

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of **LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **THURSDAY, 13 MAY 2010** at the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

Present: Mr. W. Blunden
Mr. M. Allen
Rev. M. Davies
Mr. S. Henton
Mrs. M. Hersey
Mr. M. Leach
Mrs. M. Nicolle
Mr. R. Pickett
Mr. C. Snowling
Mr. S. Willcox

Also present: Councillor Mrs. C. Field (WSSC)
Mr. P. Hemsley (Deputy Parish Clerk)
4 members of the public

In attendance: Mrs. C. Irwin

Councillor Blunden, opened the meeting at 7.30 p.m. and welcomed those present.

392. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL.

392.1 Councillor Blunden called for nominations for the office of Chairman of Council. Councillor Blunden was **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED**, and, there being no further nominations, Councillor William Blunden was duly **ELECTED** as Chairman of Lindfield Parish Council for the Council year 2010/11. Members expressed sympathy with Councillor Blunden and his family for their recent bereavements.

393. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN

393.1 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 rest of the meeting.

394. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL.

394.1 The Chairman called for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman of Council. Councillor Nicolle was **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED**, and, there being no further nominations, Councillor Margaret Nicolle was duly **ELECTED** as Vice Chairman of Lindfield Parish Council for the Council year 2010/11

395. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF VICE CHAIRMAN

395.1 Councillor Nicolle read aloud her declaration of acceptance of office as Vice Chairman of Lindfield Parish Council and signed the declaration in the presence of the Proper Officer who counter-signed the declaration.

396. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING AND STATUTORY COMMITTEES:

396.1 **RESOLVED** that there should be four standing and statutory committees: Environment and Amenities Committee, Finance and General Purposes Committee, Planning and Traffic Committee, and Complaints Committee.

396.2 **NOTED** that the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council were, ex officio, members of all Committees. **RESOLVED** that the membership of the Committees should be as follows:

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Environment and Amenities Committee

Cllrs. Blunden, Nicolle, Allen, Gomme, Henton, Hersey, Pickett and Upton

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllrs. Blunden, Nicolle, Allen, Davies, Gomme, Henton, Upton and Willcox

Planning and Traffic Committee

Cllrs. Blunden, Nicolle, Gomme, Hersey, Leach, Snowling, Upton and Willcox

Complaints Committee

Cllrs. Blunden, Nicolle, Allen, Davies, and Snowling

396.3 **RESOLVED** that Cllrs. Blunden and Nicolle should continue to have specific responsibility for the Archive collection.

397. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES:

397.1 **RESOLVED** that the following representatives be appointed to outside bodies, subject to confirmation by Councillors Upton and Gomme who were absent from the meeting.

- Two representatives to the Mid Sussex Association of Local Councils: Cllrs. Nicolle and Davies
- One representative to liaise with the Police [Police Neighbourhood Panel]: Councillor Allen
- One representative to the Scrase Valley LNR Steering Committee: Councillor Gomme
- One representative to the Mid-Sussex Older People's Council: Councillor Upton
- Two representatives to the Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee: Cllrs. Allen and Willcox. It was noted that Cllrs. Davies and Blunden were also regular attendees at CLC meetings.
- Two representatives to the Lindfield and Scaynes Hill Action Plan Advisory Group: Councillors Gomme and Snowling. (It was noted that the Agenda had incorrectly stated one representative and referred to the group under the previous name of Lindfield Village Plan Joint Advisory Committee)
- One representative to the River Ouse Stakeholders Group: Councillor Gomme

398. PAYMENT OF ANY SUBSCRIPTIONS FALLING TO BE PAID ANNUALLY.

398.1 **RESOLVED** that the annual subscriptions to the following organisations should be continued:

- Sussex Associations of Local Councils and National Association of Local Councils: Annual Subscription - £1,410.75 incl VAT (April 2010)
- Association of Small Historic Towns and Villages: Annual membership - £35.00 (April 2009)
- Mid Sussex Association of Local Councils: Voluntary annual contribution - £10.00 (February 2010)
Action in Rural Sussex (formerly Sussex Rural Community Council): Annual Membership - £40.00 (August 2009)
- Society of Local Council Clerks: Annual membership (for both Clerks) - £286.00 (January 2010)

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Open Spaces Society: Annual subscription for the current year- £40.00 (December 2009)

- Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). Annual membership - £29.00 (May 2009)
- West Sussex Archives Society: Annual membership - £13.00 (November 2009)
- Local Council Advisory Service (LCAS): Annual subscription - £111.63 including VAT (April 2010)
- British Toilets Association: £59 including VAT (August 2009)
- Ramblers' Association: Annual membership - £36 (August 2009)

399. TO CONSIDER ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY TO REVIEW THE PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF THE PARISH CLERK, THE DEPUTY PARISH CLERK AND THE RFO.

399.1 **RESOLVED** that this issue be delegated to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

400. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

400.1 Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Upton and Gomme and the reasons were accepted

401. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

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

402. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

402.1 Mini roundabout - Lewes Road / High Street Junction. Mr. J. Jesson read out a statement summarising the reasons why the Lindfield Preservation Society opposed the mini roundabout: because it would harm the appearance of the Conservation Area and, more importantly, because independent highways consultants had pointed out that national standards predicted that it would cause more personal injury accidents. The Society had seen no proper or detailed justification of the installation dealing with safety issues. The safety assessments that had been seen had not dealt with accident rates and did not recognise that the accident record to date at the junction was significantly less than expected for a fully compliant mini roundabout, let alone for one with compromised inter-visibility due to Pear Tree House. WSCC's latest justification had not mentioned safety issues. The Society asked that the Council should agree a course of action in the interests of the safety of Lindfield pedestrians and road users by helping persuade the developers of the Newton Road site to apply for removal of the planning condition which obliged them to install the mini roundabout and was the only reason WSCC had to continue with it. The money saved would be better spent on a 20 mph speed limit to reduce accidents and noise and to put a STOP sign in Lewes Road. Regarding design detail, the Society considered that the large patches of white thermoplastic should be replaced by granite setts which were more in keeping and resisted skidding.

Mr. N. Kerslake added his support for the Preservation Society's views and he had corresponded with Mr. Ashdown and Mr. Rogers of MSDC and Mr. Harper of WSCC on this matter. However he felt that it was more difficult for authorities to brush aside relevant local councils and representative bodies than individuals and it was for the Parish Council and the Preservation Society to make representations.

Mr. C. Hersey stated that he could not support the mini roundabout as it would urbanise the High Street and the Conservation Area.

402.2 Village Design Statement. Mr. J. Jesson drew attention to the current consultation by MSDC on the draft Village Design Statement and he invited constructive comments from the Parish Council.

402.3 Mobile Library Service Consultation. Mr. Jesson stated that he hoped that the Parish Council would respond to this consultation.

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

403. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH 2010.

- 403.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 25 March 2010. With reference to Minute 385.3, Councillor Snowling stated that he had only spoken to give background on the Cricket Club item and, speaking also on behalf of Councillor Hersey, he requested an amendment to clarify that both he and Councillor Hersey had indicated that they would not take part in the discussion of the matter or vote on the item. It was proposed and **AGREED** that Minute 385.3 should be amended to read: "...as if the issue was still open. Councillors Snowling and Hersey then indicated that they would not take part in any discussion of the matter or vote on the item". The Minutes as amended were **AGREED** and the Chairman **SIGNED** the Minutes and Confidential Minutes as being a true record of that meeting.

404. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- 404.1 Arts Festival. The Chairman proposed that it should be recorded that the Parish Council wished the organisers of the Lindfield Arts Festival every success for this event which was due to take place the following weekend.
- 404.2 Risk Assessment. A recent tragedy in the Chairman's family had highlighted the importance of paying due regard to risk assessment and health and safety precautions and he asked Members to give the Parish Council's risk assessment process the attention it deserved.

405. ACTION LIST

- 405.1 There was nothing to report under this item as most actions were allocated to the Committees.

406. TO NOTE ANY CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

- 406.1 Draft Mid Sussex Economic Development Action Plan 2010/1116 (MSDC) It was noted that the reply date for this was 21 May. Councillor Davies agreed to assist Councillors Blunden and Nicolle with a response if he was able to.

407. REPORTS BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

Councillor Mrs. C. Field (WSCC) reported as follows:

- 407.1 Oathall Community College All Weather Pitch with floodlighting. Councillor Field had recently attended a meeting of Oathall residents and was seeking to secure assurances that there would be a reasonable balance between the benefits of the new provision to the School and the amenity of local residents. She understood that the contract had been let and that the project was anticipated to be completed and ready for use some time during the Autumn term. A Community Use Agreement must be in place by that time. Cllr. Field would be seeking to ensure that the situation was reviewed after an appropriate time, so that should the concerns of the residents be realised and the noise disturbance and light pollution were severe, then the Committee could be asked for a review of the conditions which currently allowed, potentially, for 365 day use, although there were to be no competitive events on Sundays or Public Holidays.
- 407.2 Newton Road Development – WSCC issues. Cllr. Field stated that she would value an update and further discussion with the Parish Council on specific issues.
- 407.3 Mini Roundabout. Cllr. Field stated that this matter put her in a difficult position as the history predated her role as County Councillor for Lindfield. She had been surprised that there had initially been support and she could not see the benefit but could see that it would have an effect on the Conservation Area. She had asked Roger Harper for an up to date statement of the County Council's and his personal position on this, as she believed it to be essential that this was clear for the public to see and not subject to 'secondhand' interpretation. Only then could the likelihood of any change in positions be accurately assessed and Cllr Field would do all she could to assist.

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

- 407.4 Lindfield Primary School. Cllr. field had visited the School that afternoon and had given an undertaking to the Headteacher and Chairman of Governors, to instigate discussion with WSCC on the future class arrangements at the school. She could not sensibly do this until the new Leader at WSCC had confirmed the name of the Cabinet Member for Education. To date she agreed with the Head's view that the best interests of the children and community of Lindfield would be served by the avoidance of a mixed stage class and she would do all in her power to see that those best interests were protected.

Cllr Field was aware that there had been some local concern about the removal of trees from the site where it was most likely that the temporary classroom would be sited. This was a District Council matter and application was properly made to them for the work. Cllr Field had received no news of the planning application which would need to go before WSCC for the siting of the unit itself.

- 407.5 Winter Road Damage. Significant repairs had been made in the area, especially at the boundaries with the Rural Parish, at Buxshalls Hill. Cllr. Field asked the Council to continue reporting any untreated potholes and to refer maintenance issues to the Highway Rangers.
- 407.6 Car Parking Review. Details of further amendments to the parking proposals for the village had been made available to the Parish Council and Cllr Field heartily hoped that they now concurred with what the village wanted and felt would add to, rather than detract from, road safety. She would welcome support in getting this through the Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee.

Councillor Snowling (MSDC) reported as follows:

- 407.7 Mid Sussex District Council Annual Meeting (12 May 2010). Cllr. Snowling announced that Councillor Jane Keel had been re-elected as Chairman of MSDC, Councillor Mandy Thomas-Atkin had been elected as Vice Chairman and Councillor Gary Wall had been re-elected as Leader.
- 407.8 Chief Executive. Mr. John Jory had sought appointment at Reigate and Banstead District Council and subject to the formalities of endorsement by the Full Council, he would be leaving MSDC in due course. Councillor Snowling would report any future developments. This was unlikely to affect the relationships between the Parish and District Councils.

Councillor Hersey (MSDC) reported as follows:

- 407.9 Mid Sussex District Council Annual Meeting. Cllr. Hersey added to Councillor Snowling's report that the Deputy Leader was now Councillor Gary Marsh, Councillor Snowling was still Cabinet Member for Health and Community. The remainder of the Cabinet had been re-elected to their posts.

408. POLICE PRIORITIES: REPORT BY COUNCILLOR ALLEN.

- 408.1 As Police representatives were not present, Councillor Allen gave a brief report as the Parish Council's representative on the Police Neighbourhood Panel. He had attended a recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Panel which took place every two months and which included representatives of parishes. The Panel meetings worked well in terms of consultation and information sharing. The only change to the Police priorities was to put disturbance higher on the priority list to reflect the increase in anti-social behaviour which occurred during the summer months. The Chairman added that there had been a good representation from the Police at a recent meeting of the Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee when it had been apparent that villages were trying to get speed limits reduced but that the Police were not in favour because of the enforcement issues.

409. ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE.

- 409.1 Minutes of the Environment and Amenities Committee meeting of 8 April 2010. Councillor Blunden reported as follows:
- 409.2 Grass mowing – High Street. It was noted that West Sussex County Council would be doing the first cut in the week beginning 24 May as the Parish Council had not yet got a contract in place. The County Council's

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

contractor, Grasstex, considered that 11 cuts with a box mower would not be enough as it was more difficult to cut long grass with this type of machine. They had therefore recommended weekly cutting during the growing season but, at the estimated £87.63 a time, that would considerably exceed the budget of £970 even with a contribution from WSCC. The first week in May to the last week in October would be 26 weeks however mowing could be less frequent during dry spells. It was agreed that fortnightly cutting should be enough. A specification would have to be drawn up before approaching other contractors for quotations.

The Clerk would write to contractors, setting out the basic requirements and standard expected but invite them to state how they would go about it and quote on that basis. The quotations would be considered at the next meeting of the Environment and Amenities Committee.

- 409.3 Epicormic Growth on the lime trees. The E and A Committee had been agreed to ask KPS to remove the epicormic growth once this year and an order would be placed at the appropriate time according to the growth rate.
- 409.4 Traffic Signage and Street lights survey. The E and A Committee had discussed the traffic sign poles following Councillor Gomme's inspection and report. Most poles were not in fact black and many of them were of plastic construction. If the plastic ones were to be painted they would need special primer and it would be an ongoing maintenance issue. On balance it had been agreed that, for the existing poles, clean bare metal looked better than peeling paint and in the current economic climate it would not be reasonable to insist on them being painted. However any new signage should have black poles powder coated before installation which would be more durable and street light columns in the Conservation Area should be dark green.
- 409.5 Liasion meetings with WSCC and MSDC. Meetings had now been held with officers of both authorities and would be reported to the next E&A meeting.
- 409.6 To receive the Minutes of the Environment and Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 April 2010. **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the Environment and Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 April 2010 be received and their recommendations confirmed.

410. PLANNING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE.

- 410.1 To receive and to confirm the recommendations of the Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meetings of 23 March and 13 April 2010. Councillor Snowling had nothing to report further to the Minutes of these two meetings. **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meetings held on 23 March and 13 April 2010 be received and their recommendations confirmed.
- 410.2 Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meeting held on 4 May 2010. Councillor Snowling reported as follows:
- 410.3 Planning application: 10/00981/FUL – 9 Finches Park Road. The Committee had objected to this application to replace one detached house with three, but anticipated that further applications may be submitted. It had been considered that for MSDC to approve this application would set an awful precedent
- 410.4 Planning application: 10/00823/TCA: proposal to fell 4 trees at Lindfield Primary School. Members had been dismayed when informed that these trees had now been felled as no proposal for a new classroom (which was the reason for the application to fell the trees) had yet been seen. The decision to fell the trees at this stage was considered to be precipitative and regrettable.
- 410.5 Planning appeal reference: APP/D3830/C/09/2117467 & 2117468 relating to a car port at 5 Pickers Green that had been erected without planning permission. It was noted that a further application would be considered by the Planning and Traffic Committee at the next meeting.
- 410.6 To receive and confirm the recommendations of the Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meeting of 4 May 2010. **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meeting held on 4 May 2010 be received and their recommendations confirmed.

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

411. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

411.1 **NOTED** that there were no Minutes to receive as the Committee had not met since the last Full Council meeting.

411.2 Statements of Account/Budget Progress and Bank Reconciliation for the periods 01.03.10 to 31.03.10 and 01.04.10 to 30.04.10 and quarterly Receipts and Payments Summary. **NOTED:** the figures for April were not yet available. **RESOLVED:** to approve the statements of account / budget progress and bank reconciliation for the period 01.03.10 to 31.03.10.

411.3 List of cheques for approval. The list of cheques for approval was tabled. It was **NOTED** that cheque number 104478 had been cancelled as the account had already been paid and this cheque had been written out in error. There had been no expenditure during this period under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

RESOLVED: to approve the list of cheques (numbered 104468 to 104478 * inclusive) for the period 26 March to 13 May 2010, totalling £6,229.14. **NOTED** that the Petty Cash as at 13 May 2010 had a balance of £151.85. The Chairman **SIGNED** the list of cheques which is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes as Appendix A.

** amendment agreed by Full Council 11 November 2010 to correct clerical error: "...104468 to **104489** inclusive"*

412. TO AUTHORISE PURCHASE OF THE NEW NALC MODEL STANDING ORDERS PUBLICATION - £25.

412.1 **AGREED:** to purchase a hard copy of the new NALC Model Standing Orders from SALC at £25. SALC had advised that Standing Orders should be revised as soon as possible, but it was recognised that some Councils might want to leave it until after next year's elections. It was **AGREED** that the F&GP Committee should be asked to look at the new model later this year with a view to adopting revised Standing Orders within this Council year.

413. MINI ROUNDABOUT AT THE JUNCTION OF LEWES ROAD AND THE HIGH STREET

413.1 It was noted that Barratts had applied to West Sussex County Council for highway improvement works (the mini roundabout) and Henry Moyo, the Officer dealing with this, made enquiries with the Clerk at the end of March about any local issues that ought to be taken into account during the technical appraisal for the scheme. The Clerk had sent back a detailed history of the mini roundabout and highlighted Conservation Area signage and signage issues and the timing of the work in terms of avoiding disruption during such events as the Ardingly Show. Mr. Moyo had followed this up by sending detailed drawings as he had been requested to do.

Councillor Snowling expressed appreciation to Mr. Jesson who had put the Preservation Society's case succinctly during the public participation period. During discussion Members expressed the following views:

- It was ironic that the only justification for going ahead with the mini roundabout was the conditions of the planning permission for Newton Road whereas the body of opinion was that the roundabout was unnecessary.
- To have to agree to something that no-one wanted was a waste of money
- The detail in the plans submitted was secondary to the fundamental reasons for not going ahead

Councillor Snowling **PROPOSED** that the Parish Council should inform the WSCC and MSDC that it did not see that there was any justification for putting in the mini roundabout, for which the only remaining reason was that it was a condition of the planning approval and to express support for the removal of this planning condition. The proposal was **SECONDED** by Councillor Hersey. The Motion was **CARRIED** by 8 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions.

A vote was also taken on whether to continue to press for a zebra crossing to be put outside Somerfield: **AGREED** by 8 votes for and 2 against this proposal.

414. WAITING RESTRICTIONS – DENMANS LANE – WSCC INFORMAL CONSULTATION

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

- 414.1 An informal consultation was being carried out by WSCC from 10 to 28 May. The consultation covered several areas in Haywards Heath but only Denmans Lane in Lindfield. The proposal for Denmans Lane was in line with the Parish Council's comments on the plans for the previous consultation and the amendment made had been put forward by the Parish Council. The Chairman commented that Lindfield's previous County Councillor had fought to get waiting restrictions in Denmans Lane and this had now been taken up by Councillor Field. Members of the Parish Council were well aware of the difficulties encountered particularly by larger vehicles, a particular example being the gritting lorry which could not get past the parked cars during the icy weather to grit that part of Denmans Lane and Compton Road.

No copies of written representations had been received by the Parish Council but the only comments made at the Parish Office were that the proposal would drive people to park further up Denmans Lane, to the inconvenience of residents there and it was a pity that more parking space could not be found to replace the spaces that would be lost.

AGREED to support the proposal for waiting restrictions in Denmans Lane and that the map tile references should be quoted in the response for the avoidance of any doubt.

415. **TO NOTE THE FORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE LINDFIELD VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT BY MSDC AND TO CONSIDER ANY RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION.**

- 415.1 The formal consultation period on the Village Design Statement (VDS) was to run until 10 June 2010. Once adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), the VDS would become a material consideration when considering planning applications in the village. It was **NOTED** that Members had seen previous drafts as well as this one. **AGREED**: that the Parish Council should fully support the adoption by MSDC of the Village Design Statement. It was suggested that Mr. Jesson's Herculean input, particularly in liaising with MSDC Officers to get the draft VDS to this final consultation stage should be recognised and it was **AGREED** that the Parish Council should publicly thank Mr. Jesson for this effort.

416. **TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS TO THE MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S GARDEN PARTY.**

- 416.1 The Chairman **PROPOSED** Ian Cooper as the Parish Council's nominee for the MSDC Garden Party on account of his contribution to the community particularly through his role in the leisure group of the Parish Plan and for his practical help putting up the new fence on the Denmans Lane allotments site. Mr. Cooper was a very active pensioner: he was a volunteer gardener at St. Peter and St. James Hospice and he was a founder member of, and still ran with, Haywards Heath Harriers. Councillor Snowling indicated that, as MSDC Ward Councillor, he would be putting forward the name of a second Lindfield resident. **AGREED** to nominate Ian Cooper for the reasons stated.

417. **TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS RAISED AT THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2010.**

- 417.1 Lindfield Parish Directory and Year Book. The Directory, which had been on the Agenda for this meeting at the request of the Communications Forum, had been only item commented on by members of the public. Those who had spoken had been in support of the Directory in its current form. However the meeting had not been well attended and it was suggested that the feedback at the time the Directories were delivered provided much stronger evidence that the Directory was valued by residents. It was **AGREED** to feed this back to Lindfield Rural Parish Council as the Directories were also delivered in part of that Parish and they had been party to previous discussions.

418. **ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION – UPDATE.**

- 418.1 The Chairman stated that the Council had not pursued the matter of the lease for reasons personal to the landlord's family.

419. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS, ARISING AFTER THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA, WHICH THE CHAIRMAN AGREES TO TAKE AS URGENT. ANY SUCH MATTERS WILL BE FOR NOTING OR REFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING ONLY.**

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

419.1 No other items of business were raised.

This part of the meeting ended at 8.40 p.m. There followed a second period for questions / comments from members of the public.

Directory. Mr. N. Kerslake commented on the discussion held on this matter at a recent meeting of Lindfield Rural Parish Council.

Admissions to Lindfield Primary School. Mr. Kerslake commented on the way WSCC had handled the announcement that the School would have to provide additional reception places in September 2010.

Mini Roundabout Mr. Kerslake commented on the length of time discussions had been taking place about the mini roundabout and that it would be a waste of public money if it was installed. Councillor Field stated that she would support the Parish Council in getting the change to the Section 106 agreement regarding the roundabout.

Trees at Lindfield Primary School. Councillor Field stated that she had been surprised at the felling of the trees. She would inform the Parish Council when there was news of the planning application for the classroom.

Trees at West Common Drive. Mr. A. Bover commented on the removal of three trees without notice on the grounds of a complaint about the tree roots. He also stated that these trees had been felled in an unsafe manner.

Parish Meeting / Preservation Society AGM. Mr. J. Jesson commented that these two events took place on the same night and suggested better dialogue regarding dates for future years.

High Street trees / Christmas Lights. Mr. D. Macmillan commented that, on behalf of the Lindfield Preservation Society, he was upset and appalled that the Parish Council had allowed the catenary wire and battens that had been fixed to the High Street trees to remain in the trees after the Christmas lights had been taken down. He considered that this was no way to treat the High Street particularly in view of the number of years it had taken to get the limes pollarded and requested that this equipment should be removed without delay.

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.