

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

17th June 2013

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

71 Present

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

District Councillor B Tooley and 7 members of the public were in attendance, including G Garner.

72 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from C Cllr Pursglove.

73 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the Full Council Meeting held on 20th May 2013 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

74 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that;

- new name bars have been received for Council Meetings.
- Wealden District Council said the Strategic Sites exhibition held at Stone Cross recently was a great success.

75 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.

76 Reports on Committee Meetings held

Cllr Comerford	Finance and General Purposes	10 June 2013
Cllr Blaker	Planning	10 June 2013
Cllr Marshall	Parks and Open Spaces	10 June 2013

77 Reports on Sub-Committee Meetings held.

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

78 Co-option of new Councillor

At the request of a councillor, Members agreed that this item was moved to the end of the agenda when the public had been asked to leave the meeting.

79 Reports from Outside Meetings

Cllr Nash reported on behalf of the Westham and Pevensey Transport Partnership, that Joyce Richards is stepping down as Company Secretary. He also reported there has been a drop in passenger numbers and that the accounts have been presented to Companies House.

Cllr Molog attended;

- the Joint Action Group Meeting (JAG) on 11th June 2013. There is a new Police Constable for this area. The main issues of the police are speeding and parking. It was also reported that No Cold Calling Zones and postal scams are being reviewed.
- The Wealden District Association meeting on the 12th June finalised the agenda for the Parish Conference and noted Wealden has a new leaner Management Structure.

Cllr Saxby attended the Chairman's Networking Day on the 12th June and noted the following for future consideration;

- social networking and the possibility of a Facebook page for Parish Council announcements.
- Neighbourhood Planning although it was noted that producing a Neighbourhood Plan has cost one parish £30,000.
- The number of dangers involved when land is taken over.

The meeting was then suspended.

80 Report from PCSO Ali Shadbolt

There was no report from PCSO Shadbolt on this occasion.

81 Introduction of new First Responder in Westham

The First Responders were unable to attend this meeting.

82 Reports from County/District Councillors

D Cllr Tooley circulated a list of Wealden District Council's achievements over the past year.

- The new Joint Waste Contract is operating and a call centre has been set up to deal with queries. D Cllr Tooley is to investigate the new arrangements for road sweeping.

- Wealden has introduced Dog Control Orders. Wealden's Officers, PCSO's and Council employees can now issue fines for dog fouling.
- Wealden has introduced a new Mortgage Scheme to help first time buyers. Further details are available on www.wealden.gov.uk.

D Cllr Tooley confirmed he will check the following with officers at Wealden;

- the boundary for the Windmill Walk Housing application is in line with the original planning application.
- that the £70,000 earmarked for a second lane at the Red Lion crossroads will also address the problem of increased queuing on the Hailsham Road.

83 Question from Members of the Public

Mrs Durling asked the Parish Council to take up concerns she has that the Strategic Sites will cause more flooding in the Peelings Lane area.

Mrs Durling also asked if the Parish Council has any plans to plant wildflowers at Butcher's Field. This is addressed in minute 90.

The meeting was re-opened.

84 Emergency Plan - update

Cllr Nash reported that this continues to be a fortunate area to live in, emergency wise. The emergency radio continues to be tested fortnightly although only by three or four parishes. There have been no reported cases of Ash die back.

Cllr Nash also appealed for updates to the Emergency Plan.

Stone Cross School is currently reviewing its Emergency Plan and will send the Parish Council a copy upon its completion.

85 Adult Exercise Equipment

The rowing machine in the adult exercise equipment has been closed off following an incident, safety checks have been carried out and a report is due from the Health and Safety Executive.

The Health and Safety Executive have apologised for the delay in sending out the report.

86 Registration of Westham Pond

Cllr Marshall has completed the paperwork required to register all the pond and is to send a copy to the Clerk. Members **resolved** the pond is valued at £1 for Land Registry purposes.

87 Requests from Red Dyke Residents' Association – to move the Medina Road Grit Bin.

Councillors Sutherland and Marshall are to meet the Association to see where the Association would like the bin moved to.

88 Stone Cross School

Councillors **resolved** to pay a grant to the school for £440 towards the electricity costs of the Parish Council Offices and Amenity Hall. This allows for an increase in the cost of electricity this year.

89 Pevensey and Westham Junior Football Club

Councillors **resolved** unanimously to renew the licence to the Football Club for the year 2013-2014.

90 Butcher's Field

Cllr Smith expressed concern that the nominal rent for Butcher's Field is disproportionate to the charge made for the allotments.

Councillors agreed the animals save maintenance costs and **resolved** unanimously to renew the grazing licence to Mr Hanscombe for the year 2013-2014.

91 Questions from Members

Cllr Saxby said he queried with Mr Davison from Hedley's Solicitors whether 'Any Other Business' is a legitimate agenda item. He confirmed it is not and questions should be with the Clerk three days before the meeting. Westham Parish Council's Standing Orders state fourteen days.

Cllr Comerford asked if anything can be done about the graffiti on the Community Shelter. Cllr Parsons said that graffiti used to appear along all the fencing before the shelter was erected. Councillors agreed to leave the graffiti as it will only be replaced by other graffiti.

Cllr Saxby asked if he can re-introduce the newsletter in an electronic format.

Cllr Bruce asked if the Parish Council would like a self watering planter she won in a competition recently. Councillors thought the Residents' Associations might like it and asked the Clerk to offer it to them.

Cllr Molog asked that the website includes a link for Healthwatch. Councillors agreed and Councillor Molog will email the link to the Clerk.

Cllr Molog also expressed concern that PCSO time is being abused by residents complaining about children's ball games. This is then reported as a crime. Cllr Garner noted she was the only one to attend a recent street meet about ball games. Cllr Molog is to circulate the police definition of what constitutes anti social behaviour.

Cllrs Perrin and Sutherland expressed their disappointment that the First Responders were unable to attend this meeting. Cllr Perrin also expressed disappointment that the new County Councillor has not been able to attend a Full Council Meeting yet although he has been reported to be instrumental in helping get the Hankham Hall Road resurfaced.

At this point the Chair suspended the meeting and requested members of the public to leave. The meeting was re-opened when the public had left.

91 Co-option of Councillor

After careful consideration Westham Parish Council **resolved**, using the Chairman's casting vote, that Keith Stevens is co-opted as a Parish Councillor to Westham Parish Council to replace Bill Tooley.

92 Planning Applications

The following applications were considered;

WD2013/1179F – The Wildings – Erection of orangery to side elevation with a linking conservatory element off the rear elevation – **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application.**

WD2013/1020F – 11 Pevensey Park Road – Single storey extension with pitched roof and flat roof rear dormer to form bathrooms and bedroom; two storey extension with flat roof to form living room at ground floor and bedroom at first floor. Removal of curved bay and construction of square bay with pitched roof – **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application.**

WD2013/2583MAO – Land to the North of Dittons Road, Stone Cross – Amended description – Outline planning application for residential development including affordable housing together with vehicular and pedestrian access, associated car parking, landscaping and open space – **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application.**

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8:27pm.