

## WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

14<sup>th</sup> September 2015

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

115 Present

Councillors K Stevens, T Bruce, G Garner, T Comerford, N Beaney, F Durling, A Lovell, P Marshall, R Perrin and J Blaker.

Eight members of the public were also in attendance.

116 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J McClarty and G Parsons were accepted by those present. Apologies were also received from District Councillors Dear and Balsdon.

117 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

118 Clerk's Report

The Clerk has received a request from the East Sussex Movie Club to use the small play park in Adur Park for filming on 19<sup>th</sup> September. Councillors agreed to the request but stated that the Club must get permission from parents if they film any children at the same time.

The Clerk also said that following a request from Councillor McClarty, she has some more yellow and black 'slow children' and 'slow horses' signs that could be erected in Peelings Lane. The signs were free from ESCC and the Westham Conservation Group will erect them. Councillors agreed that the Conservation Group can erect the signs in Peelings Lane.

119 Co-option of New Councillor

Councillors considered the application from Ken Saxby to become a Parish Councillor.

Councillor Comerford proposed and Councillor Garner seconded that Mr Saxby be appointed as he has a lot of experience of being a Parish Councillor, he would represent Hankham and he only narrowly missed being elected in the May election.

Councillor Durling felt the decision to appoint should be deferred to a later meeting to allow more people to come forward.

Westham Parish Council **resolved** by nine votes to one to co-opt Mr Saxby as a Parish Councillor. Mr Saxby duly signed and completed the Acceptance of

Office and Register of Interests and joined the rest of the meeting.

120 Appointment of Vice Chairman

Westham Parish Council **resolved** that Councillor Garner is the Vice Chairman of Westham Parish Council. Councillor Garner duly accepted the role.

121 Disclosures of Interests

No disclosures of interests were declared on any items on the agenda, not were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

122 Reports on Committee Meetings held

There have been no committee meetings since the last Full Council Meeting and Councillors agreed there will be no Committee Meetings in September.

122 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillor Stevens attended the Parish Planning Panel Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> September and said new Core Strategy figures will be released on 17<sup>th</sup> September. Full minutes of the Parish Planning Panel meeting will be available in due course.

Councillor G Garner said there have been two Street Meetings since the last Full Council Meeting, one at Springfield Close and one at Romans Way. Eight residents attended the meet at Springfield Close and two attended in Romans Way where one resident remarked on speeding in Peelings Lane.

The meeting was then suspended.

123 Report from PCSO Wendy Wyatt

PCSO Wyatt was unable to attend on this occasion but sent a report in which she said;

- she knocked on doors in Peelings Lane and introduced herself. One resident complained about a street light being turned off.
- The next Street Meeting will be held at St Michaels Close at 3.30pm on 16<sup>th</sup> September.

As a result of the Local Action Team Meeting she;

- asked ESCC to clear a 'road closed' sign which had been left at the side of the road in Hankham.
- has arranged to carry out three 100 vehicle counts in Rattle Road to verify that speeding is taking place and to what extent. Data will be collated and results will follow in due course.
- has visited the shops on the High Street and ascertained that the vans delivering to the school are parking on the yellow zig zag lines. A member of staff from the school will speak to the delivery companies.

- is trying to set up an initiative to help alleviate the parking issue around Pevensey and Westham School during drop-off and pick-up times. Letters will be sent to parent/carers attending the school and local residents asking if they would like to become a 'Community Park Warden' and if they do designated persons will patrol the vicinity of the school and take number plates of vehicles parking in an anti-social manner. These vehicle registration numbers would then be put onto Operation Crackdown. Sussex Police would ask for numbers to be taken of vehicles parked obstructing a drive way, parking on zig-zags and parking near a junction that would obstruct the flow of traffic. They will not ask for registration numbers of vehicles parked on double yellow lines.
- Since the last meeting there have been two burglaries, one attempted burglary and one outbuilding burglary.
- there has been a complaint about noisy motorcycles and as a result two motorcycles have been seized by the police.

124 Speaker Evan Jones on Biodiversity in the Parish.

Mr Evans was unable to attend on this occasion due to a family illness. Councillor Durling confirmed he will contact the Clerk and arrange to talk at a later date.

125 Reports from County/District Councillors

District Councillor Dear sent a report in which she stated;

- she has a planning meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> September
- that last week she attended the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting where members had a talk from Sussex Police about its latest budgets.

126 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Arnold from Eden Close asked the Parish Council to reposition the dog bin in Adur Park away from his house because the smell is overpowering. Councillor Stevens and the Clerk will carry out a site visit and report back to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

Mr Hall, also from Eden Close, asked why the rubbish bin at the Tillingham Way entrance to the park has been removed. The Clerk explained the bin was removed by Wealden District Council as part of a cost cutting exercise without prior consultation with the Parish Council. This item will be covered under minute 128.

Mr Hall also reported that the street light which had been recently vandalised in Adur Park will need a better fixing to prevent it being damaged again.

The meeting was re-opened.

127 Children's Play Area in Westham

The Parish Council has registered an interest in the land next to Westham Village Hall which is currently owned by the District Council as it believes it could make a play area for the children of Westham.

128 Replacement Rubbish Bin at the Tillingham Way entrance to Adur Park.

The Clerk reported that this bin was removed by Wealden District Council as part of a cost cutting exercise without prior consultation with the Parish Council.

Councillors were concerned there will now be an increase in litter and asked the Clerk to find out if it is possible to have the bin returned.

129 Westham – to consider providing hanging baskets in the village.

The Clerk read from an email sent by Councillor McClarty, in which he said he has spoken to the Clerk of the Parish Council he used to serve on. It has a number of hanging baskets and they cost them £66.25 each. The cost includes installation, additional security ties and full maintenance during the summer.

Councillors discussed the pros and cons of having the baskets and agreed by nine votes to two to ask the Westham Conservation Group, who originally requested the baskets, how much they can contribute through their own funds and from contributions from local businesses. This will then be an agenda item for the next Full Council Meeting.

130 Playparks Inspections

Councillors **resolved** there were no real causes for concern arising from the report and asked for the removal of the small play area in Adur Park to be an item for the agenda of the next Full Council Meeting as they feel the play park is now surplus to requirements.

131 Butcher's Field

Cllr Beeney expressed concern that the nominal rent for Butcher's Field is dis-proportionate to the charge made elsewhere and proposed it is increased to £30 a year. Councillor Durling seconded the proposal but no one else was in favour.

The remaining Councillors agreed the animals save maintenance costs and **resolved** to renew the grazing licence to Mr Hanscombe for the year 2015-2016 and charge nominal rent of £1.

132 Fingerpost Signs

The Parish Council has secured 50% funding from the County Council to repair two signs this year. This is the maximum funding currently available.

The Clerk has therefore instructed contractors to replace the fingerposts at the junction of Glynleigh Road and Hailsham Road and the junction of Hailsham Road and Hankham Road as per the last Full Council Meeting.

The Finance Committee will look at a maintenance plan after this work has been completed by the new contractors.

133 Wish List for Developers

At a Wealden pre-application meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July Wealden said that S106 from new developments is only available for capital projects and as a result Councillors asked Councillor Stevens to divide the Wish List into revenue and capital items of expenditure as far as S106 is concerned. The Wish List is now;

Revenue

Cover printing and delivery costs of the glossy brochure for residents  
Sponsor grit bins for, say 5 years  
Upgrade the play parks  
Butcher's Field  
Westham Pond  
Outside christmas trees for each village  
Replace bus shelters

Capital

Provide a new Community Leisure Facility  
Adur Park car park  
New allotment site  
New additional bus shelters to include one at the Red Lion  
Drainage at Adur Park  
Play area for Westham  
Outside picnic tables

Potentially funded direct to our partner organisations

Providing community transport  
Helping local schools accommodate the extra pupil numbers  
Provide a shuttle bus service between the Eastbourne District and Conquest Hospitals  
Crossing at Golden Jubilee Way

134 Castle Bolton Play Park – request to allow the erection of a fence along the north side.

A request was expected from a resident who asked to erect higher fencing along the north side of the park. No formal request has been received and this item has been deferred until the request is received in writing or by email.

### 135 Adoption of Procedures

The following procedures were adopted;

- Dealing with enquiries.
- Document receipt, circulation and response handling.
- Employees Code of Conduct.
- Grants.

The Filming of Meetings Procedure was deferred until the next meeting.

### 136 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Beaney;

- gave the Clerk a list of signs which need clearing in the Parish. Further action will be considered by the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.
- asked if the twitten by the Alms houses has been cleared. It was reported that it has been.
- asked for the grant application procedure as he wished to know how The Pump could apply for a grant. He also mentioned he was concerned at the grant procedures being adopted by Wealden District Council.

Councillor Blaker asked for the hedge to be cut by the Lion Hill bus stop because children are currently forced onto the road.

Councillor Saxby asked for the hedging to be cut back from Stone Cross to Hankham School for the same reason.

### 137 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD2015/1852F – Hankham Hall Farm – Erection of pair of semi-detached dwellings – Westham Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds;

- over-development. There are already two additional properties on this site.
- loss of amenity – Residents use Hankham for their recreation.

WD2015/1541LB – Foords Lane Cottage – Replacement of seven windows – Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD2015/1750MRM – The Wells, Rattle Road – Reserved matters pursuant to WD2013/1564MAO for the development of phase 1 for 87 dwellings together with access roads, footpaths, drainage, associated car/bicycle parking provision, groundworks, landscaping and infrastructure. Provision of allotments/car park, children's play area and attenuation Ponds – Westham Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds;

- transport – Councillors object to the road layout as they feel it needs more consideration with perhaps a roundabout to help maintain traffic flow.
- sewage – Councillors seek clarification on the sewage position. Southern Water appears to be saying the current system cannot cope with this development.
- flooding – there is already flooding in Westham and Councillors seek reassurance this will not increase as a result of this development.
- biodiversity – Councillors request that an agreement and management plan is in place to make sure the Management Company manages the hedging borders.
- education – Councillors seek reassurance there will be adequate capacity for the extra children.

WD2015/1721MAO – Dittons Nursery, Dittons Road – Outline application for housing 44 units and amenities. Full application for garden centre redevelopment - Westham Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds;

- transport – Councillors object to the increase in traffic and subsequent nitrogen levels and air quality.
- sewage – Councillors seek clarification on the sewage position. Southern Water appears to be saying the current system cannot cope with this development.
- flooding – there is already flooding in Westham and Councillors seek reassurance this will not increase as a result of this development.
- biodiversity – Councillors request that an agreement is in place to make sure the Management Company manages the hedging borders.
- education – Councillors seek reassurance there will be adequate capacity for the extra children.

WD2015/1752F – Mill Lodge (previously Aldouran), Rattle Road – Garage conversion with raised roof – Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9.10pm.