

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 5pm in  
the Parish Church at Southease

1. Apologies were received from Andrew & Katrina, Elise & Harley Barugh, Pippa & Howard, Barry Hunt & Rachel & Sab.

12 Residents attended the meeting.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Matters Arising

- a. Southease-Rodmell footpath

No further progress to report

- b. Southease Swing Bridge

The attempt by the Environment Agency to have the swing bridge demolished and replaced with a modern steel girder constructed bridge has been stopped.

Neville Harrison working with various agencies succeeded in having the bridge listed in July. The EA now plan on repairing the bridge, this is likely to lead to the bridge being closed with temporary pedestrian access only for a period of 6 months in 2010.

A meeting with the EA to explain their proposals has been suggested and they have supplied a range of dates in October. Those present requested the meeting be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October and requested Neville Harrison arrange this.

- c. Itford Farm House

Now expected to be completed Easter 2010

A 24/7 365 day a year alcohol licence application had been made to the licensing authority and objections to this were raised. A restricted licence was eventually approved with reduced hours and residents only after 11pm.

The YHA have still not decided on a name, however the meeting remains opposed to it being called Southease because of the confusion this is likely to cause.

4. Parking on the village green

The allowing, or not, parking on the village green continues to be an issue. If the no parking sign is uncovered then visitors tend to park in the roads around the village creating difficulty for Farm Traffic.

John Hart suggested that parking be allowed unless there is a village event

taking place, or the weather has been such that damage would be caused to the green id parking was allowed.

5. New Bench

A new bench for the village, in memory of Neville & Peggy Kirby has been funded by their family.

The bench has been hand made in oak and is ready to be installed. It was proposed that the bench be placed between the two cherry trees outside of the churchyard and would be secured in place.

The meeting agreed to the proposal

6. Village Church Survey

Neville Harrison reported that the response to the survey of residents on the parish church had been very good, with replies being received from 26 of the 32 forms sent out. NH thanked residents for the interest shown. He explained that regular service will be still be held at Southease though the ecclesiastical parish was likely to become linked to Rodmell and would have the same vicar.

Adrian Orchard pointed out that the current good order that the church was in following the restoration work was largely due the efforts of Neville Harrison in his capacity as church warden.

7. Any other business

a. Village Funds

These remain unchanged at £354.39

There was no income and no expenditure during the year.

b. It is understood that Rectory Cottage will be let for a period of 6 months while the owners seek planning permission.

c. The chair thanked Neville Harrison for his efforts in organising the churchyard and village work parties in the past year and all those who had participated.

8. Election of Officers

Martin Brickell, chair of the meeting explained that he was not standing again as chair and requested nominations for the position of chair.

Ian Barugh proposed Neville Harrison and this was seconded by Adrian Orchard. No further nominations being proposed a vote was held and Neville Harrison was duly elected as chair of the Parish Meeting.

The Clerk was asked if he was prepared to stand again and he confirmed that he was, Adrian Orchard proposed the current clerk, Ian Barugh and this was seconded by Rachel Wyndham. No further nominations being received a vote was held and Ian Barugh was duly re-elected as Clerk to the Parish Meeting.

A vote of thanks was given to the outgoing Chair, Martin Brickell, for his work and efforts.

9. South Downs National Park

The clerk explained to the meeting that with the announcement that the South Downs National Park had been approved, nominations would be being sought for Parish representatives to the new park board and that as the new Parish Chair, Neville Harrison would be eligible for nomination. The clerk proposed that should Neville wish to seek election to the new park board, and as the meeting had previously unanimously support his application to the South Downs Joint Committee, that the meeting should support the nomination of the parish chair to the South Downs National Park Board as a Parish Representative. The proposal was seconded by Adrian Orchard.

The Parish Meeting voted unanimously to support the nomination of the parish chair, Neville Harrison, as a parish representative for the South Downs National Park Board.

The next meeting will be held in approximately 6 months, date to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 6.15pm