

PEVENSEY PARISH COUNCIL
The minutes of the COUNCIL MEETING held online
on 1st September 2020 commencing at 7.00PM

Present: Councillors: Lowton (Chairman), Beck, Geary, Gibson, Howard, MacKinnon, Peasgood, Pursglove, Turner, Withey and Beaney

Wealden District Councillors: Cade and Doodles.

S Mosedale (Clerk)

Cllr Lowton welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting of the council and reminded attendees of the meeting protocols.

138. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Tom Liddiard and Councillor Rabbitts. However, Cllr Rabbitts did not provide an explanation for his absence.

139. Disclosure of interest

Cllr Lowton declared an interest on behalf of the Council under agenda item 148, in respect of the Council owning the adjoining land.

140. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Clerk explained after receiving comments from councillors with regards to the draft minutes for the 4th August, amendments were made.

Members requested for further amendments to be added to the draft minutes of 4th August 2020 which were agreed

Proposed by Cllr Beck, seconded by Cllr Howard and approved by all present who had attended the previous meeting. Cllr Beaney abstained having been absent from the meeting on 4th August.

141. Local Police Issues

The Clerk reported 4 Councillors attended the Police Community Meeting which was held at Wallsend Recreation Ground on Wednesday 26th August 2020. It was reported that the Police will continue to drive pass Wallsend Recreation Ground to monitor any antisocial behaviour and they will speak with East Sussex County Council about the issues of speeding and the need for pedestrian crossings.

Members requested if a Police community meeting could take place in Pevensey Bay. The Clerk will follow this up.

142. Open Forum

There were no members of the public present at the Council meeting.

143. County Councillor's report

The East Sussex County Councillor sent his apologies. His report had been circulated, was noted by council and is attached as part of these minutes.

The Chairman thanked the County Councillor for his report.

Members were disappointed that the report was sent late in the day and that there had been no response to Cllrs request for the speed monitoring equipment and information on pedestrian crossing.

The Clerk will follow this up with the County Councillor.

147. District Councillors' reports

Cllr Doodes provided an update which included:

- From the 7th September WDC are opening their reception on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00am to 1:00pm by appointment only.
- Throughout the period of lockdown the contact centre has been open remotely, which has been a success. However, the contact centre will now be open from Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm apart from Wednesdays when it will open from 9:00am.
- The website continues to provide a huge amount of information, including news releases. The most recent news releases that have been issued includes, new learning opportunities and the Sunflower Project, which aids Wealden residents with learning difficulties.
- Council and committee meetings continue to be held remotely. This has resulted in attendance being very high and participation being good. The meetings are screened live.
- Fly tipping has been an issue, but it has been addressed. WDC have had a recent successful day in partnership with the Police tackling the issue.
- There have been positive comments about the refuse bin collection. This has continued all through lockdown without problems.
- From September 11th to 27th is the Great British September Clean up. Some Parishes are already signed up and WDC are providing equipment free of charge and will arrange for waste to be collected from a prearranged site.
- The annual electoral registration census is not a scam and it has come directly from WDC and notices have gone out. This is to save money on postage and to get an immediate response.
- The Parish bulletins contain a huge amount of information with regards to planning consultations
- Very few residents haven been in contact with the Cllr Doodes with regards to problems. However, Cllrs Doodes does welcome the time to speak with residents.
- The Chairman of WDC recognises the amount of work that has been done by the residents and organisations of Wealden during the pandemic. With this WDC plan to put a wall of honour up in the council offices, so that people can see who has been recognised locally. WDC are asking Parish and Town Councils to consider anyone who should be nominated for an award and for all nominations to be sent in by 22nd September. This is to be advertised on the councils Website, Facebook and Twitter social media feeds.
- Lastly, once Government guidance allows it, the District Councillors would like to arrange a face to face meeting

Cllr Cade provided an update which included:

- The WDC hub continues to operate although the number of calls has lowered. However, if council knows of anyone who are struggling or still shielding, that might require help, the hub is still available.
- WDC are still dealing with households in emergency and temporary accommodation and are gradually allocating them into WDC own properties or into the private letting sector. Lettings are fully up and running and the costly re-let times have reduced.
- Most benefits in government grants are ending. However, the 3rd phase of the discretionary grants, remains available. Small business or the self-employed maybe eligible and are

encouraged to apply. Businesses that had previously applied and were refused as not qualifying or had an issue with WDC's decision, could reapply.

- could also apply, but only if they had previously applied and were refused
- The performance indicators of the first quarter will be covered at the cabinet meeting being held on the 2nd September. Many of the services targets haven't been met due to the impact of the pandemic.
- Lastly, Cllr Cade and Cllr Clark are due to meet to discuss coastal matters and how they will tackle the coastal contract that is due to end shortly.

Members informed and asked the District Councillors the following.

- Notified them that the Parish Council has arranged for two litter picks to take place on the 26th and 27th September to coincide with the Keep Britain Tidy Week.
- Asked if the councillors could look into the reasons as to why the Parish Councils discretionary grant was unsuccessful and if it was an administrative error.
- Lastly, if there was anything the district councillors could do to get WDC to help with funding for new play equipment.

The Chairman thanked the District Councillors for their reports.

The District Councillors left the meeting at 19:49pm

145. Adoption of Social Media Policy

The draft policy had been circulated with the agenda.

No comments had been received by the Clerk.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Social Media Policy. Proposed by Cllr MacKinnon, seconded by Cllr Howard and unanimously agreed. Apart from Cllr Beaney as there was no response.

146. Clerks Update

The Clerks report had been circulated with the agenda.

The Clerk added a further update covering the matters mentioned in the minutes and resolutions agreed at the meeting held on the 4th August.

Members **Noted** the report and update provided by the Clerk.

Members requested that that the Clerk liaise with Westham Parish about their Speed Watch Group.

147. Review of Annual Grants in light of Covid-19

As agreed in the council meeting held on the 4th August. The Clerk completed a review on the Annual Grants to establish whether plans of the organisations who had applied for a grant had changed due to the impact of Covid19. The Clerks review report had been circulated with the agenda to councillors and contained a number of recommendations.

Members **Noted** the Clerks recommendations within the review report. However, members felt the recommendation for the Information Centre should be put on hold pending their response to their Clerks request for further information.

Cllr Howard left the meeting at 20:10

Therefore, it was **RESOLVED** that council accepts the Clerks recommendations provided in the review. However, council would reconsider the recommendation for the Information Centres at a later date, once more information has been provided. Proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr

Geary. Motion carried 8/1 with Cllr Mackinnon abstaining and no response from Cllr Beaney and Cllr Howard has lost connection.

148. Update on the meeting with WDC Planning Department RE Holy Rood.

This item was deferred to October's meeting as WDC cancelled the planning pre application meeting due to the lack of staffing. However, the Parish Council is awaiting on a written response with regards to planning advice based on papers submitted to WDC planning department.

Cllr Howard re-joined the meeting at 20:21

149. Report on 3 Year Plan Start of Conversion of Street Lights.

The report had been circulated with the agenda. No comments had been received by the Clerk. It was **RESOLVED** that council accepts the recommendation provided by the working group in the report and move forward accordingly with the conversation of 10 street lights to LED. Proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Geary and unanimously agreed.

150. Report on Tourism and Events.

The report had been circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Howard summarised the content of the paper and put forward a recommended that council invests in the 'silver' 1066 County membership at a annual cost of £145 plus VAT. The possibility of forming a new Tourism and Event committee was mentioned with a view to the suggestion being discussed at a later date.

Cllr Geary left the meeting at 20:30 and her apologies were accepted.

Members **Noted** the report and that it was well written with lots of information. Some members felt that a dedicated committee would benefit the amount of work required which was stated within the report.

Other members were against the council spending any money on the membership until further research had been obtained, as they felt the council already has enough expenditures.

It was agreed that further discussions would take place about forming a new committee to take the post Covid strategy forward.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that council take out the membership of www.visit1066county.com at silver level with the costs and benefits laid out in the paper. Proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Turner. Motion carried 8/2 with Cllrs Pursglove and Beaney against.

151. WDC Dog Fouling PSPO Extension & confirmation of litter pick dates 26th & 27th September

The PSPO document and extension report had been circulated with the agenda.

The Chairman asked members if they supported the extension and if they had any comments.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk reply to WDC indicating councils support for the extension. Proposed by Cllr Lowton, seconded by Cllr Beck and unanimously agreed.

The Clerk will write to WDC expressing councils support.

152. Repairs to Eastbourne Bus Shelter

The Clerk updated council on the current state that the bus shelter in Eastbourne Road. It appeared that the shelter had been deliberately damaged and as a result needed urgent repairs. Comments from residents have been received expressing their concerns about the state of the bus shelter.

The Clerk provided council with two options for either a replacement bus shelter similar to the one on Wallsend Road or to repair and restore the current shelter.

Replacement of the bus shelter was quoted up an amount of £5,500.

Repairs to the bus shelter was quoted up to an amount of £3460.

Members felt that a replacement which was similar to the shelter in Wallsend Road would not be suitable and therefore, council favoured the current shelter being repaired.

The Clerk explained the repairs required to the bus shelter and explained which budget the funding would come out of and that it would trigger an overspend. However, the repairs were required.

Members felt that a further two quotes should be looked into.

Therefore, it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Clerk to get repairs undertaken on Eastbourne Bus Shelter up to a maximum cost of £3453 and allow the Clerk to obtain further quotes before instructing the most appropriate contractor. The quotes to be put before the Chair and Vice Chair of F & GP. Proposed by Cllr Beaney. Seconded by Cllr MacKinnon. and unanimously agreed.

153. Correspondence

The Clerk provided details of correspondence received as below:

- A report from WDC enforcement officer who was dealing with the Castle View Caravan Park. "The works taking place on the park are permitted through the site license granted to the site, therefore not action can be taken. Site license specifies that any caravans on site must have a hardstanding and services. The landscaping taking place on site at the moment does not require planning permission, as the hoarding fronting this site is temporary and the confinements that have been removed are non-native species of tree and do not require permission. The planning agent for the site is aware of the need for permission for the use of the back of the site" the Clerk is waiting for plans of the site.
- The report from the new club secretary at Pevensey & Westham FC regarding damaged fencing at the recreation ground. The Clerk explained that she had obtained quotes from both of the approved contractors. However, they differ despite requesting a comparable quotes. The council agreed that the Chairs of the Recreation & Beach and F & GP will discuss the options, the quotes and works required.
- A report was received with concerns of the tree roots by the bridge into Anderida. The Clerk has visited the site and doesn't consider the roots to be a trip hazard and asked council if they want the roots to still be sprayed with nontoxic paint or not. Members felt it was not possible to remove 'every risk' due it being a sports field. However, it was agreed to stop painting the roots and to ask the tree surgeon again to see if the roots can be removed. It was also agreed that Council will look into signage for the area.
- A report from the Timberlaine Road Resident's Association asking if their concerns were raised about the WDC planning committee south meeting and for updates on the Castle View Caravan Park. The Clerk has responded confirming that The Chairman had raised their concerns at the council meeting held on 4 August 2020.
- A report from a resident who lives on the back Wallsend Road Recreation ground reported the ditch between the ground and his property has become very overgrown. He asked if the council would arrange to get this cut back by using the community payback scheme. The Clerk has enquired about the ownership of the land and if the community payback scheme is still running.
- Concerns had been raised from a resident about the water for the animals in Dukelands. This has been passed on to the farmer.

- Concerns about the rubbish and BBQs on the beach have reports by residents. The Clerk has forward these on to WDC.

Cllr Beaney informed council he has written a letter to the Clerk in his capacity as a councillor requesting if the council would supply him with a computer, training and running costs and if this is not possible to put the request to WDC. This is so he can take part in the zoom meetings the same way as other councillors do, by using a computer not the phone.

The Chairman expressed if a letter has been written to the parish council from a councillor requesting the council to identify monies, then a proposal can be put forward.

Therefore, Cllr Beaney proposed for Pevensey Parish Council to supply him with a computer, training and running costs and if not, to put the proposal to WDC. Seconded by Cllr Pursglove.

The motion not carried as it was 8 against and 2 for.

Cllr Beaney requested his proposal be put forward to WDC. The Clerk agreed to approach WDC to see if there was any funding available.

154. Matter of Urgent Public Safety (MUPS)

Nothing reported.

155. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman expressed his gratitude to those who had attended the meeting and in particular Cllrs Beaney and Pursglove who had dialled in by telephone.

156. Orders of Payment

The payments list had been circulated and **noted**.

157. Advisory Officers reports

- **Sea Defences and Water Management** – Cllr MacKinnon explained that the water pump has been put on the agenda with the water management board for some time and she will chase this at the October meeting. Cllr Peasgood explained an update as been circulated by Ian Thomas with regards to works on the beach.
- **St. Wilfrid's Hall** – Cllr MacKinnon reported building work is underway and the committee are still looking for funding with
- **Ethel Wood Community Centre** – Cllr Withey explained the committee met in August and are working closely with the groups to get them up and running. Lastly, Cllr Withey has several meetings with contractors with regards to the carpark and building works on the outside of the building.
- **St. John's Trust** – Nothing to report.
- **Town Trust** – Nothing other than what had already been covered earlier on the agenda.
- **Sports Club** – Cllr Lowton reported as agreed in the previous meeting that the new sports club lease has been sent to the club and they have agreed its contents and it will be signed in due course. There is a zoom meeting arranged with the club next week.
- **WDALC** – Cllr MacKinnon reported a Zoom meeting is planned in October.
- **Memorial Hall** – Cllr Beaney reported a management committee meeting is arranged for Thursday and if groups want to rent the hall they must comply with their instructions as the hall management committee are following the AQUA report.
- **Tree Warden** – Cllr Beaney reported that 2 trees have been cut down on the land by the Castle. However, the tree warden will have a look, but believes it is not to be on council land.

158. Report on Change of the Internal Auditor

The report had been circulated with the agenda to councillors.

The Clerk summarised the report and outlined the benefits and recommendations within the report.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the recommendations outline in the report to change to another auditor. Proposed by Cllr MacKinnon, seconded by Cllr Withey and unanimously agreed.

Date of next meeting will be on Tuesday 6th October 2020, with the format to be confirmed.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.32 pm.