

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING of LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **THURSDAY 12 MAY 2016** at the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

The meeting commenced at 8.00 p.m.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Mr. W. Blunden (Chairman)
Mr. M. Allen
Mr. A. Gomme
Mrs. M. Hersey
Mr. S. Hodgson
Mr. R. Pickett
Mr. R. Plass
Mrs. V. Upton

Also present: Councillor Mrs. C. Field (WSCC)
2 members of the public

In attendance: Mrs. C. Irwin (Clerk)

Not present: Parish Councillors Mrs. J. Durrant, Mr. S. Henton, Mr. S. Shortland and Mr. C. Snowling.

139. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

139.1 Councillor Blunden called for nominations for the office of Chairman of Council. Councillor Blunden was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Upton and **SECONDED** by Councillor Plass. There being no further nominations, Councillor William Blunden was duly **ELECTED** as Chairman of Lindfield Parish Council for the Council year 2016/17

140. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN.

140.1 Councillor Blunden read aloud his Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman of Lindfield Parish Council and signed the Declaration in the presence of the Proper Officer who counter-signed the declaration. Councillor Blunden assumed his position as Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

141. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

141.1 The Chairman called for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman of Council. Councillor Upton was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Blunden and **SECONDED** by Councillor Hersey. There being no further nominations, Councillor Valerie Upton was duly **ELECTED** as Vice Chairman of Lindfield Parish Council for the Council year 2016/17.

142. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE.

142.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Durrant, Henton, Shortland and Snowling and the reasons were accepted.

143. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

143.1 There were no declarations of interest from Members in respect of any items on the Agenda.

144. MINUTES AND CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 MARCH 2016.

144.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 March 2016. These were **AGREED** and the Chairman **SIGNED** the Minutes and Confidential Minutes as being a true record of that meeting.

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

145. APPROVAL OF THE DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS.

145.1 It was **NOTED** that the Scheme of Delegation included the terms of reference for the committees, which came under the next item. It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Scheme of Delegation, with no amendments, subject to any changes arising under the next item.

146. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

146.1 **RESOLVED:** that there should be four Committees - Environment and Amenities Committee, Finance and General Purposes Committee, Planning and Traffic Committee and Complaints Committee and that their Terms of Reference should be as stated in the Scheme of Delegation, approved under the previous item.

146.2 It was **NOTED** that the Chairman and Vice Chairman were, ex officio, voting members of all Committees.

RESOLVED: to appoint Members to Committees as follows:

Environment and Amenities Committee

Councillors Allen, Blunden, Durrant, Henton, Hersey, Hodgson, Pickett, Snowling and Upton

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Councillors Allen, Blunden, Henton, Pickett, Plass, Shortland and Upton

Planning and Traffic Committee

Councillors Blunden, Gomme, Hersey, Hodgson, Plass, Shortland, Snowling and Upton

Complaints Committee

Councillors Allen, Blunden, Snowling and Upton

146.3 It was **AGREED** that the Complaints Committee should meet briefly to elect its chairman, at 8pm on 2 June, immediately preceding the next meeting of the Environment and Amenities Committee.

147. STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS.

147.1 **RESOLVED:** to **CONFIRM** Standing Orders and Financial Regulations with no amendments.

148. REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES.

148.1 **RESOLVED:** that the following representatives be appointed to outside bodies:

Two representatives to West Sussex ALC Ltd – **Councillors Blunden and Snowling**

Two representatives to the Mid Sussex Association of Local Councils - **Councillors Blunden and Snowling**

One representative to the Mid-Sussex Older People's Council - **Councillor Upton**

Two representatives to the Lindfield Enterprise Park Shareholders – **the Clerk and RFO**

Gatwick Airport Town and Parish Liaison Group – **Councillor Hersey**

148.2 It was **AGREED** not to re-appoint representatives to the following bodies as it appeared that they were no longer active: the Police Neighbourhood Panel; the Scrase Valley LNR Steering Committee and the River Ouse Stakeholders Group. The Council would consider re-appointing representatives to these bodies if it became appropriate.

It was also **AGREED** not to re-appoint Members to the Lindfield Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group as the Neighbourhood Plan was now “made” and Lindfield Rural Parish Council would be informed accordingly.

148.3 It was **AGREED** that representatives on outside bodies should report back to Council or relevant Committee as and when appropriate.

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

149. REVIEW OF INVENTORY OF LAND AND ASSETS INCLUDING BUILDINGS AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT.

149.1 A summary had been circulated and it was **NOTED** that the full register was available for inspection in the Parish Office.

150. CONFIRMATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR INSURANCE COVER IN RESPECT OF ALL INSURED RISKS.

150.1 The Council was currently in a three year long term agreement with Zurich Municipal, until 28 May 2017. It was **RESOLVED** to **CONFIRM** the arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all the Council's insured risks. It was **NOTED** that the Insurance and Risk Management Working Group would conduct a full review early in 2017 and report to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

151. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S AND/OR STAFF MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER BODIES AND TO CONSIDER THE PAYMENT OF ANY SUBSCRIPTIONS FALLING TO BE PAID ANNUALLY.

151.1 **RESOLVED:** that the annual subscriptions to the following organisations for 2016/17 be **CONFIRMED:**

West Sussex ALC Ltd (formerly SALC) (includes subscription to National Association of Local Councils).
Annual Subscription - £1,710.02 (no VAT) (April 2016).

Local Council Review (quarterly periodical, paid through SSALC at a discounted rate for NALC subscribers)
Annual subscription - £17.00 (April 2016)

Association of Small Historic Towns and Villages. Annual membership - £35.00 (February 2016)

Mid Sussex Association of Local Councils. Voluntary annual contribution - £10.00 (February 2015)

Action in Rural Sussex. Annual membership - £50.00

Society of Local Council Clerks. Annual Clerk's membership - £210.00 (January 2016)

The Open Spaces Society. Annual membership - £45.00 (August 2015)

Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). Annual membership - £36.00 (June 2015).

West Sussex Archives Society. Annual membership - £25.00 (March 2016).

Local Council Advisory Service (LCAS). Annual subscription - £95.00 plus VAT (April 2016)

British Toilets Association. Annual membership - £50 plus VAT (August 2015)

Information Commissioner's Office. (Data Protection Registration) - Annual Registration Fee £35 (Feb 2016)

152. REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE.

152.1 **RESOLVED:** to **CONFIRM** the Council's Code of Practice and Procedure for the Handling of Complaints with no amendments.

153. PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING REQUESTS MADE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 AND DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998.

153.1 It was **AGREED** to refer the review to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

154. POLICY FOR DEALING WITH THE PRESS/MEDIA.

154.1 **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the policy with no amendments.

155. ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING THE DATES, TIMES AND PLACE OF ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR AHEAD.

155.1 It was **AGREED** that there should be no change to the frequency of meetings and that the meeting dates for the 2017 calendar year should be arranged by the Clerk in consultation with the KEH Booking Secretary.

156. ARRANGEMENTS TO REVIEW THE PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF EXISTING MEMBERS OF STAFF.

156.1 **RESOLVED:** that this matter be delegated to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

157. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

157.1 Proposed public toilets on the Common. Mr. A. Mackenzie stated that he had been pleased to have been given the opportunity to speak on behalf of residents of Backwoods Lane, Backwoods Close and Linden Grove at the Annual Parish Meeting on the subject of the public toilets. He hoped that Councillors had felt the strength of feeling and recognised that speakers had addressed them in a respectful and meaningful way. He had subsequently presented to the Clerk a copy of the petition signed by approximately 100 people. Having seen the summary of the site assessment carried out by the Working Group, Mr. Mackenzie accepted that the Council had considered 17 sites but felt that 4 – 6 of the other sites were more suitable than the chosen site on the land between Edge Lea and the Bowls Club car park. Having taken the opportunity to participate in the democratic process, Mr. Mackenzie hoped the Council would accept what had been said.

Mr. N. Kerslake drew attention to the comments made by one resident at the Parish Meeting, who was understood to be a specialist in facilities on playing fields. This resident had expressed the view that the current proposed building was too big and a much smaller building with one or two cubicles would be enough. Mr. Kerslake suggested that this resident's expertise could be of use to the Council. Mothers present at the Parish Meeting had said that the obvious location would be near the playground or cricket pavilion, on the main part of the Common.

Mr. Kerslake had subsequently discussed the matter with David Harper at MSDC who could not envisage that usage would justify the size of building being proposed. There had been strong feelings against the proposed site and as activities took place on the main part of the Common, other sites on the Common would be more accessible.

157.2 Extra Bollards for High Street/Lewes Road corner. Mr. Kerslake hoped that the extra posts to stop parking on the re-laid paving would go ahead quickly.

157.3 Weeds. Mr. Kerslake suggested that the edge of the Pond under the netting needed weeding manually at least twice a year and that Haywards Heath Town Council should be asked to spray the weeds against properties in the High Street.

158. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

158.1 News item - Mid Sussex Times 12.05.16. The Chairman read out an extract from an article in the Mid Sussex Times about the mass resignation of Danehill Parish Council due to disagreement in the community regarding Parish Council projects. He stated that people who put themselves forward as Parish Councillors deserved praise because they put their heads above the parapet to serve the best interests of the whole of their communities but could be worn down by constant bickering and criticism. One of the biggest issues at Danehill had been the proposal to employ a Community Warden. Parishes were being encouraged to cluster to employ Community Wardens to fill the gap left by Police Community Support Officers who were taking on more front line roles, but it was difficult to see how a Community Warden employed by a cluster of four or five Councils could cover all their villages on Friday nights, when most of the problems occurred.

159. POLICE / NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE PANEL REPORT.

159.1 Councillors Allen and Hodgson confirmed that the Panel had not met since the reorganisation of the Police Community Support Officers.

160. REPORTS BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR / DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

160.1 Councillor Field (WSCC). Councillor Field congratulated the Chairman and Vice Chairman on being re-elected and reported as follows:

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

- Academies The Government's rethink on its academy policy was welcome and Cllr Field looked forward to learning the outcome.
- Health. Cllr Field was working with colleagues to encourage people to use other gateways into the health service.
- County Local Committee meeting. The next meeting of the Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee was scheduled for Tuesday 7 June at the Victory Hall, Balcombe, at 7pm. Councillor Field would confirm whether there would be an update on Community Policing on the agenda for that meeting following her meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner in the next week.
- Land East of Gravelye Lane. Councillor Field had received a copy of the Highways Officer's response on the application for development. This had included the opinion that there was a need to remodel the High Street/Lewes Road junction. On making enquiries she had been informed that there were no actual proposals associated with this particular development and there was no suggestion that it would increase the use of the junction such that would justify refusal. However it was accepted that there was already considerable pressure on the junction and that Section 106 moneys should be sought if planning consent was approved. Councillor Field would be interested to know if the Parish Council's Traffic Study featured anything about the junction. She had been pleased to note that the Highways Officer had asked for a condition to be applied, if permission was granted, requiring construction traffic not to use Lindfield High Street: a sign that pleas were beginning to be heard.

160.2 Councillor Hersey (MSDC) reported as follows:

- MSDC Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting had taken place the previous evening and Councillor Hersey was on the District Planning Committee and Planning Committee A.
- Planning. Everyone was waiting anxiously for the District Plan and Neighbourhood Plans to be in place.
- Retirement of Sally Blades. Sally Blades was retiring after 43 years of service with MSDC and would be sorely missed. Friday 20 May was to be her last day.
- Claire Tester. Claire Tester was leaving MSDC for a post elsewhere, but would be staying on for two days a week to assist with remaining work on Neighbourhood Plans. It was understood that her replacement was well thought of.

161. **ACTION LIST.**

161.1 Website. Members were reminded to check and update their details on the Council's website as necessary.

162. **CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS.**

162.1 Review of WSCC Household Waste Recycling Sites (deadline 12 June). Members **NOTED** the proposals and **AGREED** that a response from the Council would not be appropriate, although comments could be submitted by individuals.

162.2 Sussex Learning Trust – Post-16 Education. Members **NOTED** the letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Sussex Learning Trust, requesting views about the future of post- 16 education in Mid Sussex following the announcement from Central Sussex College that it would be closing the Haywards Heath campus in summer 2017 and withdraw from all A-Level provision across its sites. Councillor Field reported that WSCC was shortly to have a meeting with the Schools Minister. The main issue was the debt and every effort was being made to secure a good outcome. It was **AGREED** that a response should be sent expressing concern and supporting moves to retain 16 academic provision for over 16s locally.

163. **ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

163.1 The Wilderness Field: Recommendation to Council. Councillor Blunden reported that the Committee had noted that the Wilderness Field had now been transferred to MSDC and it had been agreed to recommend to the Council that an approach should be made to MSDC regarding the Parish Council's long standing interest in negotiating the transfer of the Wilderness Field to Lindfield Parish Council. Advice would be sought on the management of the land and the transfer of the commuted sum for future maintenance.

It was **AGREED** to proceed as recommended.

- 163.2 Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Amenities Committee held on 7 April 2016. **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Amenities Committee held on 7 April 2016 be received and their recommendations confirmed.

164. PLANNING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

- 164.1 Councillor Gomme reported on planning matters considered by the Planning and Traffic Committee, at the meetings held on 8 March, 29 March and 19 April 2016, as follows:

DM/16/0119 - Chimney Corner, High Street. There was an ongoing situation in respect of the proposals for an extension about which the neighbours had concerns regarding the proximity to the boundary. The problems had not been overcome in the latest amended plans considered at the meeting on 19.04.16 and the Committee had continued to object.

DM/16/0541 – 3 Francis Road Councillor Gomme had been dismayed that the Planning Officer had found this proposal for UPVC sash windows to be acceptable and had asked for guidance as to why this had been approved in the Conservation Area.

DM/16/0857 – The Old Forge, Denmans Lane. The property was a Listed Building and in the Conservation Area. The Committee had objected to this application for a first floor extension and change of use of the ground floor from B1 to C3.

DM/16/1012 – Land to the East of Gravelye Lane (up to 130 dwellings). The Committee had delegated the authority for a suitable response setting out the Committee's objections to be composed and submitted by the Deputy Clerk in consultation with Councillors Gomme and Hodgson.

DM/16/1263 – Allens Wall, Black Hill. The Committee had objected to this application for a new detached dwelling and garage with subsequent demolition of the existing buildings.

DM/16/1310 - Fullingmill Farm, Spring Lane (LF Rural application). The Committee had agreed to make representations about the lorry movements associated with this application.

- 164.2 Minutes of the meetings of the Planning and Traffic committee held on 8 March, 29 March and 19 April 2016. **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning and Traffic Committee held on 8 March, 29 March and 19 April 2016 be received and their recommendations confirmed.

- 164.3 Neighbourhood Plan update. Councillor Gomme stated that very regrettably, the made Lindfield and Lindfield Rural Neighbourhood Plan was the subject of a very recent legal challenge for judicial review, which aimed to quash the decision of Mid Sussex District Council to formally make the Plan on 23 March 2016. MSDC was in the process of robustly defending the claim and further updates were awaited. The two Parish Councils, as interested parties had been advised by MSDC to send back the Acknowledgement of Service forms stating that the Parish Councils intended to contest the proceedings. It was suggested that the entry in the "grounds" box should be a simple statement: "we intend to rely of the submissions and defence lodged by MSDC as the Defendant". This was **AGREED**.

- 164.4 Traffic Study update. Councillor Gomme reported on a recent informal meeting with the Traffic Consultant who had collected a considerable amount of data from his own counts and the data held by other bodies. A report was anticipated shortly.

165. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

- 165.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 3 March 2016. **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 3 March 2016 be received and their recommendations confirmed.

165.2 Statements of Account/Budget Progress and Bank Reconciliation for the periods 01.02.16 to 29.02.16 and 01.03.16 to 31.03.16. It was **NOTED** that the reports for April 2016 were not yet available. The reports to 31.03.16 were considered and **NOTED**:

- The total expenditure in the year was £216,172 from the grand total of £456,840.
- From the in-year budget of £203,620, the sum of £165,972 had been spent (£37,647 underspent)
- From the F&GP budget of £128,020, the sum of £110,639 had been spent (£17,381 underspent)
- The Administration Budget breakdown showed that from a total of £112,520, the sum of £99,801 had been spent, leaving a balance of £12,719.
- From the E&A budget of £75,400, the sum of £55,333 had been spent (underspent by £20,067).
- Nothing had been spent from the P&T miscellaneous budget of £200
- From the reserves and outstanding projects total of £253,220, the sum of £50,199 had been spent.

165.3 List of cheques for approval. The list of cheques drawn since the Council meeting held on 10 March 2016 had been tabled. **NOTED**: that the expenditure during this period under the powers granted by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 was nil, that the Petty Cash balance at 12.05.16 was £172.82 and that cheque number 105778 had been cancelled.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the list of cheques, numbers 105762 – 105785 inclusive, totalling £20,373.77.

166. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL RETURN AND THE YEAR END ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016.

166.1 A short paper from the Clerk and the External Auditors' letter had been circulated. It was **NOTED** that it had been necessary to postpone the Internal Auditor's visit and to hold an additional meeting of the Council to approve the Annual Return and Accounts because the accounts had not been completed in time for the Internal Auditor's scheduled visit on 6 May. The Accounts had now been completed and balanced and an appointment with the Internal Auditor had been arranged for Saturday 21 May.

It was **AGREED** that an additional meeting of the Council to approve the Annual Return and Accounts, should be arranged to take place at 8 pm on Thursday 26 May, immediately prior to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

167. PARISH MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL 2016.

167.1 Parish Meeting. The Chairman reported that the Parish Meeting was probably the best attended in living memory, with 28 people present, including members of the Council. A group of residents had attended to express their views about the proposal to build public toilets on the Common. County Councillor Christine Field had given a comprehensive report and a Lindfield resident, Peter Desmond, had given a short presentation to promote the possibility of Lindfield becoming a Fairtrade Village.

168. PROPOSED PUBLIC TOILETS ON THE COMMON: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY ELECTORS AT THE PARISH MEETING ON 28.04.16.

168.1 At the Parish Meeting on 28 April 2016, several residents had spoken against the proposal to build public toilets on the strip of land between Edge Lea and the Bowls Club car park. Two resolutions had then been proposed which had both been carried by 14 votes in favour with no votes against and the remainder of electors present had abstained. Whilst resolutions of Parish Meetings were not in themselves binding on the Parish Council, except in certain cases, these had been put on the Agenda for this meeting for the Council to consider.

The Working Group had met on Tuesday 10 May to consider a way forward for recommendation to the Council and the notes had been forwarded to all Members of the Council.

The Working Group had felt that the project should not be completely abandoned on the strength of a vote of 14, but that the points that were made, particularly concerning road safety and the size of the proposed building, needed to be taken into consideration. A number of actions were being proposed for the Council to discuss after consideration of the resolutions.

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

168.2 First resolution put forward by the Parish Meeting. The Chairman called for a proposer and seconder for the first resolution. Councillor Gomme **PROPOSED** and Councillor Hersey **SECONDED** the motion:

“that Lindfield Parish Council should resolve to drop the current plan [for building public toilet facilities on Lindfield Common adjacent to Edge Lea, Backwoods Lane] now to avoid further waste of funds and continued anxiety for a number of residents”.

As proposer of the motion, Councillor Gomme started the discussion by stating that he had been very taken with the debate at the Parish Meeting and the points made were solid: that the proposed location for the toilet building was in the wrong place and should be on the other side of the road [on the main part of the Common]. He felt that toilets were needed but in the right place. The points made during the discussion included:

- It was understood that other sites the Council had considered were not acceptable to MSDC and there seemed to be no other option
- The Council should go back to MSDC to give thorough consideration to all other possible options
- The Council should leave the door open on the site adjacent to Edge Lea at this stage: if no other sites proved suitable, making the building smaller and doing the utmost to make it secure could then be considered
- Closing the door on the site next to Edge Lea at this stage would probably put an end to the whole project
- The size of the building needed to be reconsidered for any possible site
- If further consideration were to be given to the site, the utmost should be done to make it secure
- The Council should be more assertive in discussion with MSDC: there was evidence of strong feeling against the proposed site and MSDC should be more flexible in finding a site that would be acceptable to all.
- The Working Group must look at all other possible options, take on board the points made and work very hard to address them

Members **VOTED** on the motion as follows: **3 in support, 4 against, 1 abstention**. The motion was therefore **DEFEATED**.

The Chairman stated that the Council would do everything possible in negotiating with MSDC and the Cricket Club about other sites mentioned at the Parish Meeting to achieve agreement on a site that would be acceptable.

168.3 Second resolution put forward by the Parish Meeting

“That Lindfield Parish Council should arrange for an independent options appraisal to be carried out which takes full account of a health and safety appraisal and full risk assessment in relation to the proposed location to protect the reputation of the Council”

There was no proposer to move this second resolution at this time because the Council was going back to the drawing board. Without a proposer and seconder, the resolution could not therefore be debated. However the point of this resolution had been taken on board.

168.4 Next steps. The following actions proposed by the Working Group were **AGREED**:

- Councillor Plass to have an informal conversation with representatives of the Cricket Club to find out what, if any options may be possible with the co-operation of the Club - to include: -
 - discussion about the concrete hardstanding and the possibility of a sub-lease
 - an toilet block extension on the side of the pavilion
 - public use of existing facilities under Community Toilets Scheme

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

- The Clerk to write to MSDC:
 - to seek a clear written statement about the acceptability of all possible sites on the Common including the status of the concrete hardstanding next to the Cricket Pavilion and the site between the horse trough and the logs car park.
 - to find out whether MSDC would be likely to have objections if discussions with the Cricket Club were encouraging.
 - to find out where the boundary of the area licensed to the Cricket Club lay.

It was **AGREED** not to proceed with the stall on Village Day to publicise the plans because there was little to be achieved at this stage: a yes/no vote would be meaningless without a clear proposal.

If professional advice on sites was to be sought at the appropriate time this should be from an independent consultant with no personal interest in sites under consideration.

169. COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS (MSDC)

- 169.1 A request had been received from the Personal Assistant to the Chairman of Mid Sussex District Council, for nominations for the Community Service Awards.

It was suggested and **AGREED** to nominate Betty Billins who was Lindfield Born and Bred and had been Standard Bearer for the Women's Section of the Lindfield Royal British Legion for many years. Unfortunately the Lindfield Women's Section had ceased and it was understood that nationally, there was a move to merge the Women's Sections with the Men's Sections. Councillor Hersey invited Members to forward other suggestions to her because as Ward District Councillor she was able to put forward a nomination.

170. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- 170.1 No other items of business were raised.

The meeting concluded at 9.15 p.m.