

**MINUTES OF WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17th MAY 2018
IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

PRESENT:- Councillor Fisher in the Chair
Councillors Apthorp, Underhill and White
District Councillor Kirby-Green

1) ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Fisher was proposed by Councillor Underhill seconded by Councillor Apthorp

OPEN SESSION / LATE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were 3 local electors attending

Councillor Fisher said he had recently had to clean the inside of the bus shelter where someone has used it as a public toilet; he has had to do this several times in the past. He asked if we should now have a maintenance person who would check the shelter for any damage and report this to the clerk and if necessary clean the inside. He could ask the landlord of the Royal Oak if their handy person would be willing to do this and their charges. He will speak to the landlord and as an agenda item for our August meeting it can be discussed further. Councillor Kirby Green said Rother had had no complaints of missed bins from Whatlington, the Councillor Fisher advised he had just reported a missed bin. He also said he has reported missed bins to Rother.

Councillor White said the hall committee will be clearing the fallen tree and branches on the cess pit, the grass cutter can now cut then grass up to the hall boundary.

Councillor Kirby-Green advised Rother are going ahead with parking enforcement, but the process is complicated and will take about 2 years, hopefully in place by April 2020 and there will be traffic wardens.

LATE ITEMS

Sussex, Surrey Association of Local Councils advised they have a new email account for councillor's and the clerk to access their site. The clerk will circulate the address to councillor's by email

2) ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Underhill was proposed by Councillor Apthorp seconded by Councillor White

3) APOLOGIES

Councillors Scott and County Councillor Field

4) DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Councillors Apthorp and White declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in item 15 as members of the Village Hall Committee

5) APPOINTMENT OF TWO REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ROTHER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

Councillor Scott had advised she was willing to stand. Councillors Fisher and Scott were appointed.

6) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16th March 2018, copies of which had been circulated

After Councillor White's amendment for agenda item 6, as attached. The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman

7) MATTERS ARISING

- 7.a U.K. Power - They have confirmed the electric substation will be sited on the right hand side of the bus shelter. They have also confirmed this will not prevent maintenance to the shelter, the use of the bench or restrict the use of the footpath.
- b. Purchase of Mobile Telephone- Following refusal by Car phone Warehouse to supply the council, a pay as you go Duro 6520 was purchased from Tesco for £45.00 with free text credits of £30.
- c. Charity Commission letter approving changes to Village Hall Deed. Councillors White said this is in hand and a copy will be forwarded to the council when received.

8) CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.a Highways England – After being advised the work had been put on hold they have now advised that unless an emergency occurred the work will be carried out overnight on the 7th June.

9 APPROVAL OF FOLLOWING POLICIES:-

- a) Internal Financial Control policy
- b) Data Protection Policy
- c) Privacy Policy

After deletion of paragraph -Use of Cookie on Privacy Policy all were agreed

10 INSURANCE POLICY FOR 2018-19

As our current insurer were no longer covering councils the clerks had obtained two quotes. BHIB Insurance Brokers Premium - £155.75 Zurich- £257.60 With a lower premium and better coverage it was resolved to have BHIB

11 APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT EXEMPTION

Councils with income under £25,000 can use this exemption for a lesser audit. All the usual forms have to be completed and put on our web site and selected forms sent to them. The Chairman signed the certificate for this.

12 INTERNET AUDIT COMPLETED - AUDITORS RECOMMENDATIONS

All accounts found in order. Recommendations – a) all cheques stubs must be initialed, some had been missed.

b) -Annual agreed increase in clerks salary. Although this is listed in the minutes a formal signed note in the payroll file would be a good idea. c) – A query on whether the council should be paying national insurance as the salary is paid twice a year. The clerk had spoken to the Inland Revenue employer help line and been advised that unless the salary was over £6,000 a year there was no national insurance liability. Payment dates are the clerks choice.

13 APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

This was approved and signed by the Chairman

14 APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

These were approved.

Councillors Apthorp and White advised their Personal and Prejudicial interest in the following

15 APPROVE THE ARRANGEMENT FOR GIVING GRANTS TO WHATLINGTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The arrangement of grants of 50% being given, if financially necessary, to the Village Hall for invoices received during the year with the overall total amount up to the current Precept agreed figure. This has been agreed by the Village Hall Chairman Three councillors' have also agreed, but as two councillors are members of the hall committee and cannot vote the clerk will email councillor Scott for her decision on this.

16 PLANNING

RR/2018/1246/P	D.A. French Carpentry Ltd, Hillside Nursery	Mr D. French
	Continued use of buildings for preparation and storage of products in association with existing Joinery business that operates from the site including retention of paint shop building (former glass house) And temporary storage area within large greenhouse. Proposed replacement storage building.	
	After discussion it was resolved to support the application	
RR/2018/571/P	The Barn, Ringletts Farm, Whatlington Road	REFUSED
RR/2018/632/p	Riccards Farm, Hastings Road	REFUSED
	Enforcements	
ENF/7/18/WHA	Hillside Nursery Planning application submitted as above	
ENF/38/18/WHA	Woodmans, Woodmans Green Road	Inspected

17 FINANCE

The balance in Barclays Bank as at 17th May 2018 was current account - £545.34 deposit account - £10,162.68

There were 6 accounts to pay including the agreed insurance premium

100756 - ESSALC – SSALC and NALC subscriptions	£109.11
100757 – Whatlington Village Hall – Councils annual rent of the hall in advance-	£200.00
100758 - V. Bennett – First Strike Computer set up - £60.00 Balance of payment for P.C. World invoice dated 14 th March 2018 - £100.00	£160.00
100759 – McCabe Ford Williams – Internal Audit Fee -	£222.00
100760 - Whatlington Parochial Church Council – Section 137 Grant towards maintenance of Church yard	£500.00
100861 - BHIB Insurance Agents - Council Insurance premium	£155.75
Credit card payment Computer - £549, H.P. Ink - £8.99, Fasthost email - £1.19	£559.18

Councillors discussed the council's financial statement and resolved to delete Village event and Directory as no longer needed. To increase Repairs/Maintenance to £200 and to allocate a sum of £50 towards possible future election costs

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16th August 2018

The meeting ended at 8.15

Councillor White's amended paragraph

6) OUTCOME OF MEETING WITH HUW MERRIMAN AND AMBER RUDD ON IMPROVEMENT TO THE A.21

Councillor Fisher and Councillor White had attended on our behalf. Councillor White said the meeting was chaired by Huw Merriman, Amber Rudd was very keen on dualling the A.21 all the way from London to Hastings, but no specific site in Hastings for this to end. The next five year plan is 2020-25 and the A.21 is currently not a priority in this. All the parish councils attending wanted their roads upgraded; Hurst Green had their bypass cancelled 2010.

Amber Rudd is very keen as she sees this helping the regeneration of Hastings.

The minister Greg Clark and a member of the Civil Service also attended. The Civil Service member said we will hear in 2019 if the A21 is to be part of the 2020-2035 plan.

Hurst Green wanted more safety for their school, Flimwell wanted speed cameras and we wanted white lines, speed cameras and pavements.

East Sussex County Council were represented but seem more interested in roadways East to West.

The feeling was dualling the entire A21 will probably not happen for many years.