

**DRAFT**  
**STREAT PARISH MEETING**  
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**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Streat Parish Meeting held at  
Stonehealed Farm Barn on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 8.00pm**

<b>Present:</b>	Anthony Gedge	Chairman
	Brian Clifford	Vice Chairman
	Kate Allisat	Committee member
	Elizabeth Berry	Clerk and RFO

**Villagers on electoral role**, Carol Owen, Ray Whorlow, Deborah Grubb, Fiona Smith, Margaret Brown, Mike Sewell, Charlie Yeldham, Sue Hancock, Mike Sandercock, Phil Ashworth.

**Not on Electoral Role** Harry Sandercock.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Fiona Smith for volunteering Stonehealed Barn for the village to use for meetings following the imminent sale of Rectory Barn.

**1. Neighbourhood Plan – update from Tom Duffy, leader of Neighbourhood Plan Group**

Tom Duffy delivered a short talk about the Ditchling Westmeston & Streat Neighbourhood Plan, which has been in progress for about 2 years. It is expected that a draft plan will be completed about February/March next year. Benefits include a potential increased income from builder's levies and it will also provide a template for planning policies for the next 15–20 years.

A group of volunteers, including Tony Gedge meet regularly to formulate the plan. The volunteers include experts in planning, traffic management and community engagement. In respect of housing, the group are collecting evidence from community surveys, and from local meetings, which suggest that there is a need for affordable housing in Ditchling both for first time buyers, and for people who wish to downsize. The survey yielded a 51% response, which is a very encouraging rate of return.

There are 5 focus groups, Conservation, Housing, Traffic & Transport, Community Infrastructure and Local Economy. The plan is intended to strike a balance between conserving some areas and building in others, to develop communities in the way that residents have stated they require.

Regarding Traffic & Transport, the group intend to try to obtain 'quiet lane' status for Street Lane.

The Local Economy and Community Infrastructure groups are discussing improved internet and broadband coverage.

An open Day will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> in Ditchling Village Hall and views will be fed back in to the draft plan, which will eventually be presented via the Parish Councils, to South Downs National Park Authority and Lewes District Council for their approval. It will then go to an independent examiner to check that it conforms to Government Plans. Tom agreed to try to make the information on the Open Day available via email.

Tom then took questions from the group and Tony Gedge thanked him for his very informative talk.

**2. Apologies for absence** – received from Jane Cowley, Sue Sewell, Lynette & Derek Walker.

3. **Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting** held on 21st April 2015. Copies were available for those present to read. It having been proposed by Charlie Yeldham and seconded by Debra Grubb, the minutes were unanimously accepted as a true and fair record of the meeting.
4. **Matters Arising** The Chairman noted that the question of passing places in Streat Lane has not been pursued as the situation may be improved by the 'quiet lane' status which it is hoped will be achieved under the Neighbourhood Plan.  
Tim Gaynor has volunteered to join the committee from April 2016 and he appealed to anyone else to may be interested in joining.  
The re-siting of the salt bin has been agreed by East Sussex County Council and the work should be carried out soon. The question of a further bin near to the church was raised, and the committee agreed to look at this again in April to assess whether it is necessary.
5. **Accounts for period 22nd April 2015 to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015** A copy of the account was given to those present and the Clerk explained that the balance stands at £2111.07 in the current account and £2502.48 in the Reserve account.  
It being proposed by Mike Sandercock and seconded by Mike Sewell, the accounts were unanimously approved by the meeting.
6. **Budget for 2016/17** A copy of the proposed budget was given to those present and the Clerk explained that there will be an expected surplus of £600 in the current account at the end of 2015/16, which might be used to defray the cost of the next precept. Following discussion it was agreed that £300 would be set against the precept and £300 would be retained in case of possible further expenditure on a salt bin.  
Proposed by Mike Sewell and Seconded by Charlie Yeldham that the budget be agreed with the amendment as stated above.
7. **Appointment of representatives to Sussex Assoc of Local Councils.** Tony Gedge agreed to represent the committee. Proposed Kate Allisat, Seconded by Mike Sewell.
8. **Planning Update** handed to those present. The Chairman noted that these details had also been included in the recent village newsletter. With regard to the application at Middleton Laine Farm no further information had been received from the owners regarding a possible second application, following their rejection by LDC.  
The agricultural tie has not been removed from Roxborough Farm Bungalow but the applications for demolition of the Farmhouse and the development of the outbuildings have been approved, so unfortunately it looks as though the site may be developed piecemeal.
9. **Correspondence** documents available at the meeting:  
St Peter and St James Hospice Annual Review 2014/15  
Electoral Review by LDC
10. **Vacancy for Internal Auditor** Tony Gedge noted that as Tim Gaynor is becoming a committee member, he will no longer be allowed to act as Internal Auditor. He asked for residents to consider volunteering for the job, which usually takes a couple of hours, once a year.
11. **Streat Parish Web-site** The Clerk mentioned the new website which has been set up to display minutes and agendas for meetings, together with accounts and audit information.

[www.hugofox.com/community](http://www.hugofox.com/community)

- 12. Any Other Business** The extended closure of Plumpton Railway Crossing Gates was discussed as it is considered likely that they will remain closed for a further 3 months due to planning permission difficulties relating to their replacement. Tony Gedge has asked ESCC to put up 'access only' signs at either end of Streat Lane to try to alleviate the increased traffic which is already using the lane. There is a community meeting on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at Plumpton Racecourse which Network Rail is attending.

**13                      Date of next meeting - Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

Signed.....Chairman.