

## WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

21st October 2013

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

214 Present

Cllrs K Saxby (Chairman), P Marshall, M Nash, J Blaker, B Garner, B Molog, K Stevens, T Comerford, G Garner and G Parsons.

County Councillor M Pursglove, District Councillor B Tooley and 3 members of the public were in attendance.

215 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R Perrin, T Bruce and K Sutherland.

216 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16th September 2013 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

217 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that;

- the water mains replacement work in Rickney Lane that was due to start on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October has been postponed.
- a small amount of money is available to parishes to help repair fingerpost signs and the repairs to the fingerpost sign at Ketcham Corner may qualify.

218 Signing in and official welcome of new Councillor

The Chairman welcomed Gerry Garner who officially signed in as the new Parish Councillor.

219 Reports on Committee Meetings held

Cllr Comerford	Finance and General Purposes	14 October 2013
Cllr Blaker	Planning	14 October 2013
Cllr Marshall	Parks and Open Spaces	14 October 2013

220 Reports on Sub-Committee Meetings held.

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

221 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillor Molog attended;

- the Wealden District Association of Local Councils (WDALC) meetings of 18<sup>th</sup> September and 16<sup>th</sup> October. Topics discussed included fingerpost signs, the council tax support grant, the Parish Conference and refuse collection. The new Dog Control Order, if approved, could come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014. WDALC minutes are available on the Wealden District Council website.
- the Wealden Safer Partnership Joint Action Group meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> October with Councillor Sutherland. Dennis Donovan is the new Crime Prevention Design Adviser. Shed alarms are currently being trialled and if successful will be available to all parishes.
- the East Sussex Association of Local Councils meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> October. ESALC has experienced problems with banking and NALC is reviewing the Quality Parish Scheme.
- The East Sussex Town and Parish Conference of the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Road Safety and Transport in general were the main subjects discussed.

Councillor Nash attended the Westham and Pevensey Local Transport meeting. The merger with Cuckmere Community Bus means a new service will start on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

He also reported that Westham Village Hall needs to raise funds to replace some of its lighting.

Councillors Saxby and Comerford attended the Patients' Forum. 1500 residents have had or are expected to have their flu jabs soon. Patients are encouraged to attend the Stone Cross Surgery for their jabs as it has more room.

The meeting was then suspended.

222 Report from PCSO Liz McDonagh

PCSO McDonagh was unable to attend on this occasion but sent a written report which said;

- there have been calls about youths in Pickens Wood.
- there has been one report of possible drug dealing in Hankham.
- there have been two burglaries at Hilliers' Garden Centre.
- a signet swan been was run over at Montfort Road.
- a bicycle was stolen from Potts Marsh Industrial Estate.
- a Sat Nav and DVD player were stolen from an unlocked vehicle in Bartley Mill Close.

She will continue to patrol the area and take any follow up action.

223 Reports from County/District Councillors

County Councillor Pursglove reported that;

- he met Rupert Clubb and Rupert Simmonds at ESCC to discuss the future of school crossing patrols and the Willingdon Chord.

District Councillor Tooley reported that;

- Greg Barker MP is to visit Stone Cross School on 25<sup>th</sup> November to look at the new IT Suite and would like to hold a surgery in the Amenity Hall that morning. Councillors had no objections to this.
- there have been a few problems with the new recycling contract but Wealden are working hard to put them right. Residents waiting for brown bins who have used their old recycling bins are asked to put notes on the bins and Keir will collect the garden waste in them.
- an appeal for the Wind Turbine application is being lodged.
- planning applications have been received for solar farms in Wealden. Parishes are being encouraged to have a solar farm policy.
- he spoke to officers at Wealden to see if there can be a roundabout on Dittons Road when the new development at Uplands Farm is built. ESCC feels that separate accesses will be adequate and Wealden does not have the power to change this.
- he sits on the Audit Committee and has noted that Wealden holds £75m worth of assets. He feels this needs to be investigated.

224 Question from Members of the Public

Mr Jones from Foxes Hollow Residents Association asked the Parish Council to join the paths at Boniface Close and Banner Way.

Mr Lovell from Foxes Hollow asked the Parish Council to consider awarding a grant to the Eastbourne Stroke Society. The Society is a self help group which meets at St Luke's Church.

Mr Tooley asked if the Parish Council has considered having free Heartstart training which is available from the First Responders. He also asked the Parish Council to keep an eye on the ecological survey currently taking place on the land south of Rattle Road which he feels is quite destructive.

The meeting was re-opened.

225 Emergency Plan - update

Councillor Nash has received a few amendments to the Emergency Plan. Committee and Sub-Committee members will shortly receive a new 'Be Aware' report.

226 Adult Exercise Equipment

No updates have been received from Trading Standards.

Having sought legal advice, Councillors **resolved** to erect a sign by the exercise equipment to read as follows;

'Attention – Age and health restrictions apply. Before using equipment please read and comply with manufacturer's instructions displayed on each piece of equipment'.

227 Foxes Hollow – collapsed drain update.

The Clerk reported that the contractors hope to start work on the 23<sup>rd</sup> or the 24<sup>th</sup> October.

228 Paths on Foxes Hollow – to consider upgrading

Councillors considered the two quotes to join the path at Boniface Close with the path at Banner Way and asked Councillor Garner to draft a specification. Upon receipt of the specification the clerk will get two prices to that specification.

229 Castle Bolton – to consider extending the fencing.

Councillor Comerford asked for the post and wire fencing to be extended on the open land opposite 33 Castle Bolton for security reasons.

After much debate Councillors **resolved** to:

- contact the Crime Prevention Design Adviser at Sussex Police for advice.
- contact Taylor Wimpey who are reported to have removed the fence to find out why and seek compensation or replacement of fence
- implement the recommendations of the Crime Prevention Design Adviser. The Responsible Officer will implement the recommendations.

230 Playground Inspections

Councillors considered the work recommended in the Zurich Annual Playpark Inspections Report and instructed the Clerk to have the work carried out.

231 Westham School Crossing Patrol

East Sussex County Council is considering withdrawing funding for a School Crossing Patrol at Westham because there is a pedestrian crossing there. Councillors **resolved** to meet half the cost at £1500 but they will see if they can get funding elsewhere in the community. Councillor B Garner will talk to Pevensey and Westham School, Councillor Parsons will ask Pevensey Parish Council and Councillor Stevens will ask businesses in Westham for support.

232 Provision of Play Facilities in the Parish

Wealden District Council is holding £157,073.10 for play spaces which the Parish Council can draw down.

Councillors **resolved** to set up a Working Party to draft a plan. The Working Party will consist of the following councillors;

Barbara Molog  
Gill Parsons  
Gerry Garner  
Bev Garner  
John Blaker  
Peter Marshall  
Ken Saxby

The first meeting will take place at 9am on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October in the Amenity Hall, Stone Cross.

Councillor Stevens will contact Michelle Grey at Wealden to see if this money counts as match funding if the Parish Council needs to apply for any grants.

233 Review of the Parish Council's Committees

Planning

Councillors **resolved** that planning applications will be considered at the Full Council Meeting, any falling outside Wealden's consultation period will be deferred to Councillors Molog, Blaker and Perrin. Major applications will be considered at the Full Council Meeting.

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Councillors **resolved** that the following councillors will serve on the new Finance and General Purposes Committee;

Barbara Molog  
Keith Stevens  
Teresa Bruce  
Terry Comerford  
Michael Nash  
Gill Parsons  
Ken Saxby

The new Finance and General Purposes Committee is to meet at 7.30pm. The meeting dates and terms of reference remain unchanged.

Parks and Open Spaces Committee

Councillors **resolved** that the following councillors will serve on the new Parks and Open Committee;

Bev Garner  
Gerry Garner  
John Blaker  
Keith Sutherland  
Roger Perrin  
Peter Marshall  
Ken Saxby

The new Parks and Open Spaces Committee is to meet at 8.00pm. The meeting dates and terms of reference remain unchanged.

234 Questions from Members

Councillor Molog asked that the Business Plan is an item for the next Full Council Meeting agenda.

Councillor Marshall asked for some maintenance work to be carried out to the playparks. He will give the clerk a list.

235 Planning Applications

The following applications were considered;

WD2013/2031F – Mercedes Benz, Westham – Use existing scrub land for the display of motor vehicles for sale – **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application on any planning grounds as long as the land is only used for parking cars.**

WD2013/2116F – 11 Bartley Mill Close, Stone Cross – Single storey side extension and alterations to garage – **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application on any planning grounds.**

WD2013/2096F – Proposed conversion of garage into a study, replacement of a rear boundary fence with a brick wall together with alterations to existing flat roofed extension to include a glazed atrium - **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application on any planning grounds.**

WD2013/2091F – 11 Pevensey Park Road – Single storey side extension with pitched roof rear dormer to form garage and bedroom, loft conversion with rear flat roof dormer to form bathrooms and bedroom, two storey rear extension with pitched roof to form living room at ground floor and room in roof bedroom at first floor and removal of curved bay to square bay to sitting room on front elevation and construction of square bay with pitched roof - **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application on any planning grounds.**

WD2013/2085F – Langsett, Rattle Road – Proposed detached dwelling within cutilage of Langsett - **Westham Parish Council objects to this application as it has concerns about the access to the main road.**

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8:40pm.

