

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

21st July 2014

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

84 Present

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

County Councillor Pursglove, District Councillor B Tooley, A Hillman (Clerk) and ten members of the public were in attendance.

85 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sutherland and Bruce were accepted by those present.

86 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16th June 2014 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

87 Clerk's Report

ESCC is hosting an afternoon tea on 8th November 2014 to celebrate the contribution volunteers make in the county. Nominations are being sought and can be given to the Clerk.

Councillors noted the office computer is to be upgraded shortly.

88 Disclosures of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest nor changes to the Register of Interests.

89 Reports on Committee Meetings held

The Minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee Meeting which was held on 14th July 2014 were received and adopted by the Parish Council.

90 Reports on Sub-Committee Meetings held.

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

91 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillor Molog attended;

- the Wealden Food and Wine Festival meeting on 18th June where members discussed parking arrangements for the event.
- the Pevensey Villages meetings of the 24th June and the 7th July which looked at sources of funding and website development.
- the Pevensey Town Trust meeting of 25th June with Councillor Parsons. Members have requested a survey for the repairs needed to the west wall of the Court House.
- the Police Street Meeting on 26th June at Pride View. Residents at Pride View experience problems with cars using the slip road as a short cut from Rattle Road.
- the Wealden District Association Annual General Meeting on the 2nd July. Councillor Stevens is the new Chairman of the WDALC.
- the Police Street meeting of 9th July. Residents were also concerned that the slip road at Lion Hill is being used as a rat run.

Councillor B Garner attended;

- a Speedwatch Meeting on 16th July at Hailsham Police Station. Parishes and Towns are being asked to part fund equipment in a bid to make the scheme more flexible.
- the latest Stone Cross Memorial Hall meeting. Members hope to appoint two new trustees soon and are looking for two more. There is to be a fund raising quiz at the Hall on 4th October.

Councillor Comerford attended;

- the Patients' Panel Meeting held on the 7th July. It was noted that;
 - i: Stone Cross Medical Centre now has a Saturday clinic.
 - ii: that there has also been a problem with patients requesting more medicine than they need.
 - iii: discussions with Stagecoach for a shuttle bus between the District General and Conquest hospitals are continuing.

Councillor Stevens attended;

- the SSALC meeting of the 17th July. It was noted that the Association's subscriptions are expected to rise but by no more than £24 for 2015-2016. There was also a presentation about the SPACES project which encourages organisations to share council property. Energy procurement was also discussed.
- the Assembly Conference on 14th July. ESCC gave a presentation about First World War Projects. Help is needed to identify commemoration plaques in the county.
- the Joint Action Group Meeting. The police are encouraging parishes to fit shed alarms and use Operation Immobilise. Operation Immobilise helps the Police identify stolen property. Councillor Molog noted the police have yet to organise local meetings.

The meeting was then suspended.

92 Report from PCSO Liz McDonagh

PCSO McDonagh was unable to attend on this occasion.

93 Reports from County/District Councillors

County Councillor Pursglove reported;

- ESCC approved an application for a large wind farm off of the coast at Brighton.
- ESCC has launched Community Self Serve and suggested the Parish Council could take over the verge cutting.
- cuts including those to care homes and meals on wheels are now taking effect.

District Councillor Tooley sent a written report in which he said;

- Wealden District Council has launched an apprentice scheme in partnership with Sussex Downs College to provide six apprentices with the opportunity to develop business administration skills.
- missed rubbish bins are currently running at 0.2 - 0.3%.
- latest figures show that less than 5% of waste now goes to landfill and 95% is now either recycled or incinerated.
- there are a number of significant bids for the redundant council offices in Crowborough.
- Wealden District Council is undertaking a review of Council Tax Liabilities for mobile homes. Static caravans are generally rated for business and not residential. If the caravan is the sole or main residence it may need to be banded for council tax.
- new registration governing bailiffs and a single Fraud Service is now operational at Wealden. Bailiffs are now called 'Enforcement Agents'.
- the universal credit scheme is now expected to become operational in East Sussex in 2016.
- the new Wealden website is now operational.
- there is to be a review of the option to webcast committee meetings and eventually Full Council Meetings.
- the new Housing Solutions Officer now assists occupiers across all tenures who need to move when their existing accommodation cannot be adapted to meet their long term disability needs.

District Councillor Tooley also asked residents to monitor the verge cutting in the parish and report any problems to him.

94 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Walker and Mrs Bounds asked the Parish Council to take into account the size of the extension at 44 Pevensey Park Road which they feel is an overdevelopment and possible subsidence risk.

Mr Walker and Mrs Bounds also complained about the state of Pevensey Park Road which is now reported to have a three inch drop. County Councillor Pursglove will take this up with County.

Mrs Bounds asked for a dog bin in Pevensey Park Road to be moved. District Councillor Tooley will take this up with Wealden.

Mr Clark asked the Parish Council to take into account potential access problems when commenting on the proposed new estate at Ketcham Corner. because the new estate's access will open onto a single track road.

The meeting was re-opened.

95 Verges in Westham and Hankham

The verges at Hankham are still in a bad state.

ESCC say the Parish Council can extend the bollards on the green at Westham but it will need to apply for a licence and use ESCC's contractors because they have £10m insurance. Councillors asked the Clerk to get prices.

96 Shuttle Bus Service between the District General and Conquest Hospitals

This was covered under item 91.

97 Grazing Licence

Councillors **resolved** to extend the grazing licence to Mr Hanscombe until 30th June 2015.

98 Play Park - update

Councillor G Garner circulated a written report before the meeting which said;

'Playdale completed the installation of the new playground equipment on the 11th July as was programmed. A further two weeks was required to complete inspections and carry out minor remedial works to pass re-inspection, the sites were finally cleared of all the contractors equipment on the 18th of July. The project was virtually trouble free with just a few minor problems which were successfully overcome. The only disappointing aspect was the excessive amount of vandalism and anti-social behaviour whilst work was in progress. Unfortunately this has continued now the play parks are in use. Despite this there is a positive response from many people who are very pleased with the new equipment and safety surface, which should last for many years'.

Councillors thanked Councillors Mr and Mrs Garner for over-seeing the installation of the new equipment.

Councillor Molog suggested the Parish Council may need to fit CCTV equipment if vandalism continues.

99 Hobney Rise – Right of Access

Councillor G Garner said the owners of the land next to the Parish Council land at Hobney Rise have offered an informal right of access for council contractors over their land.

Councillors agreed to monitor the situation as the access may not now be required because the contractors can now use the path from Hobney Rise.

100 Allotment Gate

Councillors **resolved** to accept a price from the contractors to fit a new gate at the allotment entrance. The Parish Council will supply and fit the gate. Allotment holders will be asked to provide a lock.

Councillor Parsons asked for 'allotments' to be an agenda item for the next meeting to consider contracts for allotment holders.

101 Community Payback Team

The Community Payback Team has started working in the parish and is expected to return once some internal changes to the team have been made. These changes could mean the team has to fund its own insurance.

102 Pevensey Food Festival

Wealden District Council has asked the Parish Council if they can use Adur Park as parking for the Pevensey Food Festival in August.

Westham Parish Council **resolved** not to use the Park which would have needed to be risk assessed and marshalled.

103 Stone Cross Royals

Westham Parish Council **resolved** the Club can have an extended contract which will expire on 15th August 2017.

The Club requested the extension as they are to pay for and provide goal posts for three pitches.

104 Singleton Mill Road

Westham Parish Council **resolved** not to allow a resident at Singleton Mill Close to put a gate from her property on to Parish Council land because it feels it will set a precedent.

105 Risk Assessment

Councillor G Garner said the Risk Assessment is currently up to date.

106 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Molog asked why the Stone Cross crossroads were resurfaced when they will need to be adapted for the new housing soon. It is believed the roads were resurfaced for the Tour of Britain cycle race later in the year.

Councillor Molog asked the Parish Council to formally acknowledge the loss of Margaret Spencer. Mrs Spencer was a long term resident who served as a spy in the Second World War.

Councillor Saxby noted changes in the registration of voting may affect some residents. More details are available on the Wealden District Council website. He also said the bus service, which includes the school bus service, is being restructured. The consultation process is now open and details can be found on the ESCC website.

Councillor Saxby also said the last two Lancaster bombers will be on display at this year's Airbourne in August.

107 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD2014/1211F – 15 Pevensey Park Road, Westham – Single storey rear extension - **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

WD2014/1392F – Lusted Farm, Glynleigh Road – Lean-to providing cover to an existing livestock area - **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

WD2014/1315F – 44 Pevensey Park Road, Westham – Rooms in roof and garage – **Westham Parish Council objects to this application which it sees as an overdevelopment which is out of keeping with its surrounding area.**

WD2014/1025MAJ – Land North of Peelings Lane – Proposed new development to provide 8 no. two bedroom houses, 6 no. three bed houses and 4 no. one bed flats with associated vehicular and pedestrian access, parking and landscaping – **Westham Parish Council objects to this application because it has concerns about the access and flooding. Access to the new estate is from a single track road and the new neighbouring development has already flooded. It was also noted the traffic survey was carried out on a Saturday afternoon when the road is at its quietest. The pathway mentioned is also non existent.**

WD2014/1356F – 4 Lambourn Avenue, Stone Cross – Single storey rear extension forming new garden room and infill extension forming enlarged utility room - **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

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