

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

10th April 2017

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

205 Present

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

A Stevens (Clerk) and one member of the public were also in attendance.

206 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors T Comerford and R Perrin, and were accepted by those present. Apologies for absence were also received from County Councillor M Pursglove and District Councillor D Dear.

207 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 20th March 2017 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

208 Clerk's Report on Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

The Clerk confirmed;

- the barn in Westham which is reportedly being used as a residential property, is being investigated by Enforcement.
- the broken concrete post next to the allotments has been reported to BT.

209 Disclosures of Interests

There were no disclosures of interests nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests

210 Reports from the County Councillor

There was no report from the County Councillor on this occasion.

211 Report from the District Councillors

District Councillor Dear sent her apologies and asked members to email her if they have any questions. She said the revised Local Plan can now be read on line on the Wealden District Council website.

212 Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from the public on this occasion.

The meeting was then re-opened.

213 Reports on Committee Meetings held

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

214 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillor Blaker attended the Stone Cross Memorial Hall Meeting held on the 22nd March. He said;

- the Trust's accounts are now in order and are being audited.
- more Trustees are still needed.
- bookings have fallen because the Clubs are not being supported as much as they used to be.

Councillor Parsons attended the latest Pevensey Town Trust Meeting. The Trust's status as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation has now been confirmed and the accounts have been audited.

Councillor Garner and Stevens attended the Westham Pop-In Meeting where they were well received.

215 Westham Pond

Councillor Stevens spoke to Sussex Police about the parking problems reported previously in Peelings Lane. The Police say there is little they can do until the District Council considers Civil Parking Enforcement.

Councillor Stevens also spoke to the Fire Brigade who said they will assess the situation and report back.

Wealden District Council is understood to be reviewing its position on Civil Parking Enforcement.

216 To consider supporting the Celebration Weekend Tea in Hankham

At the previous meeting, Westham Parish Council agreed that if the Celebration Tea goes ahead in Hankham it will, in principle, meet the costs of employing the Caretaker for the day.

There was nothing new to add at this stage.

217 Beaulieu Drive

Westham Parish Council has been approached by a resident who would like to put up yellow 'slow children' signs on lamp posts in Beaulieu Drive.

Councillors have monitored the situation but agreed that, because the road does not lend itself to speeding, signage would have no benefit. Councillors will continue to monitor the situation.

218 Request for a bus shelter opposite Pride View

Councillors considered a request from a resident asking them to provide a bus shelter at the bus stop opposite Pride View. They asked the Clerk to contact Highways to see if they will give permission and if they will, get a price for a new shelter and report back.

Councillor Blaker said the hedging needs cutting back at that bus stop again because it forces school children into the road and is therefore dangerous. The Clerk will contact ESCC and ask them to cut it back and also see if they will give permission for the Parish Council to carry out additional cuts.

Councillor Saxby said he is reluctant to take over services like these because they should be carried out by County but the Clerk said that County has reduced the number of cuts and Parishes are expected to pay if they want more.

219 Request to allow planting in Geering Road for security reasons.

Foxes Hollow Residents' Association has received requests from two sets of residents for help in privacy matters along Geering Road. They would like the Residents Association to plant a row of thin shrubs in front of their wall to provide some screening to their properties. Foxes Hollow Residents' Association has offered to pay for the shrubs but the land is Parish Council land and they therefore need permission from the Parish Council. In the past any planting had been not looked on favourably because of cost and maintenance issues.

Councillors agreed that planting on Parish Council land would still cause maintenance issues but that residents can fit trellis to the fencing and plant out their land instead.

220 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Garner asked for 'Adur Park hedge cutting' to be an item on the September Full Council Meeting agenda following complaints from some residents who would like it top cut.

Councillor Beaney asked what the road adoption process is for the new estates. The Clerk said that she understands the Management Companies are taking over responsibility and they will need to liaise with the Developers.

Councillor Marshall asked, and the Clerk agreed to complain to ESCC about the state road contractors have left the bank at Windmill Green in.

221 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD/2017/0629LB – WW2 Pill Box, Rattle Road – Works to pill box – Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application as long as it complies with the Listed Buildings Requirements.

WD/2017/0319F – 18 Orwell Close – Conversion of a garage to a bedroom – Westham Parish Council had no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2017/0648F – Windyridge, Hankham Street – Single storey extension to form an enlarged kitchen and dining area, form terrace and extend drive paving – Westham Parish Council had no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2016/1318F – Eastes Plant Hire, Potts Marsh Industrial Estate – Proposed new Factory – In principle Westham Parish Council has no objections to this application but Councillors would like to know what the factory will be used for, what hours it will be operating and how many staff and visitors there are likely to be.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 8.05pm.

