

## WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

18<sup>th</sup> September 2017

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

#### 67 Present

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

District Councillor L Clark, A Stevens (Clerk) and two members of the public were also in attendance.

#### 68 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor T Bruce, and were accepted by those present.

Apologies for absence were also received from County Councillor D Shing and District Councillor D Dear.

#### 69 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 17th July 2017 were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 70 Clerk's Report on Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

The Clerk asked if Councillors;

- would like to send a representative to report back on the meeting the MP has arranged to discuss plans ESCC has to close some of its libraries. Councillors agreed Councillor Parsons will attend.
- would like to submit a formal response to ESCC's proposals to extend Willingdon Community School and increase its pupil intake from 1000 to 1200. Councillors agreed they support the proposals.
- object or support a request from a resident to erect a 'Private Road' sign alongside the road from 1 to 3 Patcham Mill Road. Details of the sign, which will be paid for by the residents, were circulated. Councillors agreed they had no objections as long as the County Council approve.

#### 71 Disclosures of Interests

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

The meeting was then suspended.

#### 72 Report from the District Councillors

District Councillor Clark reported on a training she attended at Wealden about Local Government Finance. Government cuts continue so Wealden is looking at other ways to

increase income.

District Councillor Clark also attended the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. Members heard how the Local Plan proposes to identify specific areas along the A22 for growth. A copy of the slides from the meeting will be distributed by the Clerk to all Councillors.

73 Reports from the County Councillor

There were no reports from the County Councillors on this occasion.

74 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr McMillan from Foxes Hollow Residents' Association asked the Parish Council to consider putting bollards at the entrance to two of the open spaces in Foxes Hollow. The Clerk and the Chairman will carry out a site visit and report back to the next meeting.

The meeting was then re-opened.

75 Reports on Committee Meetings held

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

76 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillor Stevens attended the Wealden Planning Panel Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> September. Members heard that The Local Plan has been delayed because more reports were needed and they now need to be approved by English Heritage.

77 Emergency Plan

Councillors Marshall has updated the Emergency Card which is now almost complete. Councillors agreed it should include the telephone numbers of the Clerk, the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and one Councillor from Hankham, one from Westham and one from Stone Cross. Councillor Saxby will be the contact for Hankham, Councillor Perrin will be the contact for Westham and Councillor Parsons will be the contact for Stone Cross.

78 Request for a bench at Foxes Hollow

At the last meeting, Foxes Hollow Residents' Association asked for permission to fit a bench on Glessing Green. Councillors agreed as long as there were no objections from any of the neighbouring properties.

The Parish Council has now heard from the residents and they do object, so the permission was withdrawn.

79 Hedge Cutting

Residents in Medina Drive asked the Parish Council to reduce the height of the hedge at the rear of their properties. The hedges are in Adur Park.

Councillors resolved to reduce the height of the hedge to 7' and asked the Clerk to bring a price for the work to the next meeting.

Residents in Rother Avenue asked the Parish Council to reduce the height of the trees on

the path to Beaulieu Drive.

Councillors asked the Clerk to seek the advice of a qualified Tree Surgeon and report back to the next meeting.

80 Westham High Street

Councillors discussed whether or not to have hanging baskets in the High Street at Westham next year. They resolved not to by 10 votes to 2. Those who voted against them felt they did nothing to enhance the village because they are so fragmented due to the restrictions on many lamp posts.

81 Grazing Licence 2017-2018

Councillors resolved to renew the grazing licence to Mr Hanscombe for the year 2017-2018 but asked the Clerk to check he is keeping the thistles under control.

82 Street Light at Windmill Green

Councillor Marshall reported two lamp posts at Windmill Green, which are on private land, need to be moved and replaced because they are dangerous.

The Clerk and Chairman said they will carry out a site visit, check ownership with ESCC and report back to the next meeting.

83 Works to benches in the Parish

The Community Payback Team has confirmed it will re-varnish the benches in the Parish in the Spring and is looking for inside work for the winter. She suggested they could paint the Amenity Hall in the school holidays but Councillors rejected the suggestion for security reasons.

84 Section 106

The latest S106 Monitoring Report for Wealden South shows the District Council is holding just under £20000 from the former Stone Cross Nursery Site, for its contribution towards off-site Youth and Adult Playspace in the Parish.

Councillors agreed to think about how the money should be spent and bring their ideas to the next meeting.

85 Repairs to the tactile paving slabs at the entrance to the Council Car Park

Councillor Bruce had asked for this to be an agenda item because she felt the slabs needed repairing as they could cause a trip hazard. Councillors agreed that whilst the slabs are not too bad now, they will need to be repaired in time and agreed to monitor the situation.

Councillor Marshall will send the Clerk the Ordnance Survey reference so she can confirm who is responsible for looking after them.

86 Mimram Road Roundabout

Councillors resolved to formally accept the ESCC Contract relating to sponsorship of the roundabout on Dittons Road/St Michaels Close/Adur Drive. The contract can now be signed by the Chairman.

87 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Comerford asked Councillor Blaker to report an accident he had on the path to the Harris room at the Memorial Centre. Councillor Blaker is the Parish Council's representative at its Trustees' meetings. He said he fell because the path was badly lit, uneven and access was blocked by a tyre.

Councillor Garner asked who owns the twitten between Rattle Road and Springfield Close. Councillor Marshall will send the Clerk the Ordnance Survey reference so she can confirm ownership.

Councillor Garner asked for it to be noted that the Parish Council has recently received some unwarranted criticism over its management of Westham Pond. He said the Parish Council has done work on the pond and an independent ecological assessment of the pond supported that.

Councillor Lovell asked for the hedges to be cut back in Hankham because they are encroaching onto the pavements and forcing children to walk on the road. The Parish Council understands that notices were served on landowners but some have yet to cut theirs. The Clerk will ask Highways to chase them up.

Councillor Marshall asked if ESCC can also cut the verge at Windmill Green. The Clerk will chase the County Council up about this too.

District Councillor Clark left the meeting.

88 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD/2017/1215/DC - Church Bailey Court, Montague Way, Westham – To remove the existing wooden windows and doors and install UPVC windows and aluminium fire doors – Westham Parish Council has no objections to this planning application on any planning grounds.

WD/2017/2090/F - 26 Oaklands, Westham - Second floor side extension - Westham Parish Council has no objections to this planning application on any planning grounds.

WD/2017/1956/LB - Corner Cottage, Foords Lane, Hankham - Replacement of floor boards and ceiling joists - Westham Parish Council has no objections to this planning application as long as it meets Listed Building requirements.

WD/2017/1983/F - Belvedere, Hankham Hall Road, Hankham - Proposed two storey side and rear extension with new first floor accommodation including dormer windows, roof lights and balcony - Westham Parish Council has no objections to this planning application on any planning grounds.

WD/2017/1987/F - 9 Hobney Rise, Westham - Construction of rear extension - Westham Parish Council has no objections to this planning application on any planning grounds.

WD/2017/1673/F - 2 Ulverston Road - Proposed loft conversion with new dormer and associated alterations -. Westham Parish Council has no objections to this planning application on any planning grounds.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 8.40pm.

