

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday, 18 July 2022

At Westham Village Hall , Peelings Lane Westham BN24 5HG

Present:

Cllr P Baldwin (Acting Chair), Cllr N Beaney, Cllr M Fairweather, Cllr K Farley,

Cllr C Hanson, Cllr J Hayward

WDC Cllr R Cade

Also at meeting: S. Sanders (Clerk)

Members of the public: 10

Before the meeting started a Chair of the meeting had to be agreed due to the Chair of the Council being on holiday. The Deputy Chair of the Council was also absent due to rail travel problems making it impossible to return in time for the meeting.

No business may be transacted at a meeting unless at least one-third of the whole number of members of the Council are present and in no case shall the quorum of a meeting be less than three. (Standing Order 3.v.)

As there were 6 Councillors present the meeting could go ahead and it was decided by Councillors that Cllr Baldwin would stand in as Chair for this meeting only as required in Standing Order 3.p.

363. Apologies

Cllr D Axell, Cllr F Durling, Cllr R Mayfield, Cllr D Upton

ESCC Cllr D Shing, WDC Cllrs P Doodles, A Douglas, A Snell

364. Declarations of Interest

None

365. Questions from members of the public on matters on the agenda

Due to the number of questions from members of the public about Adur Park and travellers that forced entry into the field it was decided to move the Adur Park update to the next item.

Standing Orders were then suspended so that members of the public could ask questions and Councillors could respond.

Proposed: Cllr P Baldwin

Seconded: Cllr K Farley

Unanimous agreement

Standing Orders to be reinstated

Proposed: Cllr P Baldwin

Seconded: Cllr K Farley

Unanimous agreement

366. Adur Park All Weather pathway - update

Councillors were informed that the tender was nearly ready for publication. There were a small number of changes that had to be made to the final document but these had now been rectified.

A further update would be made at the September meeting.

367. Draft Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting 20 June 2022 to be agreed

The Minutes for the above meeting had been previously circulated to Councillors.

There were no questions.

Proposed: Cllr J Hayward

Seconded: Cllr N Beaney

Unanimous Agreement

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 20 June 2022 be agreed

368. Report from Wealden District Council Councillors

(i) Update on the Community Governance Review (CGR)

Cllr Cade informed Councillors that a meeting of the Audit, Finance and Governance Committee would be held on Wednesday, 27 July to consider the Terms of Agreement for this project and others.

If the recommendations are agreed then a timetable will be agreed and a consultation will go ahead in the coming months.

Questions were then asked by members on certain aspects of the CGR.

(ii) Update on bin collections

Cllr Cade said that the strike was now over but it would take a time for the collections to return to their normal schedules. Hopefully this would be in the next week.

(iii) Update on dangerous parking in Peelings Lane

Residents were very upset about the dangerous parking that was continuing in the Peelings Lane area.

The Community Speed Watch Group should be contacted for their latest information on speeding in the area. Also, the primary school will highlight the problems of dangerous parking to parents / carers when dropping off their children for school.

Cllr Cade was asked whether the hours for the Long Stay Wealden Car Park next to the village hall could be shortened as a number of commuters were leaving cars for the day or longer on the car park. A shorter parking time would help at school collection time and less able users of the village hall who have trouble parking.

369. Working Group against overdevelopment (WGOD)

A report had been circulated to Councillors regarding the 'Working Group against overdevelopment' and its request to join the Wealden District Alliance of Local Councils (WDALC) as an umbrella group.

WGOD want to utilise the experience of local councils that have fought development in the past and believe a group fights better together.

It was agreed that Cllr Hanson represent Westham Parish Council on this enhanced group.

Proposed: Cllr J Hayward

Seconded: Cllr P Baldwin

Unanimous agreement

Resolved: That Cllr Hanson continues to represent Westham PC on WGod

370. Stone Cross School use of the Amenity Hall

A preliminary meeting had been held at the beginning of July with members of Stone Cross School governors and management staff and an East Sussex County Council officer.

A number of issues had been discussed and further conversations would be held during the coming months.

371. Financial Expenditure to be agreed

(i) Income and Expenditure report for June 2022

(ii) Bank Statement for June 2022

These finance documents had previously been circulated to Councillors.

Proposed: Cllr C Hanson

Seconded: Cllr P Baldwin

Unanimous agreement

Resolved: that the above Financial Expenditure Report and Bank Statement for June 2022 be approved.

Cllr Beaney wanted it noted that he had not seen the reports so could not vote on their acceptance.

372. To resolve to exclude members of the press and public (public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960)

Not required

The meeting closed at 20.55 hours