

WARTLING PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

7th March 2018

held at The Reid Hall, Boreham Street

72 Present

Councillors K Stevens (Chairman), R Lawrence, D Kehl, C Paterson and W Reid.

County Councillor B Bentley, A Stevens (Clerk) and eleven members of the public were also in attendance.

73 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillor P Doodles.

74 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3rd January 2018 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Chairman.

75 Clerk's Report on Matters' Arising

All matters arising were included elsewhere on the agenda.

76 Disclosures of Interests

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

The meeting was then suspended.

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

County Councillor Bentley said;

- The County Council coped well with the recent cold weather. Gritters were out from 3am each morning and the water supply was resumed to all areas in a few days.
- The County Council's budget is set to increase by 5.99%.
- £17m worth of savings still have to be made though. The aftercare service for stroke victims is to be reduced, changes are being made to the Household Waste Sites, urban grass cutting is to be reduced to twice a year and Parish Councils are being asked to pick up the shortfall, the number of libraries is to be reduced, the mobile library service is to cease but the home library service will be enhanced and digital skills will be supported instead.
- Further savings of £32m will be needed.
- Consultations on the Household Waste Services and the Library Services are currently open. Details can be found on the East Sussex County Council website.

In answer to residents' questions, County Councillor Bentley confirmed;

- Hailsham and Battle Recycling Sites are to stay. Forest Row and/or Wadhurst could close.

- Charges will be made for non-domestic waste even though it could lead to an increase in fly-tipping.
- The contract for pothole repairs states that if potholes re-open within 90 days of being repaired, the contractor has to meet the cost of the subsequent repair and not the tax payer.
- The County Council is set to invest in e-services and outreach services because it recognises that the country has one of the lowest literacy rates in Europe.

Councillors agreed to let the Clerk have their comments on the Recycling Sites by email. The Clerk will then draft an official response.

78 Report from the District Councillor on matters from the County Council affecting this Parish.

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

79 Questions from Members of the Public

There were no further questions from the public on this occasion.

The meeting was then re-opened.

80 Reports

a) Planning – Wealden District Council has approved the following planning application;

WD/2017/1250/F - Foxes Barn (Avery's Barn), Wood Lane, Wartling BN27 1GA – Replacement of existing barn previously approved for conversion under WD/2015/2486/F with new dwelling and double garage

The following planning application has been withdrawn;

WD/2017/2388/F - Tyler Barn, Wartling Road, Wartling, BN27 1RX - Demolition of existing barn and erection of a single three-bedroom dwelling with detached car port.

b) Environment North

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

c) Footpaths

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

d) Environment South

The Great Wealden Spring Clean took place on the weekend of 3rd to 5th March. It was noted that volunteers picked up a lot of litter.

e) Highways

Potholes in Wartling Road have been reported to the County Council.

f) Police

Two cars have been written off following accidents on the Wartling Road and the County Council has cut the verges further back as a result.

A house in Boreham Street was broken into but the offender is understood to have been caught.

g) Communication

The Parish Council continues to send out Community emails.

The recent free computer session (DigiSafe in Cyber Space) organised by Barclays Bank and Wealden on the 27th February was postponed because of the bad weather. Leaflets on how to stay safe on-line are available from Councillor Lawrence.

The latest scam was also noted. Fraudsters pretend to be from your supplier and write to or email you with details of their new bank account so always check before amending third parties bank account details.

h) Speedwatch

The Speedwatch sessions which had been planned for early March were cancelled because of the bad weather. More Speedwatch sessions have been planned for April.

It was noted that Herstmonceux Parish Council has now also set up a Speedwatch Team.

i) Trees

There was nothing to report on this occasion.

81 Reports from Outside Meetings and Courses

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

82 Grant request

Councillors resolved to award Wartling Brownies £100. The money will be paid out when the Parish Council receives the precept for 2018-2019.

83 General Data Protection Regulations

The current Data Protection Act is out of date and does not take into account Social Media.

The new regulations take effect from 25th May 2018 and return ownership of data back to the individual. After May individuals will have to give their consent when anyone wants to use their data, and for what they want to do with it.

Professional organisations (including Town and Parish Councils) will have an obligation to look after information.

Organisations such as Town and Parish Councils will need to appoint an independent Data Protection Officer. Solicitors at NALC and the SLCC agree this cannot be the Clerk. The role of the Data Protection Officer (DPO) will be to act like a policeman and protect the individual.

One solution is to appoint a Cyber Protection Solutions Company to be the DPO. They have discovery templates they can share which will find out where the data is and they can work out what to do with it. We can take our lead from them.

Any information held by the Parish Council will need to be encrypted because;

- If the Parish Council gets hacked the information will be unreadable it won't have to report it.
- If information is lost on a memory stick for example, no-one will be able to access the information on it.
- If the Parish Council loses someone's data and it is not encrypted they are entitled to compensation.

Consent to hold data will need to change. Individuals will no longer be able to tick a box providing general consent, they must specifically consent to the purpose the data is being used for and that consent must be recorded.

Parish Councillors may need to have separate Parish Council email addresses and their own personal devices will have to be encrypted if they hold Parish Council information.

Councils will also need to approve more policies (ie; Retention Policy, Privacy Policy).

Wartling Parish Council has started to take the new regulations on board, the Clerk has attended training, the office computer is now encrypted and the contents are now stored on an encrypted memory stick.

Wartling Parish Council resolved to appoint Satswana, a Cyber Protection Solutions Company recommended by SSALC, as its independent Data Protection Officer.

84 Verge Cutting in the Parish

Wartling Parish Council had been asked to consider taking over the urban cuts in the Parish from ESCC or pay for the additional cuts which are no longer being carried out by them.

The Parish Council queried the request and ESCC subsequently confirmed there are no urban cuts in the Parish and has now withdrawn its offer.

85 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Stevens confirmed the Parish Council has reported the state of the footpath in Boreham Street to Highways.

71 Planning Applications

The following planning application was considered;

WD/2017/2730/F - Dormers Farm, The Strait, Windmill Hill, Wartling, BN27 4RY - Proposed demolition of barn and erection of three detached dwellings with garaging. Conversion of building used for B8 storage into two holiday lets –

Wartling Parish Council unanimously rejects this application for the following reasons;

- Access

It is understood that the owner of Dormers Farm only has a 'rights of way' access over the driveway belonging to the owners of Broadview.

- Highways

The entrance to Dormers Farm comes out on to a junction with Joes Lane and the A271. This junction is extremely dangerous with speeding traffic exiting the A271 down Joes Lane. Joes Lane is a single track road and a previous planning application for 2 holiday lets (WD/2012/2042/F) was rejected because of the access.

Councillors would also like to have seen the report from Highways before commenting on this application.

- Overdevelopment

This development must be considered to be an over development because it is placing five residences on a site where there are already two.

- Vehicular Movement

Councillors feel the suggested traffic movement for this site is completely misleading. Each property would have at least two cars.

There is no mains gas and large delivery vehicles would access all the properties at different times to deliver gas bottles or fill up gas tanks. The driveway in its current state and size will make this extremely difficult and would add to issues around the number of vehicular movements to the site. Other trade vehicles, supermarket deliveries and the postman would also add to this.

- Household Waste Management

There is currently waste bin provision for the two holiday lets on the site. The new development will need fourteen bins which would be stored outside Dormers Farm and block drivers' vision.

The Parish Council understands foul sewage already leaks from the site on to land belonging to Broadview and it is concerned to see that the applicant has ticked 'unknown' when asked how foul sewage is to be disposed of.

- Ashdown Forest

This application will increase the nitrogen levels on the Ashdown Forest.

- Other

Councillors also asked how this application can be considered for approval when

other holiday lets in the Parish have been converted to permanent dwellings because they were not viable, and that this application is called into Planning Committee South for a Decision.

Councillor Bentley told Councillors about the following Water Treatment Plant application because, although it is not in this Parish and they are not official consultees, it affects this Parish and he thought they might like to comment;

WD/805/CM - Windmill Hill Water Treatment Works, Victoria Road, Windmill Hill, Herstmonceux, BN27 4TQ - Change of use of land to extend the area of operational land at Windmill Hill Wastewater Treatment Works and installation of a Motor Control Centre Kiosk.

Councillors agreed to submit their comments to the Clerk who will draft an official response.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 8.30pm.