

WARTLING PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

1st July 2020

This meeting was a virtual Meeting held via Zoom

17 Present

Councillors K Stevens (Chairman), E Ashley, D Kehl and W Reid.

County Councillor B Bentley, District Councillor P Doodles, District Councillor R Cade, A Stevens (Clerk) and one member of the public were also in attendance.

18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C Paterson and the reasons for his absence were accepted by the Parish Council.

19 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th May 2020.

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 13th May 2020, were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Chairman.

20 Clerk's Report on Matters' Arising

It was noted that ESCC is not accepting cheques during the Covid-19 situation but the ESCC Pensions Fund still is.

21 Disclosures of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest on any items on this agenda nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

The meeting was then suspended.

22 Reports from the County Councillor on matters from the County Council affecting this Parish.

County Councillor Bentley said;

- the County Council is preparing to open its main libraries from 13th July. Services will be restricted in that there will be a limit on the number of books, access to a limited number of computers and a limit on seating. They will also be operating a click and collect service.
- Weddings will be resuming from 4th July. There will be restrictions in place.
- Deaths and births are still being registered.
- Trading Standards workload is set to increase as more businesses re-open.
- The new Chief Constable of Sussex Police is Jo Shiner.

Councillors agreed;

- the Covid-19 Regulations have been less than clear.
- the low number of infections and deaths here has been thanks to the residents sticking to the rules.

23 Report from the District Councillors on matters from the District Council affecting this Parish.

District Councillor Doodes said;

- All garden waste bins have been collected on time and the brown bin collections had been extended by three weeks so no one is out of pocket for the period of non collection.
- The amount of litter in the District is increasing as more fast food outlets open.
- Wealden's meetings are currently all virtual meetings.
- Staff are gradually returning to the office.
- Environmental Health has concerns about the forthcoming weekend because the pubs and restaurants are re-opening.
- Wealden has been sending out weekly updates on the progress made by its Community hubs.
- District Councillor Roger Thomas, a former District Councillor of this parish, has retired because of ill health.

Councillor Stevens thanked Wealden for everything they have done to keep their services going.

24 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Lawrence thanked District Councillor Doodes for the grant Wealden recently awarded to the Wartling Men's Shed, He also asked the Parish Council to report a broken drain cover outside Rockwell House and said he will send photographs of it to the Chairman.

The meeting was then re-opened.

25 Reports

a) Planning – The following planning application has been approved by Wealden;

WD/2017/1674/F - Barn House, Boreham Hill, Boreham Street, BN27 4SQ - Change of use from holiday let unit to a single dwelling and use of associated land as domestic curtilage.

b) Environment North

The amount of litter on the Wartling Road has increased because more fast food outlets are now open.

c) Footpaths

Councillor Ashley said the footpaths in the parish are generally well maintained.

d) Environment South

Councillor Ashley said she was pleased to;

- See the Local Authority is reconsidering using pesticides on grass verges.
- Hear the church bells of St Mary Magdalene being rung in thanks to the NHS.

e) Highways

It was noted that Boreham Lane has re-opened following the recent road works.

f) Police

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

g) Communication

Councillor Reid has been continuing to update the website and send out updates to residents via the email list. He was thanked for doing so by the Chairman.

h) Speedwatch

Speedwatch sessions in Wartling have been put on hold for now because of the Coronavirus restrictions.

i) Trees

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

26 Reports from outside meetings and courses attended

There have been no outside meetings or courses since the last meeting because of the current restrictions.

27 Boreham Lane

Councillors discussed a request from a resident to fit a sign asking drivers not to follow their sat navs and drive down Boreham Lane. They agreed Councillor Stevens should contact ESCC and find out what the costs would be.

District Councillor Cade joined the meeting and reported that Wealden's Benefits Teams has paid out an additional £54m in grants and discretionary grants during the Coronavirus Crisis.

28 Questions from Parish Councillors

There were no questions from any of the Parish Councillors on this occasion.

29 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered;

WD/2018/2292/F - Scolfes, The Strait, Boreham Street, Wartling, BN27 4SF - Demolition of pre-fabricated garage building and erection of dwelling for owners of Scolfes Tea Rooms – Wartling Parish Council is still concerned about the planned reduction in parking places at the restaurant but has no objections to this application as long as;

- It meets the Listed Building Requirements.
- It meets the requirements of being in a Conservation Area.
- No trees are removed.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 7.35pm.