

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

21st May 2012

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

14 Present

Cllrs B Molog (Chair), K Sutherland, T Bruce, G Parsons, C Smith, P Marshall and B Tooley (B Tooley is also a District Councillor).

There were 3 members of the public in attendance.

15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Nash, T Comerford B Garner, K Saxby, J Blaker and R Perrin.

16 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16th April 2012 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

17 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following;

Eastbourne Borough Council confirmed they will keep Westham Parish Council in the loop about the proposed railway station.

Dog mess paint is approximately £6 a can, other Councils have conducted photograph session promoting this. The Clerk has also spoken to Eastbourne Borough Council about using the services of its Dog Warden.

Despite frequent requests there is still no word from tree warden about the Jubilee Oak. The commemorative plaque is due in the office any day now.

As there was no answer to emails about the planters the Clerk went to see the contractors the weekend before last and can now report that the carpenter is working on drawings for ESCC.

Foxes Hollow wall repairs are now complete and a reply is waited from Stone Cross Football Club.

Regarding Section 106 money from Ketcham Corner, the indemnity has been drafted, the Clerk has a couple of clarification points she is taking up with Wealden and should then be in a position to bring to the next meeting for signing.

The clasp has been fitted at Medina Drive. The Clerk also provided a brief update from the Clerk's Conference. Clerks met Wealden to discuss how best to work the localism changes.

18 Disclosures of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest in any items on this agenda nor were there any changes to the Register of Interest.

19 Reports on Committee Meetings held

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

20 Reports on Sub-Committee Meetings held.

The minutes of the Adur Park Sub-Committee were previously distributed. The Sub-Committee looked at lighting, the position of future teen equipment and possible alterations to the five bar gate.

Members of the Sub-Committee are to meet Ian Johnson from ESCC on the 24th May.

21 Reports from Outside Meetings

Cllr Molog attended the WDALC meeting in April. Trevor Scott and Trevor Leggo explained the changes to the Code of Conduct. There is no longer a National Code, regulations defining Disclosable Pecuniary Interests are awaited, and a new Register of Interests is expected to take effect from July.

Cllr Molog and the clerk attended the Localism Conference. The guest speaker was Bob Neill, the Under Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Cllr Molog attended the JAG Meeting, crime levels are low and police are looking at providing 30mph speed limit signs for use on dustbins.

Cllrs Molog and Parsons attended the Pevensey Town Trust Meeting, the trust has carried out a historical survey on the Court House.

Cllr Molog and Parsons attended the Parish Panel Meeting as observers and asked why Parish Councils have to pay for Planning Applications. Uckfield Town Council is piloting handling their own non-contraversial planning applications although it should be noted that Parish and Towns will bear the cost of appeals. Retrospective applications can not be applied if an enforcement notice is issued. Training on the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to be available in the autumn and it was also noted that the NPPF supports local high streets and that buildings deemed to be locally distinctive but not heritage of grade 1 or 2 can be protected as a heritage asset.

Cllr Molog attended an Engaging Youth Conference about participatory budgeting and ways to involve the local community in order to give them a sense of ownership regarding ways that money can benefit the community.

Cllr Molog also attended the WDALC Management meeting. Speaker Bob Standley from Wealden said that Wealden have agreed the revised Code of

Conduct which is expected to be adopted by other East Sussex Authorities. A guide to Neighbourhood Planning is also being prepared.

The meeting was suspended.

22 Reports from County/District Councillors

D Cllr Tooley reported that 195 homes are to be built on the Rickney side of Hailsham. The Community Infrastructure Levy came into force on 6th April and S106 money will be used for Affordable Housing only. He said that Wealden are to offer each Parish and Town Council a tree and there is to be a Jubilee picnic in Pevensey Castle on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th June. Greg Barker MP is visiting the Parish on 22nd June and is expected to look at the works proposed for Westham pond.

23 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Lovell thanked the Clerk for chasing the contractors about works in Geering Road.

The meeting was re-opened.

24 Emergency Plan - update

Cllr Nash has sent out the Emergency Plan Amendment to all on the distribution list. He continues to watch the Met Office, Environment Agency and DEFRA websites and has not missed a single Wealden District Emergency Radio Check.

The next task is to arrange for the Chairmen of Residents' Associations to receive a copy of the Emergency Plan, less the Confidential Page as agreed at the recent Sub-Committee Meeting.

25 Grazing Licence – Butchers' Field

Cllr Smith queried the concept of having a grazing licence. He was concerned about the council's position legally with access to the field to members of the public. He suggested if the agreement continues, the peppercorn rent is increased in line with the allotment charge and that the Parish Council is identified as the landlord.

Councillors resolved by six votes to one to renew the grazing licence to Mr Hanscombe for the year 2012-2013, subject to the Council being identified as the landowner.

The amount was not changed as councillors agreed that the sheep save the Parish Council money in looking after the field.

26 Financial Reports – End of Year Accounts

The Clerk previously distributed copies of the End of Year Accounts to the Councillors, and asked members to consider them for approval. This includes

the Annual Governance Statement. The Council thanked the Clerk for a job well done.

All councillors then resolved unanimously to approve the accounts to 31st March 2012 and referred them for audit.

27 Dog Mess

Councillors considered three options to minimise dog mess particularly in Adur Park.

Option 1 was to highlight the problem by spraying the mess pink. This was rejected due to a lack of volunteers.

Option 2 was to consider having stickers warning of possible fines for dog fouling. Councillors asked the clerk to get prices of stickers.

Option 3 was to consider employing the Dog Warden from Eastbourne Borough Council. The clerk is to find out how much this would cost.

28 Stone Cross Football Club

The Clerk sent a letter to the Club but has yet to receive a reply.

29 Playparks Inspections

Councillors resolved to accept the quote from Foster Playscapes to carry out the works highlighted in the Zurich Playparks Inspection Report.

30 Patcham Mill Road

Following a complaint about parking on Parish Council land at Patcham Mill Road, Cllr Tooley has spoken to the resident and the car in question has been moved.

31 Teen Shelter - Update

The police are to put dummy cameras on the Teen Shelter to alleviate any anti-social behaviour.

32 Risk Assessment

The following works were identified by the Risk Assessment;

<u>Area</u>	<u>Risk Identified</u>	<u>Resolution</u>
Westham Pond	Signage warning the public about deep water	Deferred until after the restoration works
Westham Pond	Banks to the pond eroded	Part of the restoration works

Westham Pond	Instructions for the lanyard to lifebelt	Contact manufacturer or ROSPA
War Memorial	Precautions to prevent members of the public from falling off the dias (on church land)	Letter to St Lukes' identifying the problem
Adur Park	Metal gate to culvert in Adur Park by the railway line needs a lock	Letter to Network Rail
Adur Park	Pedestrian gate to Friday Street entrance to the Park	On-going part of Adur Park Sub-Committee discussions
Adur Park	Manhole covers on path need repairs	Letter to Southern Water asking them to repair
Stone Cross	Fencing needs repair and a hazard to children	Letter to owner and Wealden
Play Areas	Bark chippings need topping up urgently	Purchase bark and authorise work
Parish Car Park	Height restriction sign on the car park barrier	Purchase a sticker stating the height.

Councillors also **resolved** the Risk Assessment Sub-Committee is re-formed.

Cllrs Molog, Parsons and Sutherland are to be members. Gerry Garner is to be co-opted as the Health and Safety and Risk Assessment advisor (non voting).

33 Questions from Members

Cllr Tooley asked the Parish Council to review the Parish Council's contribution for electricity at Stone Cross School and he also asked if there is a defibrillator at the school. These are to be items for the next Full Council Meeting.

Cllr Tooley also noted that contractors at Castle Bolton have erected a large wooden fence either side of the entrance to the new estate and it is on Parish Council land. Cllr Tooley and the clerk are to investigate.

Councillors wanted to express their thanks to the Litter Picker for an excellent job and asked the clerk to formally write to him expressing their thanks.

Councillors also agreed to send the residents who have properties around the pond in Westham and those in the High Street, a letter notifying them of the proposed works to the pond.

Cllr Molog asked if Councillors would like to talk to Wates about their plans for building in the Parish. Those present agreed and the Clerk is to arrange a meeting.

Cllr Molog asked that Councillors consider providing the clerk with a debit card. This is to be an agenda item for the next Full Council Meeting.

Cllr Bruce asked that future agendas are displayed on the noticeboards and the website.

34 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD2012/0648F	Westham Pond, Westham Restoration of pond. No objections on any planning grounds.
WD2012/1037F	Long View, Dittons Road Demolition of single storey building and the erection of an enlarged single storey extension at side. No objections on any planning grounds.
WD2012/0855F	42 Beechfield Close, Stone Cross Conversion of garage into habitable room. No planning objections as long as this causes no problems to residents parking there.
WD2012/0839F	21 Glessing Road, Stone Cross Rear conservatory. No objections.
WD2012/0886F	17 Oaklands, Westham Conservatory to rear and side Elevation. No objections.