

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

17th February 2014

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

294 Present

Cllrs K Saxby (Chairman), M Nash, B Garner, B Molog, K Stevens, G Garner, K Sutherland, R Perrin, P Marshall, T Comerford, G Parsons and T Bruce.

County Councillor M Pursglove, PCSO E McDonagh, PC Kelly Simmonds, A Hillman (Clerk) and three members of the public were in attendance.

295 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

296 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 20th January 2014 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

297 Clerk's Report

New Standing Orders will be presented to the Parish Councillors at the April meeting for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

298 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.

299 Reports on Committee Meetings held

The minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 10th February 2014 were received and adopted by the Full Council.

300 Reports on Sub-Committee Meetings held.

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

301 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillor Molog and the Clerk attended Parish Training on 3rd February 2014. Subjects covered included Solar Farm applications, the latest news on Permitted Development Rights and details of successful enforcement prosecutions.

Councillors Molog and Stevens attended the Parish Planning Meeting on 3rd February 2014. Subjects covered included solar farms, the viability of the Community Infrastructure Levy and the current capacity of the Hailsham Waste Water Treatment Facility.

Councillor Nash attended the Westham Village Hall Committee Meeting on 27th January. The Committee thanked the Parish Council for its grant and is to seek additional funding from the Police Auction Fund. Councillor Nash asked the Clerk to chase Wealden about repairing the wall to the front of the hall. Councillors G and Mrs B Garner said they believe the wall has now been repaired.

Councillor Perrin attended the St John the Baptist Meeting held on the 17th February. The Trust's vacant bungalow has now been allocated to two Pevensey residents.

The meeting was then suspended.

302 Report from PCSO Liz McDonagh

PCSO McDonagh reported an increase in the number of scams in the area and urged residents to be particularly wary of bogus doorstep callers and telephone callers.

Crime is generally low in all three villages. Reported crimes include the theft of a bicycle rack, damage to a fence, the theft of a drain cover and subsequent van damage and the theft of a safe from the Red Lion.

She continues to target parking outside all three schools and asks parents to park their cars more considerately.

PCSO McDonagh also answered questions from Councillor Perrin about traffic enforcement and Councillor Saxby about scams.

303 Reports from County/District Councillors

There were no reports from any of the District Councillors.

County Councillor Pursglove reported that he has taken up the issue of flooding at Rattle Road with Southern Water and they are investigating possible causes of the recent flooding.

He said Parish Councils are being asked to match fund ESCC for any projects they would like carried out and suggested the Parish Council might like to consider reducing the speed limit through Westham High Street. Councillors questioned whether such speed limits are enforceable.

Councillor Marshall asked what County Councillor Pursglove's views are regarding infrastructure and the new developments. County Councillor Pursglove said in his personal view, in an ideal world, the infrastructure would be put in place before development takes place.

304 Question from Members of the Public

Mr Bradford from Church Bailey asked how the Parish Council can help residents of Church Bailey. Church Bailey residents are being asked to find substantial sums for maintenance which he said many do not have. Mr Bradford was referred to his local District Councillor.

Mr Bradford also asked the Parish Council to consider making Butcher's Field a car park. This request has been considered and rejected previously by the Parish Council.

Mr Gay from Red Dyke Residents' Association asked the Parish Council to consider allowing the Association to use Adur Park for events. Councillors were generally in favour providing the event is insured, complies with Health and Safety Requirements and details are given in advance, to the Parish Council.

The meeting was re-opened.

305 Emergency Plan - update

Following a couple of late alterations, the revised Emergency Plan will now be put before the Full Council for approval in March. Councillor Nash was asked to consider the possibility of providing alternative accommodation for people and animals in the event of an emergency.

Councillor Stevens is to circulate the ESCC Draft Emergency Action Plan to all Parish Councillors for their information.

Councillor Marshall is to update the Emergency Card.

306 Paths on Foxes Hollow

Councillor G Garner reported that work has been delayed and believes this is probably due to the recent severe weather conditions.

PC Simmonds and PCSO McDonagh left the meeting.

307 Additional Bus Shelter in Westham

Councillors were asked to consider a request from Mrs Bishop of Montfort Road for a bus shelter in Westham.

Councillors **resolved** that they were unable to consider funding an additional bus shelter in the parish in the current financial climate.

308 Provision of Play Facilities in the Parish

Wealden's Legal Department are to draft the relevant indemnity agreement for the Parish to sign and then the funds can be transferred.

309 Wish List

The Wish List is a list of assets and services that Developers can be asked to provide with proposed future developments and is currently as follows;

Cover printing and delivery costs of the glossy brochure for new residents.
Provide a new Community Leisure Facility.
Contribute towards Community Transport.
Help local schools accommodate the extra pupil numbers.
Provide picnic tables throughout the Parish.
Sponsor grit bins for, say, 5 years.
Replace the plastic bus shelters.
Upgrade the play parks.
Adur Park – to include a car park.
Butcher's Field.
Westham Pond.
Allotment Site.
Outside Christmas trees for each village.

Councillors agreed to add 'Fit new additional bus shelters in the parish' to the list.

310 Allotment Charge 2014-2015

Councillors **resolved** the charge for 2014-2015 will remain £7 for the year for each allotment.

311 Westham Pond

Councillor G Garner reported that water levels at Westham Pond rose drastically in the recent wet weather but the overflow has been cleared and there have been no reports of any flooding. He will continue to monitor the water levels.

312 Streets' Ahead

Councillors considered the request from District Councillor Clark that Westham joins Pevensey as a front runner in Wealden District Council's Street' Ahead project. Councillors asked the Clerk to find out what is involved.

313 Pevensey Castle Food Festival

Councillors considered the request from District Councillor Clark that Westham Parish Council considers hosting an Annual Food Festival in Pevensey Castle with Pevensey Parish Council Councillors asked the Clerk to find out what would be involved.

314 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Saxby asked the judges of the Christmas Lights Competition to consider drawing up criteria on which to base the winning entry/entries

Councillor Perrin asked Parish Councillors to consider ways to alleviate damage to the green and verges at Westham which has been caused by inconsiderate parking. This is to be an item on the agenda for the April Full Council Meeting.

Councillor Sutherland asked the Parish Council to consider the possibility of future damage being caused to the path by Stone Cross pond should the pond flood again. Neighbouring residents are believed to be negotiating with the owner of the pond to buy it and they will clear the overflow to maximise water flow and minimise the chance of it flooding again. The Clerk has recommended to neighbours that they contact Wealden District Council who may be able to take Enforcement Action. The Clerk was also asked to ask Wealden to respond.

315 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered by Councillors;

WD2014/0240F – Land within the curtilage of and adjacent to 2 Mill Villas, Beggar's Lane – Proposed demolition of existing garage and outbuildings, erection of a pair of semi detached houses (1 no. two bedroom and 1 no. three bedroom) and 1 no. two bedroom chalet bungalow together with garage and car parking space - **Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application as long as any damage caused to Beggar's Lane is made good and resurfaced.**

WD2014/0254F – 28 Castle View Gardens – Erect single storey extension at rear to replace conservatory – **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8:30pm.