed and replaced.

b) **Builders' waste:** Rubbish left by the builder of the new house between The Chapel and The Old Dairy had been removed.

c) **Finn's Way:** Cllrs agreed to a parishioner's request to lift the crown of a tree at Finn's Way that was overhanging his garden.

Cllr Fontenla left the meeting.

12/3/17 **Items delegated to the Clerk and items for the next agenda:** Cllrs discussed its responsibility for dealing with damage caused to beech trees on the playing field.

13/3/17 **Orders for payment:**

GAPTC	annual subscription
GAPTC	training
Wheatpieces PC	training
M Lammas	March monthly contract payment and extra time
B Parsons	March salary plus extra hours less PAYE due in 4 th quarter
quarter HMRC	PAYE due in 4 th quarter
B Parsons	Expenses (printer cartridges)
GCC Cashes Green	School meeting room hire
O2	mobile phone tariff 12 Mar - 11 Feb)

14/3/17 **Next meeting:** Thursday April 20th at 7.15 pm at Cashes Green School

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.