

**MINUTES OF WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY
15th AUGUST 2019 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

PRESENT:- Councillor Fisher in the Chair
Councillors Scott, Underhill and White

OPEN SESSION / LATE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were 2 local electors attending

Councillor Fisher asked about the siting of road signs as several tradesmen's making deliveries had queried if Woodman's Green Road was the name of the road. As they had not been sited the clerk had contacted Mr Gale at Rother who advised both signs are on order, Hoath Lane siting is awaiting a member of staff being available to site this, there are problems with the siting of Woodman's Green Road sign which will delay it. The clerk was asked to write advising tradesman are asking about the name of the road and can the problems be sorted out quickly. The clerk reported she had contacted Rother about the refuse collectors leaving the bins in the middle of her drive making it impossible to drive in. Rother had sent the usual, reply in 10 days, so she emailed the Biffa CEO and received a reply with an apology the next day and at the last collection the bin was returned to where it was collected from. This is obviously the way to get matters sorted.

Councillor White said they had given up as their collection are irregular. The clerk was asked to ask Rother for a list of the collection days for all the roads in Whatlington.

Councillor Scott asked if there had been any communication about Fibre Broadband as the notices and coiled wire are on several telephone posts in the village. The clerk advised no communication regarding this received.

The clerk will contact Open Reach regarding this.

Councillor Underhill said the SLOW signs on the road are now very faint. The clerk will contact Highways regarding this.

1) APOLOGIES

Councillor Ratcliffe and County and District Councillor Field

2) APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN Councillor Underhill was proposed by Councillor Fisher and seconded by Councillor Scott

3) APPOINTMENT OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE ROTHER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS. Councillors Fisher and Scott appointed

4) DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interests made

5) MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 9th May 2019, copies of which had been circulated.

Councillor White explained that he was not a representative of the council. After the deletion on agenda item 6, second paragraph, second and third line the wording 'so acts as a council representative for this. The minutes were then proposed by Councillor Fisher confirmed and signed.

6) MATTERS ARISING

- a) **Update on improvements to Woodman's Green Road from Huw Merriman.** Only contact from him has been I will contact you shortly. The clerk will keep regularly contacting him about this.
- b) **Area 4 re Highways England maintenance of road surface.** They have carried out some running repairs and will continue monitoring the situation making repairs as required. The road does require extensive repair works and a scheme is planned to resurface this section between Vinehall and Whatlington in the financial year 2020-2021
- c) **Area 4 re Highways England Drains and Vegetation.** The drains have been unblocked and the site lines cut. A parishioner because of the growth of vegetation has been unable to walk on the verge from Hoath Lane to the Garage has asked if this could be cut. The clerk advised - as this is a straight stretch they only cut twice a year, but she will contact them asking in view of health and safety for the verge to be cut.
- d) **East Sussex Highways maintenance of road surface on C.293.** Our Highways Steward has inspected the road and noted areas where the carriageway is eroded and uneven, although not at a level which causes a safety issue. Repairs are required when there is a change in level greater than 40mm and at least 300mm in all other directions and they would be scheduled for repair within 28 days. He will be inspecting the road regularly.

MATTERS ARISING CONTINUED

- e) **Use of black box for recycling waste.** Councillor Field had checked with Rother and they advised all recycling goes into the Green bin any excess into a black sack. The black box is not to be used parishioners can either keep the box for their own use or returns it to Rother.
- f) **Income tax to be paid by clerk.** Payment made on invoice received from Inland Revenue
- g) **Approval of Certificate of Exemption by External Auditors.** Confirmation of approval received
- i) **Road Posters for pedestrians walking in road.** East Sussex Highways have supplied three posters but only for use on the C.293. They must be placed on private property not on the verge or any street furniture. They must be taken down after three months as drivers then take them for granted and ignore them, they can be put back after a few months break. Councillors thought this was unnecessary but it is the Highways rules and they will not supply posters for Woodman's Green Road nor will Highways England. The clerk was asked to contact Sussex Police for their views on this matter

7) CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **U.K. Government** - All council websites need to have an Accessibility Statement for their websites by September 2020. After the deletion of the clerk's telephone details a temporary statement advising we are working with our provider to make our website more easily accessible to everyone was approved. SALC have advised a draft statement will be provided for councils in the autumn.
- b) **Councillor Ratcliffe in order to avoid August meetings had suggested amending meeting dates to Bi-monthly.** May, July, September, November, January and March making six meetings. After discussion it was resolved to leave the months as they currently are, with five meetings a year.

8) REVIEW OF THE FOLLOWING: -**CHARGING POLICY****FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/ FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

After discussion all above policies agreed

9 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR ACCOUNTS 2019-2020

Confirmation of Martin Humphreys – McCade, Ford and Williams

10) PLANNING

RR/2019/699/P	Leeford Vineyard – Land at Whatlington Road	Granted
RR/2019/905/L	1 Dorrell Cottages, Woodman's Green Road	Withdrawn
RR/2019/977/P	Freshfields, Whatlington Road	Granted
RR/2019/1492/P	Meadows, Whatlington Road	Granted
RR/2019/1620/P	Woods Place Farm, Mill Lane	

A letter had been sent to planning from a parishioner concerned about any affect this would have to her water supply and that the dwelling is not used for holiday lets.

Councillors supported the application but will advise the Planning Department of their concerns regarding controlling intrusion of lighting and conservation of all wild life on the site.

RR/2019/1844/P 1 & 2 Leeford Cottages, Whatlington Road

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey extension with internal alterations to the ground floor

11) FINANCE

The Balance in Barclays Bank as at 15th August 2019 is current account £530.46 and Deposit account £10187.10

Payments made between meetings

Barclaycard Direct Debits

May – Fast Host council email fee - £2.39

June - H.P. Inks - £10.98 Fasthost email fee - £2.39 £13.37

July - H.P Inks - £3.49 Fast Host council email fee - £2.39 Cardiac Science Defibrillator Battery £288.00

£293.88

June Direct Debit – I.C.O Data Protection fee £35.00

There were two cheque to pay

100783 Averdell - Grass Cutting £363.00

100784 Rother Association of Local Councils – Subscription £25.00

12) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17th October 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8. 10p.m.

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