

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

18th May 2015

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

14 Present

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

County Councillor M Pursglove, District Councillor K Balsdon, PCSO W Wyatt and 11 members of the public were in attendance.

15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Perrin and were accepted by those present.

Apologies were also received from District Councillor Clark.

16 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19th April 2015 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

17 Clerk's Report

All matters' arising were covered elsewhere in these minutes.

18 Disclosures of Interests

No disclosures of interests were declared on any items on the agenda.

19 Reports on Committee Meetings held

The Minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 9th March 2015 were received and adopted by the Parish Council.

The Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 9th March 2015 were received and adopted by the Parish Council.

20 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillor G Garner said there has been one Street Meeting since the last Full Council Meeting. It was at Mortain Road and six residents attended because they have experienced parking problems at school drop off and pick up times.

Councillor Parsons attended the latest Pevensey Town Trust Meeting. Trustees are organising a market to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta.

Councillor Comerford attended the Patients' Panel Meeting at Stone Cross Medical Centre. A shortage in the number of doctors means that weekend surgeries are not currently possible.

The meeting was then suspended.

21 Report from PCSO Wendy Wyatt

PCSO Wyatt asked what services residents would like from their PCSO. Councillors asked for;

- regular crime reports – these are available at www.sussex.police.uk
- illegal and inconsiderate parking at school pick up and drop off times to be stopped – the police's attitude has relaxed and they tend not to prosecute now as long as the traffic keeps flowing. They do send letters, leave cards and ticket drivers who stop the traffic flowing.

Councillor Parsons said the Pevensey Town Trust has offered free parking for those dropping and picking up children whilst they do so but take up of this offer has been poor.

Councillors Stevens said Wealden District Council is one of only two District Councils in East Sussex not to consider Decriminalisation Parking Enforcement which allows some car parking enforcement to be carried out by the local authority.

Sussex Police is launching a new campaign 'When Should I?' to encourage residents to report crime and it is encouraging residents to report all non-urgent crime by email.

22 Reports from County/District Councillors

County Councillor Pursglove distributed copies of his report on the County Council's activities over the last financial year. It also said that he now sits on the following committees;

- County Consultative Committee
- Economy, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Committee (Vice Chair)
- Education Performance Panel
- Joint Advisory Committee for Schools
- Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

County Councillor Pursglove also said he is asking officers at ESCC to leave street lights on overnight on the Mills Estate and at Rickney Lane.

District Councillor Balsdon had previously distributed his report in which he said;

- thank you to those who helped with the elections.
- he is on the Licensing Committee and Audit and Finance Committee. He is also a substitute on the Planning Committee.

- he plans to take over from Bill Tooley and try and get help to repair the church wall at Westham.
- he is working with officers at Wealden to get rid of the bad smell in Hobney Rise which appears to originate from the SITA site. Residents who are affected are asked to keep a diary. Officers plan a site visit in the near future. Residents can also notify Councillor B Garner who will pass on their details to District Councillor Balsdon.

Councillor Balsdon also distributed a letter from Wealden notifying residents that there will soon be changes to the rubbish collection rounds. Details will be sent direct to residents from 27th May.

He also said there may be changes by the Local Boundary Commission which could see a reduction in the number of District Councillors.

23 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Bundy from Westham was concerned about the increase in construction traffic through Westham whilst the new estates are being built.

Councillor Parsons said that the builders working on the Pinegrove Estate are accessing the site through the Stone Cross end of the Parish. Councillor Blaker said contractors are told to come via Stone Cross but Wealden District Council is in charge in this case and insists developers build a road for on-site parking first. The Parish Council can act as a conduit between developers and residents and has done in the past.

The meeting was re-opened.

24 Stone Cross Royals

The Club was understood to have wanted changes made to Adur Park before it will allow the children to play there. The Parish Council is waiting to receive the details.

25 Annual Financial Accounts

Councillors **resolved** that they approved the accounts and annual governance statement for the financial year to 31st March 2015, and that Peter Frost continues in his role as the Internal Auditor for the next year.

36 Fingerpost Signs

The Clerk reported that the County Council is no longer repairing its fingerpost signs and asked if the Parish Council would like to take over the responsibility. She circulated a price to repair all the signs in the Parish to give Councillors an idea of the potential cost.

Councillors asked the Clerk to get a second price for the works and agreed to defer this item to the next meeting, when they can also consider part funding from the County Council to repair or replace two posts.

37 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Stevens asked the Clerk to write to all the outgoing councillors and thank them for their years of service.

Councillor Blaker asked the Clerk to ask ESCC to cut back the hedge which is obscuring the path and traffic by the bus stop at Lion Hill.

Councillor Parsons asked if anyone had any questions they would like her to take to the next Local Action Team Meeting in Polegate.

Councillor Durling asked if ESCC has carried out a scoping exercise for a pedestrian crossing at Golden Jubilee Way. Councillor Pursglove will ask ESCC and report back to the Parish Clerk who, in turn, will notify Councillors.

38 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD2015/0409F – Hankham Hall Farm – Demolition of existing agricultural buildings and erection of a pair of semi-detached houses. Reduction to scale of the building plans 28 April 2015 – Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD2015/0718F – Dormer Cottage, Peelings Lane – Proposed internal alterations and extensions to existing dwelling including first floor extension to existing self-contained annexe - Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD2015/0846F – Rosevean, Rattle Road – Proposed single storey extension at rear, convert garage and form enlarged roof over - Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD2015/0822F – 4 Peelings Cottages, Milton Street – Installation of a sand school 20m x 20m to an existing equine property – The Clerk said she has been asked to point out by number 3 Peelings Cottages that the plans do not show his garage and he is concerned the noise from the proposed school will spook the horses. He said he is not against the school but asks that they site it away from the garage. – Councillors **resolved** they have no objections on any planning grounds to this application as long as the sand school is for domestic rather than business use.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9.00pm.