

**Westham Parish Council
Newsletter Winter 2012**



**Westham Parish Council
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Office opens to the public 10.00am – 12.00pm

Tuesday and Thursday only

Office closed Wednesday

Please phone to make an appointment to see the Clerk – Thank you.

Your Councillors

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At the latest Full Council Meetings the Parish Council agreed;

- To switch electricity suppliers and considerably reduce our bills for streetlighting.
- To provide a new adult/teen exercise area in Adur Park. Money has been given to the Parish Council via the District Council.
- Not to re-apply apply for reaccreditation as a Quality Parish Council as they could see no benefit. It was felt more can be achieved using the new General Power of Competence.
- To accept the new Wealden Code of Conduct as it complies with the new Localism Act.
- To join the Parish Council's lighting with the ESCC Night Light Scheme. Most street lighting in the Parish is to be switched off between 12.30am and 5.30am from Christmas 2012. Lighting on the main roads and the main roads to the estates is to remain lit.

Financial information from the draft minutes of the Full Council November 2012

- After very careful consideration, having considered the year on year trend, the effects of having no precept increase for three years and the prospective increase in the council tax base with the extra housing, Councillors **resolved** that the precept for 2013-2014 is increased by just under 2% to £130500.00. This decision also allows the Parish Council to meet its future statutory commitments and apply for admission to the Local Government Pension Scheme

- The Council also agreed to award the following grants

Friendship Lunch	£ 250.00
Stone Cross Memorial Hall	£ 400.00
Westham Village Hall	£ 400.00
Stone Cross Mill Trust	£ 400.00
Mediation +	£ 350.00

—————
£1800.00

- Councillors **resolved** to defer the decision to award two further grants pending more detailed applications from the organisations concerned.

News from Around the Parish

Work on Westham Pond started on 29th October 2012

Councillors Garner and Marshall made a successful bid to SITA for a grant of £25,000 to help with essential restoration work to Westham Pond. Planning permission was granted and local contractors Chaffins cleared all the excess shrubs from the surrounding area free of charge. Many thanks to everyone, without your help this to this project would not have gone ahead.



**The new look
Westham Pond**

Stone Cross Windmill

You will have noticed that the top of the windmill has been missing for over two years, but not anymore. All essential repair work has now been completed and the results can be seen and hopefully admired from afar. The maintenance team, who are all volunteers, have worked tirelessly to complete the repairs. This is a mammoth task, thank you all. We have a Carol Service at St Luke's Church Stone Cross on Sunday 16th December 3.00pm we would love to see you there. Your support is very much needed.



**Newly repaired Stone Cross
Windmill**

Wealden Insulation

Wealden residents could benefit by more than £300 per year if they act quickly to take advantage of a generous grant scheme for cavity wall and loft insulation offered through Wealden District Council and Downs Energy. The scheme provides free insulation to Wealden households, thanks to the Government's Carbon Energy Reduction programme to promote energy efficiency. But residents should act fast, because 2012 is likely to be the last year that free insulation will be available. For more information and to arrange a survey, **call Downs Energy on 01444 460110**

Whilst every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information supplied in the Newsletter, Westham and Stone Cross Community Council cannot be responsible for any errors or omissions. Unless otherwise indicated the opinions expressed in the Newsletter are those of the author of the item and do not necessarily represent the views of Westham Parish Council