

WARTLING PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

3rd September 2014

held at The Reid Hall, Boreham Street

58 Present

Councillors K Stevens (Chairman), R Lawrence, C Paterson and M Corfield.

County Councillor B Bentley, County Councillor L Keeley, District Councillor P Doodles, A Hillman (Clerk) and fifteen members of the public were also in attendance.

59 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Parish Councillor S Parker.

60 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 9th July 2014 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Chairman.

District Councillor P Doodles asked for it to be recorded that she sent her apologies for this meeting by email at around half past eight on the night of the meeting.

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 9th July 2014 and 26th August were adopted by the Full Council.

61 Clerk's Report on Matters' Arising

All Matters' Arising are covered elsewhere on the agenda.

62 Disclosures of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest in any items on this agenda and there were no reported changes to the Register of Interests.

The meeting was then suspended.

63 Report from PCSO

PCSO Simon French was unable to attend on this occasion.

Councillor Stevens said that while he appreciates this is a low crime area the PCSO should be at some Parish Council meetings if only for five or ten minutes or produce a report to read out at the meeting. He will write to the Chief Commissioner to see if this is possible.

64 Reports from District and County Councillors.

District Councillor P Doodes;

- reported an increase in fly-tipping
- asked the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) if neighbourhood policing is still her priority because PCSO's are not attending Parish Council meetings. Neighbourhood policing is still a priority.
- asked if residents have received their letters about changes to the voting system. They have.
- told those present the Tour of Britain cycling race will ride through Hailsham on 13th September 2014.

County Councillor L Keeley reported that;

- work to Jenners Lane been carried out but Wilderness Wood still needs attention.
- the style in Jenners Lane still needs repairing.
- works to paths may require match funding and asked if the Parish Council has heard from Herstmonceux Parish Council about the possibility of the two parishes working together. The footpath from the village hall to the Wartling Road junction still needs attention and he will take this up with the County Council.
- County has two consultations open, one about buses and one about meals on wheels.
- in his opinion the area needs a new incinerator at Catsfield Kennels.

County Councillor B Bentley confirmed the bus consultation is still open and that at this stage no buses are being cut.

The Ofsted Inspection has now been published, the results were disappointing and County is to investigate why. 'A' level results were good and 'GCSE' results maintained the national average.

The meals on wheels contract was established in 2008, 100,000 meals have been lost since then and as a result prices have had to increase. ESCC is appealing for local catering businesses to approach them and price for the work.

County Councillor Bentley has spoken to the PCC and new Chief Constable about Community Policing.

Councillor Corfield asked for an update about the state of the banks in Boreham Lane. County Councillor Bentley confirmed this is still an ongoing matter and he is talking to the police about ticketing drivers parking there.

65 Questions from Members of the Public

Dr Ward asked what is happening about;

1: Boreham Lane;

- i: he says hedgerows, verges, ditches and drains are not being maintained and residents can not clear the litter there. County Councillor Bentley confirmed that a programme is in place and he will check Boreham Lane is included.
 - ii: increased traffic. He estimates that 600 vehicles a day are using the lane and feels there should be more passing bays. County Councillor Bentley said that traffic surveys have been carried out in Boreham Lane but it is not a high priority at ESCC. Dr Ward asked if satellite navigation companies can be contacted to re-route traffic. County Councillor Bennett explained they are but companies often use other cheaper sat navs.
- 2: Bus Stops;- he asked if the Parish Council is responsible for the bus stop in Boreham Lane and if so when it will be cleared of litter.
- 3: Litter; - he asked the Parish Council to organise volunteers to clear the litter in the rest of the Parish. Wealden District Council is responsible for clearing litter but can help parishes by supplying equipment for volunteers to carry out additional litter picks. The Parish Council will also see if the Community Payback Team can help.

Dr Ward said he is happy to head a team but will need the hedges cut back first. County Councillor Bentley confirmed that ESCC cuts the verges twice a year and the second cut is due soon.

Residents also reported that the large hole in the lane has opened up again. County Councillor Bentley is to investigate this further.

Mr Westcombe complained about the camper van parked in Boreham Lane. He said it is illegal to live at the side of the road and disagreed strongly with Sussex Police's decision that the van is not breaking any laws. He will continue to pursue this and will copy the Parish Council in on future correspondence to see how they can help. Residents present shared his public health concerns.

The meeting was then re-opened.

66 Reports

- a) Planning – Wartling Parish Council has no objections to the Champney's Farm application but does object to both the Byways and Wartling Wood applications. Communication between the Parish Council and Planning Officers on the Wartling Wood application continues and it is due to be decided by Committee on 18th September. Three new stables have, in the meantime, been erected at Wartling Wood.

- b) Environment North
There was nothing new to report on this occasion.
- c) Footpaths
Footpaths have been covered under 'Reports from County Councillors'. There was nothing new to add.
- d) Environment South
There was nothing new to report on this occasion.
- e) Highways/Police
Following the meeting in minute 36e from the July meeting, Highways have now confirmed they have looked into ways to reduce the number of accidents on the Wartling Road.

They report they are not able to put double white lines on the road because of the coaches and lorries but they will look into adjusting the camber.

In the meantime they have erected signage and edge marking fluorescent poles and say the Road Steward will look at cutting the verges and hedges to ease visibility. The word 'slow' is also to be written on the road each way.
- f) Communication
This will be covered under minute 69.
- g) Speedwatch
Speedwatch met last month and recorded twelve offences over four sessions.

Further Speedwatch sessions are to be arranged for September.
- f) Trees
Items regarding trees are covered elsewhere in these minutes.

67 Reports from Outside Meetings and Courses

Councillors Stevens and Lawrence attended the SSALC AGM held on 2nd September and met the PCC. Councillor Stevens reported that Victim Support Money is to be paid out through the PCC now. Residents views on Anti Social Behaviour are being sought, details of which will appear on the Parish Council's website.

68 First Aid Training - update

The First Aid Training has been organised for Tuesday 16th September at The Bull's Head and starts at 2pm. The training is open to all. Anyone who wishes to attend is asked to contact the Clerk of the Chairman.

69 Conservation Areas

Ms Tucker was unable to attend this meeting but sent a report outlining the advantages and disadvantages of being in a Conservation Area. A copy of the report is available on the Parish Council's website.

70 Questions from Parish Councillors.

Councillor Stevens asked for the Listed Buildings book to be returned to the Parish Council.

Councillor Stevens also asked the Parish Council to consider taking on responsibility for its roads and verges either solely or jointly with other parishes. This is to be an item on the next agenda.

Councillor Corfield asked if Wealden District Council is to just impose extra housing in the parish. The District Council will consult parishes first. District Councillor Doodles asked parishes to take action to make it difficult for developers.

There being no questions, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.