

WARTLING PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

2nd September 2020

This meeting was a virtual Meeting held via Zoom

30 Present

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

District Councillor P Doodles, District Councillor R Cade, A Stevens (Clerk) and three members of the public were also in attendance.

31 Apologies for Absence

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

32 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st July 2020.

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 1st July 2020, were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Chairman.

33 Clerk's Report on Matters' Arising

All matters arising were included elsewhere on the agenda.

34 To adopt the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th August 2020

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th August 2020 were adopted by the Parish Council.

35 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.

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

There was no report from the County Councillor on this occasion.

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

District Councillor Doodles said;

- Wealden's reception desk is re-opening on the 7th September. When it does, it will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 1pm but residents will need to make an appointment. The contact centre will continue and the website contains a wealth of information.
- Meetings are continuing to be held remotely and attendance is good.

- Fly tipping remains a problem in the District.
- The Great British Clean Up is being held from the 11th to the 27th September. Litter picking equipment is available from Wealden at no cost and Wealden will also collect the spoils.
- The District Council opted to send the electoral information out by email this year because it was cheaper and more appropriate under the circumstances.
- Wealden would like every town and parish council to send in details of those who have been doing amazing things for others and their community throughout the recent difficult times. Everyone put forward will receive a certificate and their name will be added to a roll of honour which will be displayed at the District Council offices and on its website.
- Both District Councillors would like to meet Parish Councillors face to face when they can.

District Councillor Cade said;

- The Wealden hub is continuing but it receives less callers now.
- Wealden is still dealing with homeless households but the situation is improving.
- All coronavirus related benefits have finished but businesses can still apply for Phase 3 Discretionary Grants, even those where their previous applications were not met in full.
- The recent Cabinet Meeting looked at the Council's first quarter performance. Lots of targets were understandably missed.

38 Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Farhall introduced himself. He and his wife are the new owners of approximately 16 acres of Wartling Wood.

The meeting was then re-opened.

39 Reports

a) Planning – There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

b) Environment North

There has been not been any fly tipping reported since the last meeting.

c) Footpaths

Councillor Ashley reported some paths have been blocked off. She will give the Clerk the details to forward to Rights of Way.

d) Environment South

Councillor Ashley asked Councillors to consider making the Parish more wild life friendly. She suggested;

- leaving grass unmown
- rewilding verges
- planting more trees on verges
- planting window boxes
- having shady ponds

- having a pond from the run off from the Village Hall.

Councillors agreed to consider the idea in more detail at the Parish Assembly because there would be more residents present.

e) Highways

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

f) Police

The Parish Council now has dedicated PCSOs. More details can be found on www.police.uk

g) Communication

Some residents have been experiencing problems with the internet recently but it is understood these have been largely resolved.

h) Speedwatch

Speedwatch sessions were put on hold because of the Coronavirus restrictions but they will resume this month.

i) Trees

ESCC has just announced it is carrying out a Rural Tree Survey on the rural highway network.

40 Reports from outside meetings and courses attended

All outside meetings and training courses are taking place remotely for the foreseeable future.

41 Boreham Lane

At the last meeting, 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.

The Parish Council received a response which said;

'The signs and road markings that we are able to install on the public highway are strictly controlled by statutory regulations with the signs we are permitted to use being found in the Highway Code. Whilst I can fully appreciate the Parish Council's reasons for requesting these signs are erected, they are not signs that are authorised for use on the public highway so we are unable to agree to them being installed at either end of Boreham Lane'.

The Clerk will notify the resident who initiated the request.

42 Accessibility Regulations

Councillors resolved to add an Accessibility Statement to the website asking anyone who is experiencing problems accessing the information on it to contact the Clerk for that information in a different format. This will allow the Parish Council to assess whether or not it needs to precept for a new website.

43 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillors Stevens asked Councillors to;

- Approve the payments list to 2nd September 2020, which they did.
- Consider nominations for Wealden's Recognition for Service in the Community Initiative.

Councillor Reid asked if it would be possible to reduce the speed limit through the rest of Windmill Hill to 30mph. Councillor Stevens said the Parish Council has looked into this before but it was told the break in speed limits is there for safety reasons. He suggested it might be worth trying again when the new developments have gone up though. This was agreed by councillors.

44 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 – *Amended plans received 11 August 2020* – Wartling Parish Council sees no reason to change its original comments which were;

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.

WD/2020/1649/F - Battle View, The Strait, Boreham Street, Wartling, BN27 4SD - Proposed new garage attached to the existing garage – Wartling Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 7.45pm.