

## **WESTHAM AND STONE CROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF**

19<sup>th</sup> September 2011

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross School

#### 109 Present

Cllrs B Molog (Chair), B Garner, T Bruce, K Sutherland, P Marshall, C Smith, M Nash, G Parsons, J Blaker, K Saxby and B Tooley.

There were 13 members of the public in attendance including Gerry Garner. C Cllr T Freebody and PCSO Ali Shadbolt were also in attendance.

#### 110 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from R Perrin, T Comerford and D Cllr D Dear.

#### 111 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

#### 112 Clerk's Report

It has been a turbulent time for the Council at a traditionally quiet time of the year. Emails have been forwarded on and various police updates have been received. Four dog bins and a tree have been set alight to in Stone Cross and as a result the dog bins in Rother Avenue are being relocated and are probably being replaced with metal ones.

There was more anti-social behaviour in Swale Close and the bench for Castle Bolton has been fitted. The Community Shelter is in Adur Park and the football posts have been replaced following the recent vandalism. The extra lifebuoy has been fitted at the pond and a planning application was received and subsequently marked incomplete for solar panels on the embankment at Rother Avenue.

Work in Tillingham Way is expected to be carried out this week.

Some broken swing seats have also been replaced in Adur Park and the grit bin licence has been approved for Medina Drive.

The computer signal in the office was lost for two days and the wiifi connection for six days.

The Clerk also reminded Councillors that the Standard's Committee recommended that three members of the Community Council have mediation training and all councillors have code of conduct training. Councillors agreed that she should organise something suitable.

113 Disclosures of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest in any items on this agenda. There were no reported changes to the Register of Interests.

114 Reports on Committee Meetings held

The following Committee Meeting Minutes were received and adopted by the Community Council.

Cllr Sutherland	Finance and General Purposes	11 July 2011
Cllr Garner	Parks and Open Spaces	11 July 2011
Cllr Blaker	Environment and Planning	11 July 2011

115 Reports on Sub-Committee Meetings held.

There have been no Sub Committee Meetings since the last Full Council Meeting.

116 Reports from Outside Meetings

Cllr Nash attended the Westham and Pevensey Transport Partnership Meeting. The Partnership has now obtained Charitable Status and is encouraging donations. They have a new Treasurer but still need more volunteer drivers and telephone operators.

Cllr Garner attended a meeting at Stone Cross Memorial Hall. They have arranged a Quiz Night and a Dog Show to raise funds for the Hall.

Cllr Garner also attended a Speedwatch Seminar and Speedwatch is starting in Westham this week.

Cllr Nash attended the Westham Village Hall Management Committee Meeting. They have updated their kitchens and thanked the Community Council for their financial contribution towards the work.

Cllr Molog attended a Wealden and District Association for Local Councils' (WDALC) Meeting. The WDALC met Charles Lant to discuss the content of future Parish Conferences.

Cllr Molog also attended two Police Joint Action Group Meetings and she has copies of the minutes if anyone would like to see them. Metal theft is prolific at the moment and police will now use digital cameras as evidence of parking offences.

The meeting was then suspended.

117 PCSO Report

PSCO Ali Shadbolt circulated her report. She said the new Community Shelter has been a success although there had been a few teething problems. There has been a rise in shoplifting cases in Tesco. She also asked for volunteers to

join the Police Panel as well as volunteers to act as Neighbourhood Contacts. PCSO Shadbolt is now based at Hailsham.

C Cllr Freebody reported that it had generally been quiet at ESCC over the holiday period. The Government has invested £10.6m in Broadband for East Sussex. They have received a planning application for a new library with supported living in Seaford. A new site for the KEEP Project is expected to be built in October.

C Cllr Freebody also said that residents can apply for school places on line, the charge for blue badge holders has increased to £10 for three years and he is working to get the Rickney Road repaired. He also added that he is now on Twitter.

D Cllr Tooley reported that Wealden are also promoting Broadband and that our Parliamentary Boundaries remain unchanged in the latest Boundary Commission Report. Documentation is available in libraries. D Cllr Tooley also reported that he has met Kelvin Williams (Head of Planning at Wealden) to learn about S106 money and Mr Williams advised Councils to be wary of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

D Cllr Tooley also announced that Wealden are to build 64 Council Houses in Willingdon, Forest Row and Crowborough. Rents will be at affordable levels.

#### 118 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Hammond is very upset to see that the footpath at the back of Rother Avenue has been closed off and asked if the Council will consider erecting a kissing gate at one end. This is to be an agenda item for the Parks and Open Spaces Committee Meeting.

Mrs Richards asked for the October Meeting to be moved to Westham as there are residents in Westham who would like to attend who are unable to get there. Councillors offered lifts to those affected and agreed the meeting will remain at Stone Cross.

Mr Walker asked what constitutes a single storey in planning terms and was referred to the Duty Planning Officer at Wealden.

Mrs Painter asked what happened to the Section 106 Money from Foxes Hollow.

Mr Lovell asked if the Council is aware they received this money in 1999.

Mrs Hill disputed the PCSO's claims that the Teen Shelter was a success. She said she has photographic evidence of children climbing all over it and they are shouting and swearing there late at night. She said she had also found needles at the shelter and asked that it is moved away from the houses. PCSO Shadbolt said that if she is available she will keep an eye on the shelter in the evenings.

Mrs Hill also agreed that it was unfair to dog walkers that the path is closed and asked if residents can have a key. This is to be an agenda item for the Full Council Meeting in October.

Mrs Richards complained that there is not always enough time for residents to view planning applications before they are discussed at meetings.

119 Emergency Plan - update

Cllr Nash said that the Government have issued a general alert statement which announces that they have downgraded the security level by one.

He requested amendments for issue 2 and reported that seven parishes, when consulted by Wealden, wanted to stop using the Emergency Radio.

120 Risk Assessment

- i: Councillors **resolved** to adopt the Second Risk Assessment Report on Foxes Hollow Wall and agreed to get prices to repair the wall as per the Report.
- ii: Councillors **resolved** to formally adopt the principles in the Pond Report, look into what can be done, get costings and report back to the Full Council.
- iii: Councillors **resolved** to set up a sub-committee to manage on going risk assessment. The Terms of Reference will be decided by the Planning Committee. The sub-committee will consult with Mr Garner and other advisors as appropriate. It was reiterated that councillors found the help given by Mr Garner to the on-going risk assessment, invaluable.

121 New Bins

Councillors **resolved** to buy three new open concrete bins for Stone Cross at a total cost of £1006. One is to replace the bin on the path at Adur Park, one is to be sited by the Community Shelter and one is to replace the broken bin at Hamble Road.

122 Picnic in the Park

Councillors **resolved** to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a Picnic in the Park, the logistics of which will be delegated to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

123 Red Dyke Residents' Association

- i: Councillors' **resolved** to support Red Dyke Residents' Association with its request to house bags of grit in weather and help where it can.

- ii: Councillors **resolved** to support the Association's plan to plant bulbs and flowering cherry trees on Community Council land. The maintenance and responsibility for them would be the Associations.
- iii: The Community Council **resolved** to set up a Sub-Committee from the Parks and Open Spaces Committee to look at facilities in Adur Park. The Terms of Reference will be drawn up by the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

124 Play Parks

Councillors **resolved** to make upgrading the play parks a priority when spare money is available.

125 Consultations with Developers

Councillors **resolved** that the Planning Committee will draft a 'wish list' of items that Councillors would like developers to provide. This will be a standing item on the Planning Committee Agenda.

126 Tree Report

Councillors **resolved** that Chaffins carries out the Annual Tree Inspection this year.

127 Council Toilets

This item was withdrawn. Although it looked like the tiles had blown in the ladies toilet a basin bracket had become loose and has subsequently been repaired.

128 Officer Hours

The Council agreed the Clerk's workload is tremendous and **resolved** the hours that the Council Office is open to the public is changed to 10am to 12pm Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Cllr Molog reminded Councillors to make an appointment with the Clerk before visiting the office.

129 Questions from Members

Cllr Smith asked why the Risk Assessment Report was not available at the previous meeting.

Cllr Saxby asked why the position of the Community Shelter was not approved by the Full Council. This is to be an agenda item for the next Full Council Meeting. He also asked why he was not informed of the deadline for submitting articles to the newsletter. It was pointed out that deadline dates had been agreed at a previous Full Council meeting.

Cllr Bruce asked that a lifebuoy is repaired at Westham Pond.

Cllr Parsons asked if the Council has money invested in Ireland.

Cllr Molog asked if members are aware the police have no cold calling stickers available for residents to use.

130 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD2011/1924F	1-2 Peelings Cottage Sub-division of dwellinghouse into two separate dwellings. <b>No objections.</b>
WD2011/1830F	Cherry Croft, Hankham Hip to gable extension to form enlarged loft room. <b>No objections.</b>
WD2011/1883FR	Sunningdale, Rattle Road Installation of 16 x 245w Sharp PV Panels <b>No objections.</b>
WD2011/1962F	High Hopes, Rattle Road Side extension and vehicular access. <b>No objections as long as Highways approve.</b>
WD2011/1689F	26 Gearing Road, Foxes Hollow Rear conservatory. <b>No objections.</b>

The following determinations were noted;

WD2011/1539F	74 High Street, Westham Proposed new dwelling. <b>Refused.</b>
WD2011/1654F	Montague Cottages. Hankham Erection of detached annex. <b>Refused.</b>
WD2011/1651F	Hankham School Replacement windows. <b>Granted.</b>