

WESTHAMPNETT PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Westhampnett Parish Council Meeting held at 7pm on
Monday 15th May 2017
at the March C of E School, Westhampnett

Councillors: *Cllr W Harding (Chairman), Cllr J Hardstaff (Vice-Chair), *Cllr S Burborough,
*Cllr R Fabricius, *Cllr S James, *Cllr C McLeish, *Cllr C Moth

* Denotes present

The meeting was clerked by Parish Clerk, Mrs Lisa O'Sullivan

6 members of the public also attended.

36/17 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2017/2018**

Cllr McLeish proposed Cllr Harding

Cllr Fabricius seconded the proposal

There were no further nominations

RESOLVED: That Cllr Harding is elected Parish Chairman for 2017/2018.

37/17 **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Cllr Harding duly accepted the office of chairman.

38/17 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2017/2018**

Cllr Harding proposed Cllr Hardstaff

Cllr Burborough seconded the proposal

There were no further nominations

RESOLVED: That Cllr Hardstaff is elected Parish Vice-Chairman for 2017/2018.

39/17 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Hardstaff was away on holiday.

County Cllr Jeremy Hunt also sent apologies.

40/17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Burborough declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Grange Management Committee.

Council agreed to bring Item 6 forward

41/17 **QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

It was reported that cars belonging to Rolls Royce employees are still parking along the grass verge in Claypit Lane which local volunteers work to maintain. This has been reported to Andrew Balls via email several times this week. There are also still busses going the wrong route and using Claypit Lane, despite Mr Ball's assurances that this will not happen. There was a question as to whether 'No Parking' signs could be erected however it was agreed that the Parish has no power to enforce that.

42/17 **REPORTS BY EXTERNAL BODIES**

CDC Cllr Hall stated that he was very pleased to serve the community on the District Council, especially on Planning issues.

An update was given on the Solar Farm issue. The complaint is grinding forward slowly. There is a case to answer according to the ombudsman however he is looking for an injustice in the physical form of the farm which is not what the protesters are complaining about. They have been told that complaints about Members' conduct must go to the CDC Monitoring Officer, this has been submitted and acknowledged. In the meantime, the Ombudsman cannot stop them working on the site and on the evening of the meeting residents had seen a large drilling machine arriving at the site. Andrew Blanchard has written to RSPB regarding the Skylarks on site but the Wildlife Crime Officer says they are doing nothing wrong.

Council agreed to bring Item 17 forward

43/17 **CHRISTMAS TREE / LIGHTS SWITCH ON ROMAN WALK**

Sara Watkins and Linda Lanham presented a proposal to Council, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

The Council thought this was an excellent idea which it would support. The Clerk was asked to see if the New Homes Bonus would pay for the lights for the trees.

Several issues including PL insurance and Health and Safety insurance were raised, but are all on the project checklist. Clerk to check if the Council's PL insurance would cover the event and provide Mrs Lanham with a Health and Safety assessment template.

Several useful suggestions were made by Council and members of public and noted by Mrs Lanham.

44/17 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Cllr Moth questioned the meeting end time of 9.50 and this was amended to 8.50. She also noted that minute 28(b) did not state where the sign referred to actually was. The Chairman amended the minutes to show it was Westerton Playground.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 20th March 2017 are approved by the Council (as amended) and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

45/17 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

46/17 **MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Cllr Harding reported that he had been to a meeting on Wednesday where the issue with travellers was discussed. He has complained that the management of the site is not 9-5, 7 days per week as it should be.

Cllr Burborough reported that the noticeboard has been installed in the centre of the Grange and she will do notices for it. Bob Kettley's thanks to her for getting the chicanes done within the site were relayed.

Cllr Burborough also reported that the business plan for the village hall would be ready shortly.

A member of the public asked Cllr Burborough if a sign could go up on the noticeboard asking Grange residents to drive slowly through the village. Cllr Burborough stated that

this was probably possible however it was noted that it is not only Grange residents who speed.

The issue of drifters on local roundabouts was discussed. Cllr McLeish noted that her neighbour had recently reported one who was subsequently arrested.

The issue of removing the tyre from the Westerton playground was again raised, despite best efforts it is still there and with playground inspection looming needs to be removed.

RESOLVED: That the correct equipment is hired to do the job, to be paid from Play area maintenance budget.

The Chairman asked Andrew Balls from Rolls Royce to give a report.

Mr Balls reported on the industrial action taken by RR staff, the first in 30 years. He apologised for any noise but stated it was out of his control. There is planned action tomorrow and 23rd May and he noted that strikers are not allowed to walk and make noise (it is not a march) but can if they are standing still. The two official protest points are the two entrances.

Cllr Harding stated that he saw a RR coach going up Claypit Lane at some speed earlier in the evening. Mr Ball asked for any such incident to be reported, with number plates if possible.

The issue of RR employees parking in the village was also raised again. Mr Balls stated that he would do as much as he could to help and asked for licence plates / photos of those parking on the verge. Cllr Harding asked if RR would be prepared to install wooden bollards on the verge to prevent parking and Mr Balls asked the council to let him know what was required.

Cllr Moth noted that motorbikes are regularly speeding through the village at 5.30am and 11.30pm and need reporting.

47/17 **PLANNING**

17/01038/TPA – Mr Bob Holman reported that Cllr Hardstaff had asked him to look at the trees in this application however there are a lot of trees in a line by the fence parallel with Claypit Lane and it was hard to give a judgement until he was sure exactly which ones were involved. Linda Lanham reported that she had looked at the arboriculturalist's report online and he had given reasons for each action required. These are remedial actions for rotten and overhanging branches. Cllr Harding advised that Cllr Hardstaff should formulate a response on her return.

WH/16/02827/FUL- Council agreed with Cllr Hardstaff's recommended comments, to be sent by Clerk.

SDNP/17/01391/FUL – Council agreed Cllr Hardstaff's recommendation of No Objection.

48/17 **NEW HOMES BONUS**

RESOLVED: That the Clerk attempts to get payment for Christmas Lights, timer and any other associated item from the NHB.

49/17 **BANKING ARRANGEMENT**

RESOLVED:

- a) The Clerk is authorised to contact all financial establishments that the Council holds accounts with to change the correspondence address to her home address.
- b) The Clerk is also authorised to contact NS&I to request change of signatories on that account to mirror those currently in place for Barclays bank accounts.

50/17 **COMMUNITY HALL**

It was suggested that the plans ought to go onto the noticeboards and website so that residents can see them.

The business plan is nearly finished, will be available soon once some figures are finalised.

The Clerk has been in touch with Bellway and the Council's solicitors as well as CDC enforcement and finally some progress seems to be made.

51/17 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Cllr Hardstaff's update as contained in the Agenda was noted.

52/17 **ISSUES WITH RUBBISH / BINS**

Cllr Burborough reported that there is rubbish coming off the wheels of the Virador trucks using the waste transfer centre. Small pieces of rubbish are clogging Stane Street drains.

Also, CDC needs to be asked whether the bins in Stane Street can have their tops replaced so that people can put cigarettes out on them.

53/17 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Council noted the following items:

- a. To note receipts and approve payments for April 2017
- b. To approve Bank Reconciliation to end April 2017
- c. To note spend against budget 2017/2018

RESOLVED: – that the schedule of payments and any variances in the Council's accounts are approved.

54/17 **END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2016-2017**

RESOLVED That the Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ending 31st March 2016 are approved.

55/17 **INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE STATEMENTS 2016-2017**

The Chairman will call an Extraordinary Meeting of Council in the week beginning 22nd May.

56/17 **MODEL STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Council agreed that the Clerk should review and bring draft new Standing Orders and Financial Regs to the next Full meeting of Council.

57/17 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

58/17 **RECRUITMENT OF PARISH CLERK**

RESOLVED: That Locum Clerk, Mrs Lisa O'Sullivan, is made permanent Parish Clerk according to the terms of the contract of employment previously circulated to all councillors.

Meeting finished 9pm

Signed.....
Chairman of Meeting

Date.....