

WARTLING PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

8th January 2014

held at The Reid Hall, Boreham Street

64 Present

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

County Councillors L Keeley, District Councillor Mrs P Doodles, WPC Kelly Simmonds, Alison Hillman (Clerk) and 19 members of the public were also in attendance.

65 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from County Councillor B Bentley and Parish Councillor D Permaul.

66 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 6th November 2013 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record, subject to a name spelling amendment, and signed by the Chairman.

67 Clerk's Report

Councillor Permaul has resigned as a Parish Councillor and is expected to confirm this in writing soon.

68 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.

69 Report from PCSO

PCSO Simon French was unable to attend on this occasion due to sickness.

WPC Kelly Simmonds attended instead and introduced herself as our new WPC. WPC Simmonds can be contacted at Kelly.simmonds@sussex.pnn.police.uk or via her mobile on 0778 992 4940.

70 Speaker James Stobart from Sussex Police

Sussex Police have re-vamped Operation Crackdown. Operation Crackdown is an initiative where the Sussex Safer Partnership works with the Fire Brigade and local Councils to clamp down on anti-social driving, speeding, careless driving and undertaking.

Residents are asked to ask to report any incidents they witness via www.operationcrackdown.org or by calling 01243 64 22 22.

More details about Operation Crackdown are available at www.operationcrackdown.org and are also on Facebook and Twitter.

In answer to a question from a parishioner, it was suggested that horse and carriage drivers could use head cameras to record offending motorists' details as many cyclists now do.

The Chairman thanked Mr Stobart for his presentation and Mr Stobart left the meeting.

71 Speaker Natalie Bumpus and Jo Tucker from Wealden District Council

Wealden District Council needs to identify the Parishes views on local needs on the following issues within the Local Plan;

- i: housing allocations.
- ii: boundary reviews
- iii: Gypsy and Traveller provision
- iv: Review of Conservation Areas

Ten new homes have been allocated for this parish and these will be in addition to current windfall or exception sites.

Sites for these homes will be assessed and a consultation will take place in 2015 to define the boundaries.

Conservation areas will also be reviewed and residents are asked to consider whether they would like areas from this parish to be classed as conservation areas. Conservation areas generally increase property values but can reduce residents' planning rights.

Further details are available from jo.tucker@wealden.gov.uk or natalie.bumpus@wealden.gov.uk.

The Chairman thanked Ms Bumpus and Ms Tucker for their presentation and they then left the meeting.

72 Reports from District and County Councillors.

District Councillor P Doodes assured those present that Wealden has reduced the numbers of additional housing in the Core Strategy from the 13000 which was originally imposed by Central Government to 9600.

She also reported that;

- residents who have requested brown bins can expect to receive them shortly.

- Keir will collect rubbish from village halls at no cost but will charge them if they want bigger bins.

Residents agreed that there have been teething problems with the new recycling contract. Anyone, in this parish, who is still experiencing problems is asked to contact District Councillor Doodes.

County Councillor Bentley was unable to attend on this occasion but sent a report which is available upon request from the Clerk.

County Councillor Keeley reported that;

- ESCC visited Jenner's Lane to investigate the problems raised at the previous meeting. BT has cut some of the vegetation.
- Roads and ditches in the parish need clearing and he will take this up with officers at ESCC.

The Chairman reported that ESCC has accepted responsibility for the eroding banks on the west side of Boreham Street.

73 Questions from Members of the Public

Residents noted that;

- a large hole has appeared in Boreham Lane. Councillor Lawrence confirmed ESCC is investigating this.
- parking problems in Boreham Lane have been reported to the police.
- PGL have confirmed that the new bin for the bus shelter will be fitted in January, weather permitting.

Parishioners were reminded that they should keep their District and County Councillors as well as the Parish Clerk in the loop if they choose to make complaints direct to the authorities.

The meeting was then re-opened.

74 Reports

a) Planning

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

b) Environment South/Reid Hall

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

c) Footpaths and Environment North

The footpath problem at Wartling Wood has now been taken up by Wealden's Enforcement Team.

The footpaths in Boreham Street are now virtually impassable. County Councillor Keeley will take this up with ESCC.

d) Communications/Speedwatch

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

e) Highways/Police

Councillors praised the work of the Road Steward during the recent storms and asked the Clerk to write and thank him.

Councillor Holbrook said that;

- Sussex Police has a supply of marker pens and sprays for property marking. Residents are asked to contact him if they would like to order some.
- if residents would like some horse/speeding signs they can also get them from him.
- that Sussex Police has a new application for Apple Products which provides useful and up to date information. Information is also available on Facebook or Twitter.

f) Trees

All tree matters were covered elsewhere on this agenda.

75 Reports from Outside Meetings and Courses

Councillor Stevens attended a recent meeting of the Sussex Association of Local Councils. Farmers are now permitted to use red diesel when clearing snow on roads and lanes. If a local farmer seeks the permission of the Parish Council to clear snow in local lanes he should be covered by the Parish Council's Insurance if not by their own.

76 Precept Request 2014-2015

Wartling Parish Council **resolved** that, the precept for 2014-2015 will remain £5,000.

77 Questions from Parish Councillors.

Councillor Stevens asked anyone interested in the free First Aid Training offered by the First Responders to contact the Clerk.

There being no further business, the meeting closed 9:15pm.