

SOUTHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 26th November, 2014 at 7.30 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Beeson House, Southwater.

Present Were: **Mr P. Buckley**

Mrs.S.Alway
Mr G. Cole
Mrs.P.Flores-Moore
Mrs.J.Hutchings
Mr.G.Watkins
Mrs.C.Vickers

Mr.L.Apted
Mr.K.Diamond
Mr.S.Francies
Mr D. Nagy
Mrs.B.Varley

Clerk: **Mrs. C.Tobin**

Guest Speaker: **Dr.C.Lyons, Director of Planning & Economic Development Horsham District Council**

District Councillor: **Cllr John Chidlow**

County Councillor: **Cllr Brad Watson OBE**

Sussex Police: **Not present**

District Councillors: **Not present**

Members of the public: **2**

Press: **Not present**

F89/11/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman asked those present to set their mobile phones for the duration of the meeting to silent, unless in an emergency, when they should go through the Chair. In the event of a fire alarm sounding, everyone should evacuate the building via the exits indicated.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to record the meeting and also whether anyone in the public gallery wished to speak on behalf of any given matter, as this was the most appropriate point in the meeting to do so.

Mrs.Alway reported that the drain in close proximity to “Iggy” in Lintot Square appeared to be blocked. The Clerk stated that this would be reported to the District once again.

Mrs.Varley suggested that the Council may like to consider for the next Remembrance Day the planting of large poppies by the trees. The Chairman stated that the Council would consider this in for November 15.

Mr.Nagy stated that he had responded to a communication from the Clerk in relation to the closure of the National Westminster Bank and the failure of the ATM machines in Lintot Square. The Clerk stated that an item was to be discussed under correspondence and perhaps Mr.Nagy could discuss his comments at that point in the meeting; this was agreed.

Mr.Cole stated that he was concerned about the flooding in Cripplegate Lane again; something which appeared to be resolved the year before. The Clerk stated that she had been in contact with the Parish Council's contractor Wilbar and also the West Sussex Highways Team for the area who had both on three occasions cleared leaves from the drains. The County will be assigning an officer to look at this situation which appears to have come back following recent works by Southern Water; at this stage there is no evidence that this work carried out during the autumn has caused the flood but ongoing investigations and works being carried out by the Parish Council may provide the answer.

The Clerk would report back as and when she was able to do so with both Council's investigations complete. Mr.Cole pointed out that there had been two cars stranded in the flood; the Clerk stated that this was not the responsibility of the Parish Council and had been reported to the County. Mrs.Flores-Moore stated that an ambulance had been delayed from a cardiac arrest, having to turn around and exit the village by a different route.

Mr.Diamond suggested that some of the unspent Watershed monies could be apportioned to additional works if required. The Clerk stated that under delegated powers, she had instigated the investigation and potential works. The Clerk would be applying for additional Watershed monies for ongoing flood management schemes.

Mr.Cole questioned the Road Traffic Order in relation to the Country Park. The Clerk stated that these works and proposals had been discussed for well over a year with the County Council, and would alleviate difficulties with visitors to the country park obstructing local resident's driveways and pavements. This was the first step towards a comprehensive parking solution being provided to ensure that residents were not inconvenienced as and when the new Dinosaur Island was in place; including additional car parking to the current car park, Millstraight and Benn's Field. The Clerk believed that the funding for additional car parking capacity at Benn's Field had been authorised by the District and that Section 106 monies could potentially be available to assist with any road works required. The Clerk reminded Council that the Parish Council had three representatives working with colleagues at both County and District in relation to this matter these being Mr.Cole, Mr.Watkins and herself. A further meeting was to be planned for early in the New Year in order to discuss further proposals being evaluated for consideration.

Mr.Piper also reiterated comments made previously about the ATM's. In relation to Cripplegate Lane, he felt that this flooding had been an issue for so long that he doubted that a solution would be found due to the proximity of the old railway drainage systems.

Mr.Piper asked whether the Clerk could ensure that the County Council investigate the gully by the Old School House as this appeared blocked with surface water travelling further down the Worthing Road. The Clerk stated that she believed that the local Inspector had noted this problem whilst on site, but would remind him.

Mr.Piper also mentioned that there appeared to be flooding emanating from Great House Farm land onto the Worthing Road. The Clerk stated that generally if this was the case then it

was the landowner's responsibility, but that as requested she would report to Highways who would presumably contact the relevant land owner/tenant.

Mr. Watson stated that he would like to advise the Parish Council of a few matters, the first being about a new car club launched in Horsham, which provided two/three cars for hire at a hourly rate. With regard to Highways the public now have the ability to keep up to date with the latest situations via Twitter. The Local County Local Area Committees will now all have a Facebook page in order to engage and communicate with the public at large.

F90/11/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies and reason for absence have been received from Mr. Neale.

F91/11/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Clerk referred Members of Council to information issued in relation to the Member's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders and asked whether any Member had at this point in the meeting anything of note to declare.

There were no declarations at this point in the meeting.

F92/11/14 MINUTES

The Council discussed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 29th October, 2014 and there being no amendments to these minutes they were duly approved. The Clerk informed Members that Cllr. Vickers had asked for a minor amendment in relation to remarks purported to have been said by her, in that she said that the District Council had yet to comment on the CCG proposals. Further that the dates quoted for the Horsham District Planning Framework Examination should read 4th – 19th November 2014.

It was RESOLVED by all present following slight amendments as described, that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th October, 2014 be APPROVED by all present.

F93/11/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman stated that he had received an invitation from the Chairman of Horsham District Council in relation to the Chairman's Grant available in relation to someone who may be suffering hardship. The small award to assist this person was between £100 and £150.

After a short discussion it was thought that the Clerk could discuss this with the Southwater Youth Worker in order to identify someone who may benefit from within Southwater from the grant.

Delegated to the Clerk to speak with the Southwater Youth Worker and submit an application to the Chairman's Trust.

F94/11/14 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence of note to bring to the Council's attention at this point but the Clerk wondered if Members had any questions relating to documentation sent to them.

Vandalism – Electricity Box Lintot Square

The Clerk reported that a letter of apology had been received from the young person found to have created graffiti to the rear of Lintot Square, the subject being offensive to the general public. The Clerk reported that the young person would also be paying towards the costs of the damage caused. Mrs.Vickers asked how this young person had been identified by the Police. The Clerk stated that the individual was caught in the act of causing the vandalism by a passing patrol.

Members NOTED the comments.

National Westminster Bank – Southwater Branch Closure

The Clerk informed Members that she had taken up yet again with the National Westminster Bank the issue the branch closure in relation to the continuation of the cash provision via the cash points. The Council had been informed that these two machines were to remain and would be serviced accordingly to ensure continuation of service. Alternatively residents could obtain cash via the Post Office. The Clerk believes that individual members have also made their views known to Nat West. Via social media the Clerk has been informed that these machines will be serviced and that a manager from the local branch would telephone the Clerk to discuss the ongoing concerns from local residents.

Meanwhile the proprietor of the Post Office has indicated that whilst he would be happy to discuss such a provision initial discussion lead him to believe that whilst an external ATM could be provided there is likely to be a cost involved of £5,000 per annum. Mr.Shingadia is therefore seeking the Council's support for such a provision, for as a business they cannot support this alone.

Mr.Nagy stated that having listened to the local radio during the week, he understood that it was a general agreed policy of all banks that where they were closing down branches, they would continue to ensure that the communities had banking arrangements via the local Post Office especially if this were the last bank within the community. Mr.Diamond asked whether this was a statutory requirement or not? Mr.Nagy stated that he did not believe it was statutory merely an agreed protocol between the banks themselves. Nevertheless, not to ensure that that ATM's were being serviced having promised that they would questions should be asked of the Bank as to whether in this instance they would be willing to pay towards the provision of an ATM at another outlet within the village.

The Clerk stated at this point in the meeting, that she had met with the District Council's Estates Manager, who had informed her that the situation was being evaluated by the District who were attempting to find another bank or building society to occupy the unit and provide a banking service to the community. Other retailers within the square were to be approached with even the suggestion that Beeson House may be a relevant site, although the Clerk believed that this is the least convenient of all sites presently being explored.

Mrs.Vickers stated that she too had written to the Chairman of National Westminster highlighting her concerns as the local member and Cabinet Member of Horsham District

Council. The Banks view is that the encashment or other services can be provided as efficiently through the local Post Office, reducing the cost of the bank in the process. Mrs.Vickers did confirm that if an ATM is situated on the outside of a premises, it would require planning permission and would attract the business rates as highlighted by the owner of the Post Office within Londis.

Mrs.Vickers suggested the perhaps Dr.Lyons could discuss this matter further with his colleagues to see what opportunities they may be.

Mr.Diamond informed the Council that consideration also has to be taken with regards to such installations in terms of security measures in relation to the prevention of crime.

Mr.Francies suggested that perhaps the way to go was the formation of a credit union; however Mr.Nagy stated that the main problem the public had was in accessing cash in order to spend this in the local shops. Mr.Nagy stated that it was as much in the District Council's interest to ensure such a facility existed for the District Council owned Lintot Square and received rents from the retailers in the Square.

Dr.Lyons, stated that he would discuss the concerns raised with his colleague, Brian Elliott to see what the options might be and come back to the Parish Council.

Mr.Nagy stated that National Westminster was actually owned by RBS this bank having been bailed out by public funds and therefore partially owned by the tax payer.

It was RESOLVED by all present, that the clerk would continue to work with colleagues at the District Council in order to encourage a bank/building society to occupy the site, or alternatively find a suitable location to provide for a ATM machine.

Sussex Police – Chief Inspector Hodges

The Clerk referred Member's to the communique received from Chief Inspector Hodges following the Council's recent letter sent expressing concern about the increase in anti social behaviour and crime in Southwater.

Council NOTED the response from Sussex Police. It was RESOLVED by all present, that the Clerk should continue to monitor and report to the Council police statistics received.

West Sussex County Council – Foundations for Wellbeing

The Director of Public Health, Commissioner for Health & Social Care has written to the Council enclosing the Annual Public Health Report for 2014 including health plans and strategies.

The Director states that the factors which will have significant demands on services e.g., housing will create challenges across the life course. Summarised these are, supply and access, quality and appropriateness, and the potential for adverse impacts on vulnerable groups. The report is intended to help the public understand the scope and scale of these challenges and to provide proposals on how these might be addressed. The recommendations do however extend beyond the walls of the home to neighbourhoods, environment, local amenities and social networks. These factors, as wider determinants of health are critical foundations for wellbeing.

The Clerk asked whether Members wished to make any comment on these documents; these having been provided to Council prior to the meeting.

At this point in the meeting Mr.Diamond declared an interest in matters relating to the Clinical Commissioning Group.

Members RESOLVED that they had no comments to make in relation to these documents.

Great Lime Kilns Residents Association

A letter has been received addressed to Mr.Diamond and Mrs.Flores-Moore, asking that they intercede on behalf of the residents association in relation to some form of bunding promised over the years to assist with the prevention of noise emanating from the A24 traffic. The Clerk informed Members that having discussed this with Mr.Diamond, she had written to the County Councillor, Brad Watson OBE asking for an update from the County Council. The Parish Council had raised no objections to the creation of such a bund when previously consulted.

Cllr Watson OBE., stated that the current position was that whilst it had been intended to use spoil from the West of Horsham development to create a bund, he had been advised by his engineers that this was not as simple as it had been first thought. It was correct that this was the only section along this stretch of the A24 which did not have acoustic fencing and he had asked that this matter be discussed further by the Local Area Committee who had agreed in principle that if funding could be facilitated such a fence could proceed; the question was when the funding would be available.

Mr.Diamond suggested that cost would be the major issue and he was by no means an expert in this field, and suggested that perhaps this was a matter that could be investigated and evaluated within the Neighbourhood Plan process to avoid such matters in the future as and when developments took place.

Mr.Nagy reminded Cllr Watson and the Parish Council that he had previously reported to Council the fact that since the resurfacing of the A24 there had been a marked increase in noise from traffic and this coupled with increased volume of traffic due to developments was a factor. Previously the road had been laid with low noise surfacing and this had worked, and perhaps the County Council Local Area Committee should evaluate this alongside the proposal for an acoustic fence. This would identify the exact need and requirements for future provision within CIL or Section 106 development gain, although with gain being site specific this may prove more difficult.

It was AGREED by all present that the question of noise from the A24 be evaluated within the Neighbourhood Plan process and a policy put forward if so required within the Final Plan document.

The Clerk was asked to communicate with the residents whom had written to the Parish Councillors named providing them with the information given by the County Councillor.

F95/11/14 COMMITTEES

Finance & General Purposes Committee – 5th November, 2014

It was AGREED that the Finance & General Purposes Committee minutes dated 5th November, 2014 be approved with the amendment made to the incorrect date at the top of the minutes, including the recommendations contained therein.

The date of the next meeting being Wednesday, 3rd December 2014

Planning Committee – 6th November, 2014

It was RESOLVED by all present that the minutes of the Planning Committee dated 6th November, 2014 be approved as a true and correct record of the meeting to include any recommendations therein.

The date of the next meeting being Thursday, 4th December, 2014

**F96/11/14 DR.C.LYONS, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The Chairman of Council, Mr.Peter Buckley welcome the newly appointed Horsham District Council's, Director of Planning & Economic Development, Dr.Chris Lyons.

Dr.Lyons thanked the Chairman for his welcome and informed those present at the meeting that he had been in post since August 2014 highlighting his background in town planning. The newly appointed role did not only incorporate planning but strategic planning, economic development but also the Estates.

Dr.Lyons reported that the District Council were recorded as achieving a high performance level of 80% on applications received to determination. However, he realised there was a lack of communication currently with not only the parish councils within the District but also the general public. One of the areas on which he was focused was that of staffing with four new members of staff recently appointed, however, this was counter balanced by the loss of four members of staff and this had resulted in a review of the pay structure for those positions; he was hopeful of filling these vacancies in the near future. The District Council were also working towards this by working with the University of Brighton in terms of apprenticeships. The ability to work more effectively with public and parish councils therefore becomes more difficult in the current climate due to the time pressures on the existing team.

It was his view that the District Council need to improve its performance in relation to the production of Parish Plans and he was aware that currently some of the officers had failed to pick issues up from Village Design Statements in terms of pitched roofs rather than flat roofs for example. Again this is down to the fact that many of the staff are new and therefore unaware, with existing staff unaware of the existence of some of the plans. He very much hoped that the Parish Council would bear with him and be assured that this was being rectified. He was also aware that there was an increased need to communicate on this with again not only parishes, public but also the District Councillors themselves.

With regards to the Section 106 process he was aware that there was criticism that this was not always seen as transparent. Dr.Lyons stated that he was well versed in the Section 106 and development gain provisions as his Doctorate had been on that subject and he was aware of the need to improve along with the new CIL schedules still to be adopted in order to streamline and ensure transparency for all. He had set up a working party who had met to discuss the concerns; a further meeting was to be held in the near future. Dr.Lyons was informed that both the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to the Parish Council had sat on various committees which had discussed this process at District Council; the Parish Council would have no objection to their being involved once again if he thought this appropriate.

Dr.Lyons stated that it was important that the parishes understood the Section 106 and CIL process for the future in terms of where the impact of a development would be in relation to infrastructure requirements.

With regard to his overview of the Property Department a new Property Manager, Mr.Brian Elliott had been appointed. Dr.Lyons was hopeful that a new Economic Development Manager would soon be in post.

Dr.Lyons stated that he also had a remit over the Strategic Planning Department and the requirements highlighted at the latest examination in relation to infrastructure such as schools, hospitals. Dr.Lyons stated that he had been in discussions with local GPs however these discussions would also be held in conjunction with West Sussex County Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group about hospitals and local doctor surgeries.

The recent Examination into the Horsham District Planning Framework highlighted the interests of various parties in relation to the potential Southwater development sites, Dr.Lyons agreed that the Parish Council had been well represented by its officer at the meetings which he had attended for the whole period.

The Chairman thanked Dr.Lyons for briefing the Council and asked whether Members of the Parish Council wished to pose questions.

Mrs.Flores-Moore asked whether in relation to the Section 106 process, the District Council intended to take on the views of the local parish council and residents in relation to what infrastructure was required. Mrs.Flores-Moore highlighted a recent development within Southwater where the Parish Council had objected to the inclusion of a piece of artwork on a housing development; this was not one of the major requirements of the parish at large and the money could have been better spent on other projects which would have a great impact on the community.

Dr.Lyons stated that whilst he did not know of this particular instance, he would be looking at the whole process including such matters. Each agreement has different requirements and he would have to review the agreement to see if this requirement could be renegotiated. It was agreed that the Clerk should provide Dr.Lyons with further information on the planning application and agreement.

Mr.Nagy said that whilst the focus appeared to be on planning issues the magnitude of which placed in his view a greater emphasis on the need for economic development especially with two major employers in Horsham having reduced the scale of operation. He personally attended economic meetings outside of the immediate West Sussex area and quite frankly the

views expressed at those meetings were that the Horsham District were doing a poor job of promoting economic development. Dr.Lyons stated that this was entirely the reason why the District Council's Planning Framework was promoting the North Horsham site which would provide Grade A office stock. Dr.Lyons also confirmed that he was in discussions with developers over the Novartis site but it was too early to say what conclusions would come forward.

It was hoped he stated that the Neighbourhood Plans process would identify, other areas for economic growth. Mr.Nagy stated that what was actually required was small, medium and large sites to act as a business engine. Mrs.Vickers stated that whilst the District Council had sought to raise the business and economic profile of the District over recent years, it had missed out. Mrs.Varley questioned the fact that there continued to be offices unlet within Horsham town for years, again Dr.Lyons referred to the fact that businesses wanted modern office accommodation. Mrs.Varley was concerned that many of the current offices would be converted to living accommodation however, it was pointed out that this was Government policy and did give causes for concern as the District Council had very little by way of control.

Mr.Nagy stated the it was obvious that landowner were looking at every opportunity to build more housing, with more people moving from outside of the area and whom worked away from the local area due to the lack of employment, thereby, creating dormitory communities. Southwater had and still suffered from this type of development. This lack of business opportunity also reduced revenue in terms of business rates.

Mr.Francies agreed and questioned why districts were building houses for people from London, when there were not enough affordable or low cost houses available for local families. Families needed family homes not flats or one or two bedroom houses. Mrs.Flores-Moore referred Mr.Francies to the fact that Southwater Parish Council had negotiated local houses for local people, only for those local people not to come forward coupled with this the District had promised a site Rascals which would be affordable only for this to be changed and the site sold to a developer. Mrs.Vickers stated that the District Council had considered in the past whether or not it should provide such homes itself. Mr.Cole pointed out that the Parish Council could also provide such housing, subject to land and monies being available along with planning permission. Mr.Watkins stated that this was something that could be included within the Neighbourhood Plan as a policy.

Dr.Lyons stated that it was developers who provided the housing but it was a fact that the developers had a strong lobby within Government and the size and standard of housing provided was not dealt with under building regulations moving away from the larger type of affordable homes. Mr.Francies highlighted schemes in Jersey who seemed to provide more for the needs of local people who came first. A general discussion then took place on the deliverability of affordable/social housing with Dr.Lyon's stating that it was a fact that the Government required developers to build what they think they can sell and build as many of these as they were able in order to meet the Government's economic targets.

Mr.Watkins, Chairman of the Parish Council's Planning Committee stated that he too had attended the Examination and wondered whether developers should be allowed to increase housing numbers by adding the affordable element? Dr.Lyons stated that it could be argued that if it met the greater good in terms of requirement then it was possible. Both Dr.Lyons and Mrs.Vickers stated when questioned in relation to the drop in the percentage of affordable

housing being met, that on the smaller sites the percentages re delivery had been high it was correct to say however, that due to the downturn in the economic climate renegotiations had taken place on the West of Horsham site. Mr.Watkins said that he felt that the District Council should be promoting one, two and three bedroom houses allowing natural expansion within local families. Mr.Cole stated that he felt that developers currently controlled the land supply and if this pattern could change it would provide for the need within local communities not developers profits. Dr.Lyons said it was to be seen whether the Government would tax developers for sitting on land banks.

At this point in the meeting the Chairman proposed the suspension of Standing Orders in order to allow the public to speak. This was seconded by Mr.Watkins and APPROVED by all concerned.

Mr.Piper stated that his comment was in relation to the communication between the planning department and local people affected by planning applications, namely the revised Berkeleys application notice had not been received by all properties on the border of the land in question. Dr.Lyons asked the resident to provide details; the Clerk stated that she would email the details to Dr.Lyons the next day.

There being no other questions the Chairman reinstated Standing Orders and thanked Dr.Lyons for coming to the meeting, but hoped that he would stay and listen to the debate on the next Item this being in relation to the Horsham District Council Draft Planning Framework Document and Examination. It was RESOLVED by all present that the Chairman should bring forward item on the agenda to allow Dr.Lyons and Mrs.Vickers to make comment if necessary.

F97/11/14 HORSHAM DISTRICT PLANNING FRAMEWORK ‘INSPECTION HEARINGS’

Mr.Watkins, Chairman of the Parish Council’s Planning Committee referred Members of Council to the excellent report prepared by the Deputy Clerk in relation to the Examination in Public. The Deputy Clerk had attended all but a couple of the sessions over the 14 days, with both the Deputy and himself having attended the session on Southwater. The Deputy Clerk had done an excellent job in defending the position of Southwater at the Examination and he would like the Council to commend her for her hard work and efforts on behalf of the Council.

Members concurred with Mr.Watkins, and asked the Clerk to pass on its vote of thanks to the Deputy Clerk for the excellent manner in which she represented the community and the Parish Council at the recent Examination.

Mr.Watkins at this point referred to the question of housing numbers raised at the Examination and whether the District Council could actually justify the numbers as the Berkleys representative appeared to indicate that perhaps the number should be far higher than the 650 per annum figure and be set at 750 per annum figure. Dr.Lyons felt that the District Council justified at the Examination the figures proposed based on sustainability assessments carried out and the environmental constraints of sites. Dr.Lyons was confident that the figure of 650 per annum would be correct.

Mrs.Vickers stated that she too would like to add her voice in congratulating the Deputy Clerk in her presentation at the Examination. At the Examination there had been a comment

in that the decision had been a political one, and yes this was right it had but one based on the evidence at the time taking on board all factors and not just plucking figures out of the air. It was a fact that the Census figures were not all available at the time and the Council did have to take on board mitigation.

Mr.Watkins said that the arguments centred on the shortfall from the current plan in that the developers argued that unless there were 750 there would be a further shortfall having to be found at a later date. Mrs.Vickers referring to the previous South East Plan stated that the previous Core Strategy had identified Southwater as a Category One settlement which could take more housing but at the Examination in Public it had been argued and accepted that at the time Southwater was not a sustainable settlement and the original figures from that time of 2,750 were not sustainable. It was agreed at that time that the community could take a figure of c.500 and this is the figure that had been incorporated into the current proposal.

The Chairman thanked Mr.Watkins for his comments and Dr.Lyons and Mrs.Vickers for their attendance.

The Council gave a VOTE OF THANKS to the Deputy Clerk in respect of the work undertaken and representation on behalf of the Council at the Horsham District Planning Framework Inspection.

8.50 pm - At this point in the meeting the majority of the public with the exception of one left the chamber, along with Dr.Lyons, Mrs.Vickers and Cllr Watson.

F98/11/14 ACCOUNTS

Councillors were referred to the meeting pack and asked to confirm that the documents provided were a true position of the Council financial affairs, eg. Bank reconciliation, income and expenditure analysis and sales ledger.

It was RESOLVED that the information provided by the Clerk represented a true record of the financial position of the Council as at 26th November, 2014.

Southwater Leisure Centre – Option to Tax

The Clerk confirmed that HM Revenue & Customs had confirmed that permission was granted to opt to tax the land/building at Southwater Leisure Centre from 1st July 2014.

Councillors NOTED the correspondence received from HM Revenue & Customs.

F99/11/14 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Chairman presented to Members the Payments to 26th November, 2014.

It was RESOLVED by all present that the Payments Schedule to 26th November, 2014 in the sum of £84,494.83 be APPROVED.

F100/11/14 DRAFT PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET FOR 2015/16

Following the changes made to the Draft Budget for 2015/16 by the Finance & General Purposes Committee the Clerk stated that the proposed budget to be raised has increased to

£299,865. All documents had been recirculated to Council.

The Clerk referred members to figures received late in the day and proposed that due to the time constraints for proper debate on these which were provided by the District and the marked affect on the budget these would create that full discussion take place at the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 3rd December 2014.

It was RESOLVED by all that the Council would debate the figures supplied by District Council in relation to the provisional tax base provided with the view of recommending for approval to Full Council in December 2014 or January 2015 the Parish Council Budget for Year 2015/16.

F100/11/14 REPORTS BACK FROM REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING OUTSIDE MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

Road Safety Event 20th November 2014 (Mr.M.Neale)

The Clerk stated that Mr.Neale had attended, and would suggest that he report back at the December meeting.

HALC AGM

The Chairman stated that both he and the Clerk had attended this Annual General Meeting at which senior officers and Directors of Horsham District Council gave presentations.

F101/11/14 SOUTHWATER ACTION TEAM

The Chairman reported that he had attended this meeting, which unfortunately was not quorate. The Chairman of Southwater Community Partnership, Deborah Priebe did give her report, but other than that no decisions or otherwise could be made. A further 21 days notice for a Special Meeting had been issued, when hopefully there will be a greater attendance, if not it was possible that the Group would fold.

The Clerk stated that if this scenario did take place, then as the local authority for the area, it was presumed that the existing balance held by the Group would be transferred and ringfenced by the Parish Council; should Members agree to do so.

It was RESOLVED that pending any decisions by the Southwater Community Partnership that if the organisation was to ceased its existence then the Parish Council would Ringfenced the balance of funds in order to deliver if required outstanding items from the Action Plan and the Young People to Work Scheme.

F102/11/14 SOUTHWATER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Mr.Watkins reported that a meeting had been held of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on Thursday, 20th November 2014. It had been a very productive meeting with many of the volunteers actively engaged with the process and individual groups now meeting separately. Mr.Watkins stated that as Chairman he intended to attend the first of each of the individual topic group meetings.

F103/11/14 CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk stated that she was delighted to announce Sport England and the Gatwick Area Conservation Trust had provided the full grants awarded to enable the successful launch of the MUGA Project on Friday, 14th November 2014 together with the launch of the Southwater School's Partnership Bee Competition on Friday, 21st November 2014.

The new Library doors were now in situ, and it was hoped that in the early part of the New Year a small reopening of the library would take place, but was as yet to be arranged.

The Clerk informed Members that the License application in relation to Easteds Barn and Leisure Centre had been granted.

Member's NOTED the Clerk's Report.

F104/11/14 PERSONNEL & PENSION SCHEME**

WSSC Pension Scheme

The Clerk reported that both she and the Accounts/Payroll Administrator would be attending an all day meeting on Wednesday, 3rd December in relation to the Local Government Pension Scheme Administration for 2015.

At this point in the meeting the Chairman proposed the suspension of standing orders, this being RESOLVED by all present due to the nature of the business to take place in relation to staffing matters which were deemed of a confidential nature.

“Confidential Minute”

Standing Orders were reinstated.

F105/11/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Full Council Meeting will be Wednesday, 17th December 2014. This would be the Council's Christmas Meeting when refreshments would be served for those who attend.

F106/11/14 PLANNING

Application No.	Applicant	Reason for Application	Recommendation
DC/14/2064 Mr Watkins	Mr Pierre Burel 75 Bluecoat Pond, Christ's Hospital, Horsham	Retrospective application for the installation of garage door to undercroft parking	Objection due to the application being out of keeping with the area
DC/14/2268 & 2269 Mr Neale	Christ's Hospital School, The Avenue, Christ's Hospital	Demolition of flat roofed link building, construction of single storey extension and internal and external refurbishment works (Listed Building)	No objection subject to Listed Building Consent

Application No.	Applicant	Reason for Application	Recommendation
DC/14/2307 Mr Diamond	Mr Phillip Croucher 32, Woodlands Way Southwater	Surgery to one oak tree	Delegated to Mr.Diamond and the Clerk
DC/14/2374 Mr Cole	Mr & Mrs C, Richardson, Welbury, Salisbury Rd Horsham	Non material amendment to previously approved application DC/14/1529 (Construction of single storey rear extension and external alterations) to add a lantern roof light in the flat roof of the proposed extension	No objection
DC/14/2425 Mr Buckley	Mr and Dr N and AS Carreck and Quigley 9 Warren Drive, Southwater	Two-storey side extension	No objection subject to sufficient car parking being available for the property

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.