

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

16th July 2018

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

65 Present

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

County Councillor T Liddiard, A Stevens (Clerk) and one member of the public were also in attendance.

66 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Perrin sent apologies for his absence which were duly accepted by the Parish Council.

District Councillor Dear sent apologies for her absence.

67 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting also held on 18th June 2018 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman

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

Councillors agreed Councillor Saxby will write regular updates on the Parish Council's activities in The Pump and that he will also clarify the Parish Council's position on the Scarecrow Competition in the next edition because an article in the July edition was incorrect.

69 Disclosures of Interests

Councillor Durling declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in planning application WD/2018/1254/F and left the meeting whilst discussions and the vote took place.

70 Reports from the County Councillor

County Councillor T Liddiard reported;

- County is having to make savings of over £46m before 2021. Its reserves are high but they are predicted to fall to the minimum amount allowed. The Government Support Grant is to stop by 2021-2022.
- A lot of cuts have already had to be made especially in Adult Social Care but Milton Grange will be retained now and all those who need day care should still get a place.
- Councillors continue to lobby MPs about the cuts.
- Highways has filled a large number of potholes recently and is now repainting white lines and repairing broken cats' eyes. County Councillor Liddiard confirmed he will ask for an extra arrow to be painted at the Golden Jubilee Way roundabout.
- The Music Services consultation is now open and he encouraged everyone to respond. Members are currently cheaper ways of providing the same services.

71 Report from the District Councillors

District Councillor Clark attended the Wealden Overview and Scrutiny meeting at Wealden. The Police Engagement Officer was the speaker and members asked if the Police can engage more with the public and make parking one of its priorities.

72 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Haffner asked;

- For clarification on the Parish Council's position on the Scarecrow Competition. Westham Parish Council did not refuse the Partnership permission but asked that the Scarecrows are secured to the fencing instead because they previously looked untidy. They had also been fixed to stakes and the site is of archaeological interest. The spokesperson from the Partnership had declined the request and the Parish Council had offered Butcher's Field instead. This offer was also declined.
- If the Parish Council knew Peelings Lane was being resurfaced with chippings. It did not. The Clerk will ask the County Councillor why chippings were used.

The meeting was then re-opened.

73 Reports on Committee Meetings held

There have not been any Committee Meetings since the last Full Council Meeting.

74 Reports from Outside Meetings

Councillors Stevens, Durling and Beaney were to attend the Wealden District Association Annual General Meeting on the 11th July but it was cancelled.

Councillor Parsons attended the Pevensey Town Trust meeting where members approved plans which are now being submitted to Wealden.

Councillor Saxby attended the Hankham Village Society Summer Fayre. The Society is continuing to develop more social activities.

Councillor Saxby also reported that Hankham School has just achieved satisfactory to good CAT results.

Councillor Durling and the Clerk attended the Protocol Meeting at Wealden for the Uplands Farm Development. Residents are still against the entrance but accept it has been improved.

Councillor Blaker attended the latest Stone Cross Memorial Hall Trustees Meeting. The Trust needs two more trustees and he encouraged anyone who is interested in the role to contact him.

The Clerk attended an A27 meeting held by SSALC. The Parish Councils who attended said they would like to meet their MP's and Highways England and find out what is actually being proposed because there is a lot of confusion and that confusion is leading to a lot of suspicion.

75 Mimram Road Roundabout

Councillor Durling has approached local businesses to see if they will sponsor the roundabout at Mimram Road and has nothing to report back as yet. This item has been deferred until a potential sponsor is found.

76 Pevensey Park Road Dog Bin

The dog bin at Pevensey Park Road is being currently emptied twice a week but a resident feels that it is not enough and another bin is needed. The Clerk looked to see if bigger bins are available but they are not and she also looked for alternative sites for another bin but did not find anywhere she thought was suitable.

The existing bin was then checked by contractors and was found to have been deliberately blocked so they removed the blockage. Councillors will monitor the situation over the summer and see if a new bin is still needed.

77 Westham Pond

Tests have been carried out to try and establish the cause of the flooding in Montfort Close. There is a one in eight chance the fault could be on Parish Council land so the District Council has agreed to carry out a camera search and run a dye through when it next rains heavily to help identify where the problem is. The Clerk will report back to the Full Council when the results of the test is known.

It was also noted that Chaffins have now cut the grass so access to the lifebuoy is possible but they did not remove the cuttings straight away because there was a report an adder had been spotted there. The pond was now been given the all clear by an ecology expert and the grass is being removed.

78 Westham Village Hall Car Park

Councillors had previously resolved to look into whether it is possible to put a disabled parking space on the road outside the Village Hall. The Clerk has asked Highways and is still waiting for a reply.

79 The twitten between Gallows Lane and St John's Drive

Councillors agreed put a sign on the Gallows Lane end of the twitten to discourage the dumping of dog waste there and they also agreed to put 'no horse' signs at each end of the twitten to stop horses using it after concerns were raised about the safety of pedestrians.

80 Fingerpost Review

East Sussex County Council will currently pay half the costs of repairing/replacing up to two fingerposts each year. Westham Parish Council has so far repaired or replaced four.

Councillors Stevens and Garner will look at the condition of the remaining fingerposts and the Clerk will bring prices for the work needed to them to the next Full Council Meeting.

Councillor Bruce asked that the vegetation is cut back at Ketcham Corner because it is obscuring the fingerpost there. Councillor During reported the 1066 sign is also missing. The Clerk will take both matters up with ESCC.

81 Litter in Westham

A resident in Westham asked that the bins near the Castle and in the High Street are emptied more often during the summer. They are currently being emptied twice a week.

Councillors understand there has been a problem with Wealden's contractors recently and the bins have not been emptied as much as they should have been but that the problem has

now been resolved. Councillor Garner will check the bins over the summer and report back if there continues to be a problem.

82 Christmas in the Parish

Councillors discussed the practicalities of having Christmas lights or a Christmas tree at the entrances to Stone Cross, Westham and Hankham and agreed the Clerk can meet contractors and find out what they recommend.

Suggestions for potential sites included Stone Cross Memorial Hall and Butcher's Field.

83 General Data Protection Regulations

Councillors agreed to think about whether they would each like a separate Parish Council email address for the next Parish Council Meeting.

84 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Blaker reported the pedestrian gate in Adur Park is broken. Contractors have been asked to repair it.

Councillor Saxby thanked the Clerk on behalf of Hankham residents for asking ESCC to cut back the hedges on the Hankham Road. It was also noted the new notice board has been fitted outside the school and that it looks good.

Councillor Parsons asked the clerk to chase up the developers who are working on the lamp posts because until they work the speed limit cannot be reduced.

Councillor Marshall asked who cuts the verge at Windmill Green. The Clerk will find out and let him know.

85 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD/2018/1229/FR - Saxon Nursery, Hankham Road, Hankham, BN24 5AP - Retrospective change of use from a previous/existing nursery production sand bed area to the provision of a ten lane petanque court plus club house – Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2018/1254/F - 50 Rattle Road, Westham, BN24 5DJ - Pitched roof over existing rear extension and rooms in new and existing roof - Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2018/1289/F - 60 Rattle Road, Westham, Pevensey, BN24 5DJ - Single storey rear extension - Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 8.30pm.