

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

18th June 2018

held at The Amenity Hall, Stone Cross

46 Present

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

County Councillor D Shing, A Stevens (Clerk) and two members of the public were also in attendance.

47 Apologies for Absence

Councillors K Saxby and N Beaney sent apologies for their absence which were duly accepted by the Parish Council.

48 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 14th May 2018, the Annual General Meeting held on 21st May 2018 and the Full Council Meeting also held on 21st May 2018 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman

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

The Clerk reported;

- The horse signs ordered for footpath 7 which runs from Springfield Close to Rattle Road are now here. Councillor Garner will fit them.
- Wealden Enforcement has been to look at the hedge at Ketcham Close. The hedge was reported at the last Full Council Meeting to have been destroyed and was therefore thought to breach of one of the planning conditions imposed when the houses were built. Enforcement say they have written to the landowner and if no reply is received, they will have to ascertain whether it would be expedient for the Council to pursue the matter with formal enforcement action because it looks as though the roots of the hedgerow are untouched and they are hoping that it might start to regrow throughout the summer months.

50 Disclosures of Interests

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

51 Reports from the County Councillor

County Councillor D Shing said;

- Wealden have served notices on the cars advertised for sale at the Golden Jubilee Way roundabout.
- Lead Members are to decide who will take over the running of Pevensey Library, on the 21st June. The preferred bid is from Volunteers Network. Councillor Bruce warned the maintenance costs will be high as the building is prone to flooding.

- The Music Services Consultation ends on 27th July and he encouraged everyone to take part.

52 Report from the District Councillors

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

53 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Mayfield asked if there were plans for any more dog bins because he said more are needed. This was covered later in the meeting.

The meeting was then re-opened.

54 Reports on Committee Meetings held

The Minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 11th June 2018 were read and adopted by the Full Council.

55 Reports from Outside Meetings

There were no reports from outside meetings on this occasion.

56 Emergency Plan

Councillor Marshall handed out the updated Emergency Cards and stressed the need for confidentiality. The cards are only to be given to the Emergency Services in the event of an emergency.

Councillors thanked Councillor Marshall for producing the cards.

57 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 as yet. She said she will keep trying though.

58 Dog Bins

Councillors resolved to approve the stickers requested at the last meeting (Minute 31). The stickers have also been approved by Wealden District Council.

Councillors agreed to ask the litter picker to stick them on the dog and litter bins in the Parish.

Councillor Stevens also confirmed the Parish Council is continuing to monitor the amounts of dog mess in the Parish and will consider providing more bins when the new estates have been built so any new bins can be put in the most suitable locations.

In the meantime residents are encouraged to report any dog mess to the Clerk who in turn will report it to the Street Scene Officers at Wealden who can take any appropriate action.

59 Westham Pond

The work carried out last year by the Parish Council does not seem to have helped the flooding in Montfort Close. Councillors agreed the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Clerk can meet Wealden District Council and see if the cause of the flooding stems from Parish Council land. They authorised initial expenditure of up to £500 for investigative and/or remedial work.

They also asked the Clerk to cut the long grass to enable residents to access to the lifebuoy.

It was also noted the Parish Council received a petition on the 18th June asking it to rectify the flooding and grass cutting problems at the pond. They are already in hand.

60 Westham Village Hall Car Park

Councillors discussed whether or not to ask Wealden to provide an additional disabled parking space at the Village Hall Car Park. The car park is owned by the District Council.

Wealden say they are required under the 2010 Equality's Act to put disabled bays within their car parks. However, they are only required to put a percentage in to how many spaces are within the car park which is generally 1 disabled bay to every 100 spaces. Although they own the car park, if we request an additional bay any costs would be borne by the Parish Council.

Wealden would then have to decide if the car park warrants another disabled bay as in doing so the car park would lose a standard bay and because the car park is small they would probably not want to.

The price for a one off adjustment to the car park is £650.00 plus any costs for changes to the Off Street Car Parking Order. They would need to carry out a 6 week public consultation probably in December. There would also be a requirement for a newspaper publication.

Councillors resolved to look into whether it is possible to put a disabled parking space on the road instead first.

61 Verge Cutting Maintenance

i: At the Full Council Meeting in March Westham Parish Council agreed to take over some of the verge cutting from ESCC following the County Council's announcement it was going to reduce the number of cuts to twice a year. The Parish Council's contractors started work in April.

In May the County Council contacted the Parish Council and apologised because they sent the wrong maps. Work was halted until the Parish Council received the correct maps, and it meant some of the verges did not have their first cut until June. Things should improve soon.

ii: The Clerk has also, in the last few days, received some emails from some residents who would like the verges left in order to protect the windflowers. All Councillors agreed they needed more time to consider the reports and said it was impractical to change the grass cutting contract at this stage but they would consider whether or not to incorporate the suggestion next year.

62 To consider providing a sign to discourage the dumping of dog waste in the twitten between

Gallows Lane and St John's Drive

Councillors agreed to discuss this at the next Full Council Meeting to allow the Chairman and the Clerk time to carry out a site visit to see where any prospective signs can go.

63 Questions from Parish Councillors

There were no questions from Parish Councillors on this occasion.

64 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD/2018/1047/F - 2 Pevensey Park Road, Westham, BN24 5HN - New detached Garage – Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2018/0787/F - 16 High Street, Westham, BN24 5LY - Removal of existing conservatory and creation of single storey rear extension - Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application

WD/2018/1146/F – Hills View, Lion Hill, Stone Cross BN24 5ED – Single storey rear extension and new roof construction - Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2018/1124/F - 1 Stour Close, Stone Cross, BN24 5QU - Single storey rear extension, removal of existing 6 foot boundary fence and erection of new 6 foot boundary fence - Westham Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2018/0931/MRM - Stone Cross Garden Centre, Dittons Road, Stone Cross, BN24 5EP Reserved Matters pursuant to outline permission WD/2015/1721/MAO (Outline application for housing - 44 no. units and amenities) – Councillors accepted this application but are still concerned about the effects on the infrastructure and the impact on Rattle Road.

WD/2018/0875/FR - Tresor, Hankham Hall Road, Hankham, Westham BN24 5BA – Retrospective application - New roof and first floor rooms – Westham Parish Council supported this application at its meeting in May but has since learnt the windows are in breach of its original conditions in that they are not obscure glass and full open. They asked that this application is therefore referred to Enforcement.

The Parish Council has also been notified by Gladman Developments that they are considering submitting an outline planning application for a new residential development on land off Eastbourne Road, Westham. They will shortly be undertaking a public consultation exercise with local residents and businesses. The Clerk has invited them to attend a future Parish Council Meeting to comment on the application if they wish.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 8.15pm.