

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

19th January 2015

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

- 214 Present: Cllrs K Saxby (Chairman), P Marshall, M Nash, G Garner, B Garner, B Molog, T Bruce, K Stevens, R Perrin, J Blaker and G Parsons.

County Councillor M Pursglove, A Hillman (Clerk) and three members of the public were in attendance.

- 215 Apologies for Absence: Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T Comerford and K Sutherland and accepted by those present.

District Councillors Clark, Dear and Tooley also sent their apologies.

- 216 Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 17th November 2014 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

- 217 Clerk's Report:

Councillors considered the County Council's proposals for a new road layout in Dittons Road and agreed to;

- adopt the proposed bus shelters and request a commuted sum for their ongoing maintenance.
- point out the position of the bus stops and island in the middle of the road constitute a safety hazard, motorists will be unable to see children getting off the bus.
- ask that there is lineage to separate cyclists and pedestrians.

- 218 Disclosures of Interests:

There were no declaration of interests, nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

- 219 Reports on Committee Meetings held:

The Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 8th December 2014 were received and adopted by the Parish Council.

- 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 Stevens attended the;

- Wealden District Association Meeting held on 14th January 2015. The Assistant Chief Constable reported that Sussex Police has to reduce its budget by a further £55m over the four years from 2016 and, as a result, policing in Sussex will change. Full details on these changes are in the Association's Minutes on www.wealden.gov.uk.
- Dr Jeremy Leach also spoke at this meeting. Wealden District Council has recently undertaken a review of road safety and produced a report which provides detailed data, reviews some of the relevant literature about the subject and suggests a way forward; the full report, which Dr Leach presented to the meeting, can be downloaded from the Council's website www.wealden.gov.uk under the Community and Safety Section. Councillor Molog also attended this meeting.

Councillor Molog also attended;

- the Pevensey Villages Partnership (PVP) meeting held on 25th November. The Partnership recently held a Dickens Evening and also has a new website.
- the PVP Management Committee meeting held on 5th January 2015. Members reviewed the ethos of the group and also agreed to plan a scarecrow event for the summer.

Councillors Molog and Parsons attended the latest Pevensey Town Trust Meeting. The Courthouse west wall is crumbling but is being repaired through insurance. Members are planning to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta. New free parking stickers take effect from 1st July.

Councillor Bruce attended a Westham Rural Conservation Society meeting, as a resident. She was disappointed to see it was all about the new development proposed for The Herons and left before the end of the meeting.

222 Report from PCSO Wyatt:

PCSO Wyatt sent her apologies for not being able to attend this meeting but sent an email in which she said;

- she is arranging street meetings in Stone Cross for January and for Westham in February.
- she is hoping to revive Neighbourhood Watch to help encourage a bond between the local policing team and the local community.
- she has been patrolling the villages in the parish on her cycle to cover a wider area.
- she hopes to change her working rota to attend all future Parish Council Meetings.

If anyone has any questions for her please send them to the Clerk at westhamparishcouncil@aol.com.

223 Reports from County/District Councillors:

County Councillor Pursglove said that the County Council has made a number of changes to its supportive bus services which will safeguard ninety services and save the tax payer £1.88m.

He also said he is chasing the County Council and Southern Water to fix the sewage pipe currently overflowing and turning into ice on Rattle Road. Councillors also noted that Hankham flooded for the first time recently.

224 Questions from Members of the Public:

There were no questions for any members of the public on this occasion.

The meeting was re-opened.

225 Butcher's Field:

At the November Full Council Meeting, Councillors discussed replacing the entrance sign at Butcher's Field and decided to think about having a smaller sign there. Councillor Molog suggested the signwriters who made sign for the Cattle Market should be invited to price for a new sign and Councillor Parsons passed their details to the Clerk at the start of this meeting.

At the same November meeting, Councillors discussed whether to nominate Butcher's Field for the Centenary Fields Programme. They were worried about losing control over what happens to the field but agreed it could also protect it from any future changes of use. Councillor Stevens said he has since tried to find out more about the programme but has yet to make contact with anyone.

Both items were deferred until the next Full Council Meeting.

226 Precept 2015-2016:

Westham Parish Council **resolved** that, the precept for 2015-2016 is £146160.00. This represents a net increase of 12%.

Councillors also considered a late grant application from Stone Cross Memorial Hall and **resolved** to award the hall a grant of £500 towards its running costs and roofing works.

227 Local Action Team:

Sussex Police has invited the Parish Council to attend the first of what it is hoped will be, regular Local Action Team (LAT) meetings. These LAT meetings will feed local priorities into the Wealden Joint Action Group (JAG).

Councillors **resolved** that Councillors Saxby, Molog and Parsons will attend for Westham Parish Council.

228 Average Speed Camera:

Maresfield Parish Council reportedly has problems with speeding in its Parish and Councillors are considering buying a radar system at a cost of £19000 initially and £1500 a year to maintain. It is inviting other parishes to support Councillors in putting pressure on Sussex Police to fund them and also to consider jointly buying and sharing one.

Westham Parish Council **resolved** to decline the invitation on the grounds of cost and practicality.

229 Staff Pay Review:

Members **resolved** to accept the proposals from the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 8th December 2014 which were;

- 1: to ask the Clerk to look at updating the contract of employment.
- 2: that the Clerk is paid scale 36 pro rata.

Councillors agreed that the Chairman will look at the latest model contract with the Clerk and draft a new contract for discussion at the next Finance Meeting.

230 Community Dividend:

Westham Parish Council has received £1780 towards a separate pedestrian entrance to Adur Park from the Community Dividend. Westham Parish Council would also like to thank District Councillor Tooley for awarding them the funding.

Councillors **resolved** to apply for planning permission for the access and get prices for the new entrance.

231 Questions from Parish Councillors:

Councillor Marshall asked when ESCC will be clearing some pallets left by builders at Windmill Green.

Councillor Saxby asked the Parish Council to contact ESCC about the state of the roads and verges at Hankham. Councillor Molog asked the Parish Council to also contact ESCC about the state of the Rickney Road.

Councillors agreed to invite the new Road Steward to the next Parish Council Meeting.

232 Planning Applications:

The following planning applications were considered;

WD2014/2321F – Tresor, Hankham Hall Road – Proposed new mansard roof to accommodation additional rooms – **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

WD2015/0049F – 2 Ash Grove, Westham – Erect garage at side (to house motorcycle) with pair of gates at side – **Westham Parish Council objects to this application. Councillors feel it is an overdevelopment and the garage is too big for one motorcycle.**

WD2015/0004FR – Land adjacent to the Coach House, Dittons Road – Resiting of dwelling and minor fenestration amendments to dwelling approved WD2011/2649 - **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

WD2014/2391F – Marling House, Hankham Hall Road – to construct a ground floor garden room extension to the rear - **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

WD2014/2149F – Langsett, Rattle Road – New detached oak framed double garage in front garden - **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

WD2014/3236CC – Hankham School – single storey kitchen and new vehicular delivery entrance to South East, including provision of two parking bays and an extension to the car park - **Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.**

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8:15pm.