

**MINUTES OF WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY
1st SEPTEMBER 2022 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

PRESENT: - Councillor Fisher in the Chair
Councillors Ratcliffe, Scott and Underhill
District Councillor Cook
County and District Councillor Field

AGENDA

OPEN SESSION / LATE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

2 Local Government electors attending

Councillor Ratcliffe said there have been problems with the morning bus not turning up to take the children to school. Councillor Field said if he would email her with this information she would look into it.

Councillor Ratcliffe also confirmed National Highways have not yet cut the verge between Maddomswood and the garage. The clerk will contact them again.

Councillor Cook said the District Council would be starting to refund the £150 council tax paid by those on benefits.

The Chairman said the Defibrillator is continuing to show a red light but seems to be working should we have this looked at. The clerk will contact the Heart Foundation for advice.

Late Items. A parishioner reported branches from a tree had fallen down onto the road.

Reported and cleared by Highways Steward...

East Sussex Highways have reported they will be carrying out carriage patching works at Hooks Beach on the 16th September, but Councillor Field advised there was a new date for this work 21st – 23rd September. The road will be closed from 9.30a.m. -4.00p.m. Traffic will be diverted via Vinehall Road, B2244, Sedlescombe Junction Road onward.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor White

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No Interests disclosed

3. MINUTES

Minutes of the council meeting held on the 19th May 2022, and the Planning Meeting 19th May 2022 copies of which had been circulated were agreed and signed by the Chairman

4. MATTERS ARISING

- a) The Footpath warden had walked footpath 10 to ensure it was accessible, he cleared all the overgrowth and then checked along the footpath to the other bridges. The reported broken footbridge had recently been replaced by East Sussex Rights of Way team. No other problems found. If any problems are reported to the council they should report them to the Rights of Way team.

5 CORRESPONDENCES

- a Open Reach – Response to our email asking why we were not advised of Riccards Lane closure and no work seemingly done during the four-week closure. They advised they had a licence from East Sussex Highways to close the road and work was carried out during the closure. They apologize for any inconvenience and the diversion route was agreed with Highways. As all work was completed no further work needs to be done.
- b With the help of Councillor Cook the clerk and her met with Andy Dinsdale from Strandliners regarding clearance of the river bank. As Strandliners work is more in preservation of the wild life and not clearing the bank the clerks contacted Highways footpath team. They will inspect the river bank and if it is considered dangerous to people not knowing the river is there, they will cut the growth down, if not considered dangerous they will advise what could be done to make it safer. The Chairman asked the footpath warden if a warning sign should be erected. He advised no that is not usually done.

6 SPEED WATCH

As no meetings have been held- no report. The Meetings will be started in the next few weeks.

7 REVIEWS OF THE FOLLOWING

Accessibility Statement for website

Charging policy

Information Protection

Risk Schedule

All the above agreed by councillors

8 CLERKS MEETING – SUGGESTIONS TO PARISH COUNCILS FOR VILLAGE HALLS

As parish council can help with some funding, suggestions given at the meeting for this– Hearing loops, solar panels, central heating and small generators. The clerk will advise the Chairman of the village hall.

9 APPROVAL OF UPDATED STANDING ORDERS.

With dates and times inserted in various sections Councillors resolved to approve the update.

The clerk advised she had left the sub committees sections in as councillors may in the future wish to have these.

10 CHANGING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING FROM AUGUST TO SEPTEMBER.

After discussion it was resolved to change the August meeting to September and also to change The October meeting to November both as usual the third Thursday in these months.

11 PLANNING

RR/2022/1660/P Harpenden, Whatlington Road

GRANTED

RR/2022/633/P Whatlington Garage

GRANTED

Appeal APP/U1430/W/21/3285269 Land at Benham Cottage

Appeal allowed and granted planning permission for construction of detached dwelling house

Enforcement order - Spilstead Airstrip following a report of a breach of the planning agreed Protocol

This was reported by the clerk as on 19th and 20th July two aircraft flew over Whatlington in breach of sections 2 and 4 of the agreed planning Protocol, which Rother was supposed to monitor. They are taking no enforcement action but have reported the airstrip to the Civil Air Authorities

12 FINANCES

Rother District Council Jubilee celebrations grant of £500 received.

Direct Debits Barclaycard

March – H.P. Instant Ink – Photocopying - £1.99 Fasthost – Email fee -£2.63 £4.62

April – H.P. Instant In – Photocopying - £5.49 Fasthost – Email fee- £2.63 £8.12

May – H.P. Instant Ink - £6.49 Fasthost – Email Fee - £2.63

Car Park padlock and 8 keys - £65.90 £75.02

June – H.P. Instant Ink -photocopying - £9.99 Fasthost – Email fee -£2.63 £12.62

Other Direct Debits

Hugo Fox – Quarterly Website fee £71.97

ICO – Data Protection Fee £35.00

Bill to pay - 100840 - Averdell – Grass cutting £333.00

Possible future costs for future new clerk

The clerk advised that in a similar sized parish the clerk’s annual salary was £1000 more. If clerks’ salary was £15 an hour for 4 hours this would be an extra £337 other expense would be a pension - £215, Home working £852. And any travel costs claimed, no National Insurance of 5.5% of salary would need to be paid as weekly salary liable for this is £175. The clerk suggested the extra money needed could be between £1,000 -1,400.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17th November 2022

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05p.m.

Minutes remain in draft format until approved at the next Meeting of the Council