

## LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of **LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2013** at the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

### Present:

Lindfield Parish Councillors: Mr W. Blunden (Chairman)  
Mr A Gomme  
Mr M. Allen  
Mr M. Amor  
Mrs J. Chatfield  
Mrs M. Hersey  
Mr S. Hodgson  
Mr R. Pickett  
Mr R Plass

**Not present:** Mr C. Snowling  
Mr S. Henton  
Mrs V Upton

**Also present:** Councillor Chris Hersey (MSDC), Mr John Jesson (Lindfield Preservation Society)

**In attendance:** Mr I. McLean (Deputy Clerk)

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

### 323. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

323.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Snowling, Henton, and Upton and the reasons were accepted.

### 324. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

324.1 There were no declarations of interest from Members in respect of the item on the Agenda.

### 325. THE LINDFIELD AND LINDFIELD RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

325.1 The Chairman of the Council invited the Chairman of the joint Parishes Steering Group for the Neighbourhood Plan, Councillor Alan Gomme, to present the item.

325.2 Councillor Gomme outlined the Plan for the benefit of members. He said that the Plan itself consists of five sections. Section 1 explains the legislative background and procedures for the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan. Section 2 provides information and statistics about the parishes and their geographical relationship with the rest of Mid Sussex. The statistics quoted within the Plan are those already published in May, and are mainly obtained from the 2011 Census. Section 3 outlines the Vision & Objectives of the Plan in four short paragraphs: (i) *In 2031, the parishes of Lindfield and Lindfield Rural will have remained distinct communities from the larger adjoining town of Haywards Heath, having seen no significant expansion of their settlements into the surrounding countryside.* (ii) *The settlements of Lindfield and Scaynes Hill have continued to accommodate new housing to help meet the demand and need for new, and especially affordable, homes by using previously-developed land within their established boundaries. They have also encouraged new small businesses to set up. In doing so, they have succeeded in protecting their many heritage assets and important open spaces.* (iii) *Lindfield Village Centre has survived and thrived as a viable and vital centre serving the local community and shoppers and visitors from further afield with the right mix of convenience and retail shops, a post office and a range of cafés, restaurants and inns. Both Lindfield and Scaynes Hill have retained and bolstered their community facilities.* (iv) *Both settlements are better connected to each other and to the wider area by dedicated cycle routes and improved local bus services.* Section 4 of the Plan contains the policies that are designed to achieve these objectives and these relate to:

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- 1: Sustainable Development as required by the National Planning policy.
- 2: A Spatial Plan for the Parishes that directs development proposals to Lindfield & Scaynes Hill and encourages the re-use of previously- developed sites.
- 3: Support for small scale developments of up to 6 homes on either previously-developed land within, or on land adjoining, the built up area boundaries of Lindfield and Scaynes Hill.
- 4: Support for proposals for B1 business use on land within the built up area boundaries of Lindfield and Scaynes Hill subject to road access and neighbourly considerations.
- 5: Support for the retention of A1 shop units within the Lindfield Village Centre.
- 6: Support for the provision of access to super-fast broadband in Scaynes Hill and other parts of our parishes that are not already receiving this service.
- 7: Support for the retention of Local Green Spaces for public recreational purposes. In our parish these include; Finches Gardens, Fieldway, The Welkin, Wilderness Field, Chaloner Road & Newton Road and Limes Estate.
- 8: Designation of our two existing Areas of Townscape Character as these have not been included by MSDC as saved policies and the recommendation that two new ones should be created The Welkin and The Wilderness.
- 9: Support for the purchase of land for new allotments.
- 10: Support for a dedicated cycle route from Scaynes Hill to the Lewes road in Lindfield.
- 11: Support for the future extension of the King Edward Hall in Lindfield and the Millennium Centre in Scaynes Hill.
- 12: Proposal for the designation as Assets of Community Value by MSDC due to their acknowledged importance to the life and enjoyment of our communities. In Lindfield these include: Lindfield Evangelical Free Church, Lindfield Post Office, The White Horse PH and the King Edward Hall.

Section 5 describes how the Plan will be delivered and the Infrastructure Investment policy relating to S106 and CIL payments the Parishes may receive in future. Lindfield's projects being: New Public Toilets on Lindfield Common, new land for Allotments, funds for the future management of Wilderness Field and Traffic calming works (the details of which will need to be agreed with the local highway authority).

Councillor Gomme called upon members to receive and accept the Lindfield and Lindfield Rural Neighbourhood Development Plan and associated documents, and to approve the Plan for publication and pre-submission consultation during a period of six weeks to be agreed with Mid Sussex District Council, and to note the Plan will be formally published once the document has been approved by Lindfield Rural Parish Council at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013.

- 325.3 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the Lindfield and Rural Development Plan, and the associated documents (being the Local Green Spaces in Lindfield Parish, and the Lindfield Buildings Overview), and to approve the Plan for publication and pre-submission public consultation during times to be agreed with Mid Sussex District Council. It was duly noted that the Plan will be formally published in full, once the document had been approved by Lindfield Rural Parish Council at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013.
- 325.4 Councillor Blunden expressed his thanks to Councillor Gomme for all his hard work on the project so far, and this was whole heartedly endorsed by the Council. In turn, Councillor Gomme expressed his gratitude to the consultants, Action in Rural Sussex, and all the volunteers who had worked on the Plan to date.

The meeting concluded at 7.37 p.m.