

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 28th March 2009 at 5pm in
the Parish Church at Southease

1. Apologies were received from Andrew Clark & Katrina Russell, Elise Barugh & Natasha Hunt.

12 Residents attended the meeting.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Matters Arising

- a. South Downs Way Water Point

Tap is now complete and is being well used. Thanks were given to Grassie and Howard for their digging and plumbing efforts.

- b. Southease-Rodmell footpath

The three landowners have agreed in principal

Cost is expected to be circa £2,000

Neville Harrison has approached various bodies for funding.

Martin Brickell expressed concerns regarding cows with calves on the proposed route and would prefer if the solution were a fenced route for safety reasons.

The meeting requested that Neville Harrison continue to progress the matter.

- c. Viridor Application

We received £30,000 from Viridor towards the cost of the church restoration work. This left a shortfall of £10,000 which has been met by contributions from other sources.

4. Work parties

The church warden reported that 8 work parties had been held, with 27 different residents having participated and 114 man hours of effort being done.

Thanks were given to all those who attended.

5. C7

John Harte reported that he had been advised that if the village wished to replace the "Southease" sign at the south end of the village it would be at our cost. A guide price of £300-400 for two signs was indicated.

The meeting was unanimous that we were not prepared to carry this cost.

Concerns were expressed regarding the southern entrance and exit to the village, particularly in view of the fatal accident. JH reported that a “narrow lane” sign is to be erected showing the location of the southern entrance.

6. Itford Farm House

Peter Masters, project manager for the work at Itford farmhouse, delivered a report on current status and intended uses.

The site is being converted to provide an outdoor activity centre which will be leased to the Youth Hostel Association.

Facilities will be;

camping area

22 bedrooms upstairs in the farmhouse

communal space downstairs in farmhouse

36 bedrooms in the long barn

kitchen/café which will be open to the general public

Bat loft

The current completion target is for hand over to the YHA in August 2009

The meeting was asked what it thought of calling the facility, “Southeast Youth Hostel”. The meeting was unanimous in rejecting this as a suitable name. It was felt that it would be confusing and would lead to visitors trying to access the facility via Southeast, which is not possible due to the railway line and would mean a long detour for those who came the wrong way.

7. Any other business

a. The parish clerk reported that the village green was very uneven due to a wet winter and the number of vehicles that had parked on it. Martin Brickell was asked to use the heavy roller on the village green to try to repair some of the damage.

b. Notice board – clerk to approach Pat at Southeast Place cottage to check the notice board and repair if possible..

c. Southeast swing bridge

English Heritage are seeking to have the bridge listed, this is in response to the Environment Agency’s expressed desire to replace it.

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

The meeting closed at 5.50pm