

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Minutes of the annual parish meeting for North Mundham Parish held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019, which commenced at 7.00pm at North Mundham Village Hall.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Tim Russell, Denia Turnbull, Rob Callaway-Lewis, Annie Maclean, Frances Neave, Hugo Wall, Paul Chivers and Peter Stephens.

**In attendance:** Mrs Louise Chater (Clerk to North Mundham Parish Council), District Councillor Simon Oakley, District Councillor Chris Page, 42 registered electors and 18 members of the public.

**Apologies received:** County Councillor Jamie Fitzjohn and Di Wade.

The Chairman of the Parish Council thanked everyone for attending and introduced the members of the parish council and the parish clerk. The Chairman advised that this meeting is not a parish council meeting; however, you will hear what the Parish Council has achieved and have the opportunity to ask questions.

A01.19 Minutes of the last meeting 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
On a proposal by Mr Rob Callaway-Lewis the minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

A02.19 Matters arising  
None.

A03.19 Annual report from the Parish Council

The Parish Council elections are due to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019; however, you will only be called to vote for the Parish Council if there are more people standing than seats available. A short video produced by the Sussex Association of Local Councils was shown to explain what parish councils do and how they work. North Mundham Parish Council maintains amongst other things the bus shelters, finger post signs, and the Village Hall.

Over the past year the Parish Council Planning Committee has reviewed approximately two or three planning applications per month. Other than domestic applications, if the parish council objects to an application then the application goes before the District Council Planning Committee rather than being decided at officer level. Chichester District Council is currently carrying out a Local Plan Review which is going to have a direct effect on the Parish.

Each year, the parish council adopts a strategic action plan which focuses the parish council's actions; the action plan includes short term activities, for example working to comply with the new General Data Protection Regulations and to gain the Quality Award. Long term projects include the improvement to

pedestrian access from Hunston to North Mundham and a shared use path from Marsh Lane to Runcton Farm Shop.

The strategic action plan helps inform the budget which in turn assists with setting the precept, which for 2019/2020 has been set at £61.75 for a band D property.

#### A04.19 Questions from the Public

Q: As you can see there are a lot of children attending tonight's meeting. There is one youth club that is run to entertain the young children in the parish. The contract for the youth worker is due to come to an end at the end of the school year. What can the Parish Council do to assist to ensure the youth club remains open?

A: The Parish Council has set its precept for the new financial year and as such there is no assigned funding available to provide a grant. The Parish Council is aware that an urgent answer is required to ensure that funding can be in place for the new school year. Upon submission of a grant application (the form for which has been issued) the parish council can call an extra-ordinary meeting to consider the application; this meeting will be open to the public.

Q: Can the youth club funding be considered for the next budget?

A: Yes, but the Parish Council will not be considering the next budget until October 2019, and a grant application will need to be submitted in sufficient time to enable the matter to be considered during the budget process.

Q: At the last parish council meeting it was suggested that the open gardens event become a free event. How will this information be passed onto the open gardens?

A: The event can either be advertised widely, tickets are sold and the money raised is donated to a good cause or, alternatively, the parish council can cover the running costs and the event is advertised locally and will be run as a community event. At the next Parish Council meeting the councillor responsible for the event will provide an update on the way forward, having consulted the residents who have volunteered to open their gardens.

Q: I understand that there is the possibility that there will be 17 gardens open. How will visitors be able to visit all 17 gardens in just four hours?

A: The councillor responsible for the event is consulting the volunteers on the proposed opening times.

Q: Does the Parish Council have the funding available for the path from Marsh Lane to Runcton Farm Shop?

A: No, not at the present time, although there are a number of funding streams available, including Section 106 funding which is associated with planning applications.

The resident stated that he didn't feel that a path would be well-used because no one currently walks or cycles this route.

A significant number of those attending voiced that they would use the path and felt it would be well-used, but without a path in place it was not safe to walk at the present time.

Q: Has the Parish Council pushed for the upgrade of the junction of the B2166, School Lane and Church Road.

A: The Parish Council is acutely aware of the traffic issues within the parish; even if the parish had no additional housing allocated in the Local Plan, due to the effect of housing in adjacent parishes the traffic pressure would increase. The Parish Council has addressed the traffic issues when considering planning applications and in its response to the Local Plan.

A resident stated that the School Governors had made very strong representation to the District Council when it was considering the Stoney Meadow application, however, West Sussex County Council highways stated that a roundabout was not required at this location. The Chairman stated that West Sussex County Council would not have the funds to enable the installation of a roundabout, and therefore it would have to be funded by developer's contribution which would have made the site not viable.

A resident expressed concern with regard to the sewage and drainage issues in the parish in particular in School Lane.

The chairman responded that the Parish Council has objected to the planning application on Lakeside. The Parish Council has stated that it will not withdraw its objection until the issues regarding the sewage discharge have been addressed. The District Council Planning Officer has taken this issue up with the applicant and this applicant is currently reviewing the issue.

A resident expressed concern that the unknown status of the plans for the A27 will have an effect on the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Chairman responded that concern is being expressed that the A27 may affect the District Council's Local Plan.

The Chairman of the Steering Group stated that the A27 is an issue, however, if the Parish doesn't complete a plan it will be in a much more vulnerable position.

A05.19 North Mundham Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

The Chairman of the Parish Council introduced John Ashley as the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group, who gave a short presentation on the Neighbourhood Development Plan process. The Neighbourhood Plan is not a Parish Council project; it is a community project and therefore a significant number of volunteers are needed to assist with the project. (Slides available at <http://northmundham.org/abd/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/North-Mundham-Neighbourhood-Development-Plan-Presentation-.pdf>)

Q: The District Council Local Plan is required to have a significant number of houses. Do we have a specific number of houses for the parish?

A: The District Council has currently advised that the Parish are required to take a minimum of 50 properties, However, the neighbourhood plan has to comply with the District Council Local Plan, and therefore this figure may change during the production of the plan. For example, Hunston are required to take 200, therefore this parish's number may increase if Hunston manage to negotiate a reduction with Chichester District Council. If the parish is not working towards the production of a Neighbourhood Plan, then the District Council will decide where the housing is to be situated.

Q: Do small developments contribute towards the infrastructure?

A: All new developments are subject to Community Infrastructure Levy. However, developments that have six properties or less will not count towards the numbers assigned to the parish - these will be considered as windfall builds by the District Council.

Q: When you are developing this plan are there sites that have already been identified?

A: The District Council have carried out an assessment after a call for sites. However, the neighbourhood plan process requires a local call for sites to be carried out and then with the assistance of the consultant engaged by the Parish Council the Steering Group will assess the sites put forward. Only when this process has taken place will the Steering Group have the evidence basis to enable the group to reason and justify where the housing will go. However, it is equally important to reason and justify where development shouldn't go, to prevent the planning inspector increasing the number of properties the parish is required to build.

Q: What is going to happen to the roads if you build ten houses then potentially you end up with a further 25 cars?

A: The roads are a significant constraint for the whole peninsula, and all the Manhood Peninsula Parishes are working together to gather hard evidence of the issues affecting the whole peninsula.

Q: Shouldn't the infrastructure be put in place first?

A: Unfortunately, the infrastructure follows the development as the developers contribute towards the infrastructure funding and they can only do this by building and selling houses.

The Chairman of the Steering Group stated that once the Neighbourhood Plan has gone through the referendum process and has been adopted, it will become a very powerful tool for the Parish Council when it is considering planning responses especially if an application is contrary to the policies included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Meeting closed at 8.38pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman of North Mundham Parish Council

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_