

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

21st November 2011

held at The Village Hall, Westham

215 Present

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

There were 14 members of the public in attendance including Gerry Garner. C Cllr T Freebody, D Cllr D Dear and D Cllr L McKeever were in attendance and a representative from Rydons and Mr Lees of the Oaks were also in attendance.

The meeting was suspended to allow public comment.

216 WD2011/2270MAO – Land south of Rattle Road – Outline application for 120 dwellings comprising of a mix of 1,2,3 and 4 bedroom apartments and houses together with associated parking; open space and community facility building together with associated parking.

Mr Lees told those present he is to shortly submit a planning application for a development of 60 to 70 houses on land opposite the proposed Rydon's development. He asked that Rydons alter the access arrangements to the main road to accommodate both applications.

There were no further comments from the floor and the meeting was re-opened.

The Parish Council discussed the Planning Application and voted that the Westham Parish Council **accepts** the proposed development as long as the following conditions are met;

1. The vehicle and pedestrian access is reassessed. Residents will have to cross the main road to use a path and the main access needs to be adapted to take into account the development opposite.
2. The access has adequate street lighting.
3. The developers support the need for a 30mph speed limit in Rattle Road.
4. The boundaries are clarified, particularly in relation to Windmill Green.
5. A cleaning contract is established to keep the neighbouring roads, particularly the roads in Windmill, clean whilst building work is taking place. Contractor's and Sub-Contractor's vehicles must also remain on site whilst the work is in progress.
6. The development protects Stone Cross Mill's right to wind.
7. The Parish Council is kept informed of any changes especially if there is a change of developer.

The meeting was then re-opened.

217 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

218 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 17th October 2011 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

219 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following;

All the necessary changes regarding the name change have taken place or are in hand, the Parish Council's bid for funding towards the Community Shelter was unsuccessful and instructions have been given, to bed in the new bin. Westham Village Hall have confirmed the Parish Council's hall bookings for 2012.

Wind Turbines and the Rydon Development have taken precedence, the sign at Elsie Cottage is to be moved and work is underway at Tillingham Way.

There has been another complaint submitted to the Standard's Committee about the conduct of a councillor at a Westham Parish Council meeting. The Standards Committee decided to take no further action but asked the Clerk and Chair to address the underlying issues at this Parish Council. Mediation training is to be arranged with SALC.

220 Disclosures of Interests

Cllr Molog declared an interest in any items on the agenda relating to Stone Cross Mill and Cllr Nash declared an interest in any items relating to Westham Village Hall. There were no reported changes to the Register of Interests.

221 Reports on Committee Meetings held

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

Cllr Molog	Finance and General Purposes	14 November 2011
Cllr Garner	Parks and Open Spaces	14 November 2011
Cllr Blaker	Planning	14 November 2011

222 Reports on Sub-Committee Meetings held.

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

223 Reports from Outside Meetings

Cllr Molog and the Clerk attended Training on the 19th and 26th October.
Cllr Molog also attended a Quality Street Meeting on 1st November and the SALC AGM on the 8th November.

The meeting was then suspended again.

224 PCSO Report

Copies of the PCSO Report were available for inspection.

225 Reports from County/District Councillors

D Cllr McKeever apologised for not attending many Westham Parish Council Meetings. This is due to family bereavement, illness, full time employment and email problems.

D Cllr McKeever's role at Wealden has changed, she is no longer on the Planning Committee but is on the Standard's Committee, the Community and Environment Committee and the Joint Waste Management Committee. The Joint Management Committee should have everything in place to make cost savings by 2013. Wealden District, Rother District, Hastings Borough and Eastbourne Borough Council are to work together to provide joint waste management services.

C Cllr Freebody said the Heron School (formerly Hampden Park School and Highfield School) is now up and running. Childrens' Services and Fostering Services have been inspected and are performing well and Adult Social Care is currently under consultation.

The Newhaven Energy Conservation Centre is working well and generates enough electricity for 20,000 homes. ESCC have opened up a newly refurbished library in Forest Row.

D Cllr Tooley reported that the police have a new non emergency number, which is 101. Calls are charged at a flat rate of 15p.

226 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr McMillan from Foxes Hollow Residents' Association asked if the Parish Council will cover the insurance for the Association's Christmas fund raising event this year. There has been previously no cost to the Parish Council for this.

Mrs Bounds asked if the Parish Council is aware that parents park on the slope by Butchers' Field at school pick up times. She also asked when the no cold calling sign is going up on the Eastbourne Road.

Mr Evans asked if the Parish Council is aware that Pevensey Town Trust supported a walking bus scheme at Pevensey and Westham School. The Trust also offered the Cattle Market to the school for parent parking.

Mr Cook is concerned that the new Rydon development will mean that the Green and Beggars Lane will be built on.

Mr Walker asked about regulations for bonfires. There was reported to be a recent bonfire in the Westham area which gave residents cause for concern.

Mr Lovell of Foxes Hollow asked the Parish Council to undertake some works on the Foxes Hollow Estate, he is to give the clerk a list at a later date.

227 Emergency Plan - update

Councillors **resolved** to accept Amendment 2.2 of the Emergency Action Plan. Further 'Are You Special' forms have been received and the Residents' Associations have been invited to get involved.

228 Precept Request

Stone Cross Mill	£ 400.00
Stone Cross Memorial Hall	£1400.00
Pevensey and Westham Playgroup	£ 200.00
Westham and Pevensey Local Transport	£1250.00

	£3250.00

Councillors agreed to allow Westham Village Hall more time to submit a request as they have had recent staff changes.

Cllr Sutherland, having read through the precept calculations, previously distributed to Councillors, recommended that, in the current economic climate, the precept for 2012/13 remains at £127,966.

With an anticipated year end spend of approximately £140,000, the additional spending will be taken from the existing surplus for the current year likewise 2012/13.

This is anticipated to leave a reduced surplus by March 2013 of approximately £20,000.

Councillors **resolved** that the precept for 2011/12 is £127,966.

229 Risk Assessment

Councillors considered the two prices received but **resolved** that Mr Garner drafts a full Scheule of Works for the works to be carried out instead.

Mr Garner agreed to draft the Schedule of Works and is to report back to the next Full Council Meeting.

230 Westham Pond

Councillors considered the two prices for works to the pond and **resolved** to support Cllr Marshall in his pursuit of grants. Cllr Marshall will then report back to the Full Council by April 2012.

231 Insurance Claims

The Clerk told councillors there are an increasing number of claims for damages against Parish Council trees to residents' properties. Not only does this impact more and more on her time, it could result in an increase in insurance premiums. Councillors should be aware of this when they take over responsibility for new estates.

232 Path at the Rear of Rother Avenue

Following an overwhelming response from residents who have homes backing on to the section of path in question, the Parish Council **resolved** that the path remains officially closed and both ends are made secure.

233 Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Councillors **resolved** that when the works to the pond have been completed there will be a brass plaque commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The wording will be agreed when the work is complete.

234 Questions from Members

Cllr Sutherland proffered his sympathy for D Cllr McKeever's personal problems and asked that the Parish Council expresses its support to her.

Cllr Saxby asked if the Clerk has contacted Highways about the state of the verges in Hankham Hall Road as they are dangerous in the dark.

Cllr Comerford asked for a 'no dog' sign to be erected in Penrith Way.

Cllr Blaker reminded everyone the deadline for submitting articles for the next Parish Newsletter is 7th December. Cllr Nash asked that the next edition includes the 'Advice to Residents'.

Cllr Perrin asked for parking at Westham to be an agenda item for the next Full Council Meeting.

Cllr Smith congratulated the Clerk on being recognised as a Member of the Institute of Local Council Management.

Cllr Bruce asked for 'planters' to be added to the Parish Council's 'Wish List' for developers.

Cllr Marshall asked for the entrance to Miller's Keep to be lit.

The Clerk asked Councillors how they would like her to proceed with grit bin refills. Some of the bins are half full and if topped up this would be charged as one fill, thereby using up one of the allocated two fills a year. Cllrs Sutherland and Marshall are to see if the grit currently in the bins can be broken up and re-used.

235 Planning Applications

The following application was then considered;

WD2011/2503F – 2 Mill View Close, Westham – Construction of porch to front elevation – **No objections.**