

WESTHAMPNETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 19th MAY 2014

AT THE MARCH C. OF E. SCHOOL, WESTHAMPNETT

PRESENT: Cllrs. B Holman (Chairman) B Harding (Vice Chairman), R Fabricus, Mrs C McLeish, Mrs J Hardstaff, Mrs C Moth and Mrs P Wood.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr J Hunt
District Cllr A Smith
Mrs M Monachan (Locum Parish Clerk)
Members of the Public

The Meeting opened at 8pm.

229. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF WESTHAMPNETT PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2014/15

The Vice Chairman called for nominations for the position of Chairman for 2014/2015. It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Holman be elected Chairman.

There being no other nominations, it was RESOLVED that Cllr Holman be elected Chairman of Westhampnett Parish Council for the municipal year 2014/2015.

230. TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Holman signed his declaration of acceptance of office and took the chair. The Chairman informed the meeting that he and two other councillors would not be standing at the end of this municipal year and encouraged any residents with an interest in the parish should consider becoming a councillor.

231. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN OF WESTHAMPNETT PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2014/2015

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman for 2014/2015. It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Harding be elected Vice Chairman.

There being no other nominations, it was RESOLVED that Cllr Harding be elected Vice Chairman of Westhampnett Parish Council for the municipal year 2014/2015.

232. TO RECEIVE VICE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Harding signed his declaration of acceptance of office

233. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence. It was noted that the headteacher of the March School is invited to each full council meeting but has only attended one. Mr S Holmes had expressed an interest in attending as a Church representative.

234. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and officers were invited to make any declarations of pecuniary and/or non-pecuniary interests that they may have in relation to items on the agenda and were reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it then became apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue was to be considered. No declarations were made at this point of the meeting.

235. TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE FOLLOWING GROUPS.

- Community Hall Working Group – Cllrs Mrs Moth and Mrs McLeish
- Planning Committee Working Group – Cllr Mrs Hardstaff to review applications and circulate comments to other members.
- Finance Committee Working Group Cllrs Holman and Mrs Moth plus the Clerk when one is appointed.
- Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Cllrs B Harding and Mrs Hardstaff. Additional help will be required once the answers from the questionnaire have been analysed.

236. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

- Lavant Valley Partnership – Cllr Holman. Cllr Mrs Wood will attend next meeting on 27 May at Lavant as Cllr Holman is unable to.
- Goodwood Airfield Consultative Committee – Cllr Harding
- Goodwood Motor Circuit Consultative Committee – Cllr Harding
- Chichester Community Action Pilot – Cllrs Holman and Mrs Wood
- Viridor Liaison Group – there had been no meetings in the last year. It was noted that the recycling trucking are backing up on the road when waiting to gain access to the recycling site. Cllr Holman had previously highlighted the issue of some lorries not being netted and had met with CDC's street cleaning services and litter in the parish is now collected twice weekly. Cllr Holman will contact the company as the Council's representative as and when any other issues are raised.
- Rolls Royce Liaison Committee – Cllr Fabricus.
- Chichester District Association of Local Councils – Cllrs Holman and Harding

237. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17TH MARCH 2014

The Minutes were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

238. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

239. REPLACEMENT OF CLERK

SALC is overseeing the recruitment process for a new clerk. Two application packs had been sent out to date and the deadline for completed applications is 30 May. Candidates will be interviewed on 11 June with the aim of making an appointment on 13 June. The Chairman had queried the SALC invoice for the attendance of a clerk at a training session and SALC had agreed that no payment was due.

240. UPDATE ON TRAVELLERS' SITE

The Vice Chairman had attended CDC's Planning Committee meeting at which the traveller's site application was determined and had represented the Parish Council's objections to the proposed application. It was noted that the Parish Council had done everything within its power to object to the application and 93% of the local population was against it.

Cllr Mrs Hardstaff stressed the importance of the learning curve from the travellers' site application. Though a lot of people had attended the presentation at the hall and many had filled in comment forms at the meeting in the belief that their written comments would be taken forward as part of the planning application process, this was not the case. When the application was considered by CDC these comments were not taken into account and gave the appearance that there was no local objection. The Vice Chairman queried the usefulness of a nine-pitch site as most of the recent illegal incursions were of large groups. The meeting was informed that the site in East Sussex is well run by two officers seven days a week. CDC proposes to run the Westhampnett site with one employee five days a week. The Gypsy Council was not consulted on the site.

The Council discussed how to encourage attendance by residents at the CDC meeting to determine the Old Place Farm application and the importance of residents to respond by individual letters as opposed to signing a petition.

241. UPDATE ON COMMUNITY HALL

Cllr Mrs Moth reported that there had been no progress on the sale of land. It was noted that Rolls Royce may be interested in buying the land for additional car parking. Cllr Fabricus will raise the matter with the Rolls Royce representative.

242. GOODWOOD MOTOR CIRCUIT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Vice Chairman reported that some complaints had been received from Lavant residents regarding the sound levels and of Goodwood acting un-neighbourly. It was noted that the majority of the complaints are from three residents and that their complaints were not valid arguments.

At the last meeting there had been a complaint about helicopters flying over the Sadlers. The Manager of the Airfield had been contacted and asked to reiterate the warning to helicopter pilots not to go outside the agreed route. Only one of a dozen helicopter which flew recently avoided the Sadlers.

Cllr Mrs Hardstaff reported that attendees of the Breakfast Club meetings, held on the first Sunday of each month in the summer time, are parking in Westerton making it difficult for other traffic to pass. This is despite free parking being provided for the event. A number of cars have been reported driving wrong way down Claypit Lane and that a person was required at the roundabout to marshal the traffic.

243. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllr Mrs Hardstaff reported that the Old Place Farm application is out for consultation. It was noted that the Developers have included not only the triangular piece of land between Stane Street and Madgewick Lane but the other side of Madgewick Lane up to Chichester. The Parish Council is in a difficult position as there are only 350 households in the community to respond to the application. This is compounded by the fact that CDC is putting forward some of the land in its Local Plan. If the parish has to have development then it should be kept to the minimum and the Parish Council should do its best for its residents. Separate meetings have been arranged with CDC and the Developers to see what is on the table and to find a way forward which will benefit the parish the most. The Parish Council will retain its Planning Consultant to advise it. Some of the planned development is on a flood plain and some in the noise zone. The Parish Council will try to drum up support from residents living further up the Lavant flood plain.

It was proposed by a resident that CDC and WSCC should be challenged as the traffic generated by the continuing urban sprawl is overpowering. It was confirmed that the increase in the volume of traffic in the area had been highlighted in the Parish Council's objections. The Developers will have to contribute greatly to the infrastructure. The District Councillor informed the meeting that the government has indicated that it will make an upgrade to the A27.

It was noted that OfWat is meeting in September to consider Southern Water's capital programme and it is anticipated that it will be approved.

Education: though there is more development proposed there are no additional school places planned. The meeting was informed that there is land set aside for a primary school as WSCC has 10-year tenure on a piece of land. At this point of time there is no need for another school and there are quite a lot of spare places in the local secondary school.

As the Parish Council and local residents had encountered technical problems accessing and submitting comments on CDC's planning portal, the Parish Council asked the District Councillor to raise this issue with CDC as it had impacted on residents' ability to respond fully to the consultation. The District Councillor agreed to do so at the next full council meeting.

244. PARISH MAGAZINE

Cllr Mrs McLeish requested that any copy for the next edition of the magazine should be received by 20 June and members of the public in attendance were asked for contributions.

245. UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES AND TO RATIFY ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, IF NECESSARY

- Grass cutting: the volunteer force which cuts the grass round the footpaths has saved the Parish Council £7,000 in last 18 months. The group is made up of volunteers of all ages and the Chairman requested that anyone with time to spare to please contact him. It was noted that a volunteer had cut the play area grass the day before the contractor was due to cut it.
- The new equipment for the volunteer group had been insured. The Council's insurance policy is due for renewal. A quote had been received from the existing insurer of £685 which includes a 5% discount if the policy is taken out for three years. Cllr Fabricus volunteered to investigate the best value insurance for the Council.
- Westerton Bus Shelter: two quotes for the repair of the shelter's roof had been received. The Council RESOLVED to accept the lower quote.

246. TO CONSIDER THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2013/2014, IF RECEIVED

There was no report to receive.

247. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE SECTION 1 AND 2 OF THE 2013/2014 ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman and Cllr Mrs Moth are currently compiling the documentation for the Annual Return.

248. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman is overseeing payments and cheques are being countersigned by either Cllr Mrs Moth or Cllr Mrs McLeish.

249. TO RECEIVE ANY CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman had emailed correspondence received to Members and it was noted that most of it for information only.

250. ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA WHICH, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

The Parish Council RESOLVED to authorise the Locum Clerk to review the Council's stored documents.

251. TO AGREE 2014/2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

Monday, 21 July - Cllr Mrs McLeish is to check availability with the School.

Monday, 22 September

Monday, 17 November

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Chairman:

Date: