

Minutes of the Virtual Annual General Meeting held via Zoom,
on Wednesday 13th May 2020

1. Present

Cllrs K Stevens (Chairman), W Reid and D Kehl.

A Stevens (Clerk) was also in attendance. No members of the public were present.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs E Ashley and C Paterson.

3. Election of Chairman

Councillor Kehl proposed and Councillor Reid seconded Councillor Stevens for the role of Chairman. Councillor Stevens duly accepted the role.

4. Election of Vice-Chairman

Councillor Stevens proposed and Councillor Kehl seconded Councillor Reid for the role of Vice-Chairman. Councillor Reid accepted the role.

5. Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 4th March 2020 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors agreed not to ask the landlord of each pub in the parish for a contribution towards the cost of replacing the defibrillator batteries in light of the Coronavirus situation.

6. To adopt the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Councillors resolved to accept the latest NALC Standing Orders and Financial Regulations which had been distributed to all Councillors before the meeting.

7. Other Areas of Responsibility

Councillors agreed to rollover the existing areas of responsibility namely;

Planning	Cllr Stevens
Environment North	Cllr Reid
Footpaths	Cllr Ashley
Environment South	Cllr Ashley
Highways	Cllr Kehl
Police	Cllrs Stevens and Paterson
Communication (to include responsibility for both the website and the community distribution list)	Cllr Reid

Speedwatch
Tree Warden

Cllr Paterson and Mr Lawrence
Cllr Reid

8. To appoint Councillors to serve as Representatives of the Parish Council on the following bodies.

Councillors agreed the following appointments will continue;

Representative to the Village Hall Trust	Cllr Reid
Wealden District Association of Local Councils	Cllrs Stevens and Paterson
East Sussex ALC Ltd (to attend the AGM)	Cllrs Stevens

9. Payment of Annual Subscriptions

Councillors resolved that the following subscriptions and insurance will continue;

Wealden District Association of Local Councils
Society of Local Council Clerks
Sussex Association of Local Councils
Zurich Insurance
Information Commissioner

10. Bank Signatories

Councillors resolved Councillors Stevens, Paterson and the Clerk will remain cheque signatories.

11. To approve the accounts for the financial year to 31st March 2020.

Councillors resolved;

- i: to approve the Annual Governance Statement for the financial year to 31st March 2020.
- ii: to approve the accounts, the risk management document, the asset schedule and the internal audit arrangements for the financial year to 31st March 2020.
- iii: that they are exempt from an External Audit for the year to 31st March 2020 because the Parish Council's receipts and payments for the year were each less than £25000.

12. Payments List

Councillors formally approved the payments list dated 6th May 2020. The following payments were approved;

100912	ESALC - NALC and ESALC Subscriptions	137.29
100913	ESCC - Grass cutting	345.60
100914	ICO - Subscription	40.00
100915	S Goacher - Payroll	160.42
100916	A Stevens - Salary	198.10
100917	A Stevens - Salary	198.10
100918	ESCC - Pension	182.32
100919	Zurich Insurance -	257.60
100920	Peter Frost - Internal Auditor	48.75

13. Code of Conduct

Councillors **resolved** to re-adopt and abide by the Code of Conduct introduced by Wealden District Council under the Localism Act 2012.

14. General Power of Competence

Wartling Parish Council **resolved** that it meets the prescribed conditions for the General Power of Competence.

15. Planning Applications

WD/2020/0445/FA - Dormers Farm House, The Strait, Windmill Hill, Wartling, BN27 4RY
- Minor material amendment to WD/2018/1517/RM (Reserved Matters pursuant to outline application WD/2016/1958/O (Outline application for erection of two dwellings with parking and crossing to A271)) involving variation of Condition 11 to enable a minor re-orientation and the raising of the finished floor levels (Unit b) by 450mm to suit site conditions – Wartling Parish Council has no objections to this application on any planning grounds.

16. Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Reid asked what role the Parish Council is playing in the lockdown situation. The Parish Council has been working with the District and County Councils to help set up Community Shields so that those in need are put in touch with those who can provide help. There have also been more enquiries from people wanting to find out more about the area after tracing their family trees and finding out about relatives who have lived here.

Councillors Stevens reported a possible breach of planning in the Parish which he confirmed he will look into and report to Enforcement if necessary.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.20pm.