

**MINUTES OF WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY
13th JULY 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

PRESENT: - Councillor Fisher
Councillors Clarkson, Davis, Sullivan and White
County and District Councillor Field

Councillors signed their acceptance of office and Declaration of interests Forms. Copies of the Declaration of Interest forms will be sent to Rother District Council for their records.

OPEN SESSION / ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Anne Smith raised Agenda item 7b - grant for community website and outlined what was hoped to achieve by having the website. Various opinion of this were discussed including if it was needed with the village already having three websites. Anne said these do not include all that is going on in the village which this website would do. As the group who would be running this does not have an emnity a council grant cannot just be given to an individual. They need to have a name, and all the legal arrangements for this. A suggestion that the village hall could help with this including any needed funding was proposed. Councillor White will discuss this with the hall committee, Anne will look into the legal issues and the matter will be reported and discussed at our September meeting. Councillor White will send a copy of the village hall Trust to councillors for their information.

Anne then raised the question of the parish council approaching the police and paying towards a new speed gun. The latest laser guns are more accurate with a (narrow) angle of measurement being 15 degrees as opposed to 45. They have also requested a Speed Indicator Device for the village – a temporary vehicle -activated illuminated sign displaying vehicle speeds and is known to slow traffic, again they would ask the parish council to help fund this. After discussion it was resolved that as the council only have a limited amount of Section 137 grant money before they could discuss any funding they needed to be advised of both costs

Items for Information.

The clerk has been contacted by Huw Merriman M.P. Personal Assistant saying Huw would like to attend a meeting to meet the new councillors. As the A21 Safety Teams public meeting had been delayed to August and could well be delayed again we need to invite him to our October meeting
The clerk will email her with this date.

Items for Information

The Society of Local Councils are running two dates for councillor training 10th August and 12th September both by Zoom at 7.00p.m and will last for up to 2 hours.

The new East Sussex County Council Flexi bus service have sent leaflets to all properties. Councillor Sullivan said Whatlington is not shown. The clerk advised that Whatlington is not listed on the parishes served or on the zone map. She has emailed them asking why Whatlington is not included. and they said they will reply in ten days. Councillor Field said it maybe as the village is on a bus route, but it was pointed out this is only from Hawkhurst to Hastings not to other destinations.

1 APOLOGIES

District Councillor Burton who in error had not received notice of the meeting.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

No disclosures made

3. MINUTES

Minutes of the council meeting held on the 25th May 2023 copies of which had been circulated were agreed and signed by the Chairman

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor White was proposed by Councillor Fisher and seconded by Councillor Clerkson

5. APPOINTMENT OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO ROTHER ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

Councillors Fisher and Sullivan were appointed

6. MATTERS ARISING

A quantity of concrete left on grass verge in Riccards Lane. Reported by Councillor Field and now cleared. Our footpath warden reported the agenda was incorrect as it had not been removed, Councillor Field will report it again along with as mentioned by the Chairman the problem of children being left at the Royal Oak bus stop if the 304 bus does not arrive.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) East Sussex Highways. Following reports from parishioners of car damage due to pot holes along the C.293 we reported this to East Sussex Highways who responded saying the Highway Steward had inspected them but they are not yet bad enough, they will continue to monitor them.

b) Email and completed grant application form from Anne Smith. Requesting an annual grant for A Community website. This had been discussed under the Open Session and deferred to the 21st September Meeting

East Sussex County Council. Advising bus number 304 changing to number 1066, a new Monday to Saturday evening journeys and a new 2 hourly Sunday service. These will be shown on The new bus Time Tables.

8. REPORT ON SPEED WATCH FROM STEVE TURNER

The report had been circulated to all councillors and is on the website.

9. REVIEW OF FOLLOWING POLICIES: -

Financial Regulations

Financial Management

Both were reviewed and agreed.

10. PLANNING

Appeal- App/U1430/X/22/3298450	Forest Lodge, Hooks Beach	REFUSED
RR/2023/88/P	Riccards Farm, Hastings Road	REFUSED
PP/2023/512/P	Hancox Oast	GRANTED
RR/2023/564/P	Hillside Nursery	REFUSED

11. FINANCE

Direct Debits

ICO Protection fee £35.00

Hugo Fox Website Silver Service fee £71.97

Barclaycard

H.P. Instant Ink- Photocopying - £4.49 Fasthost- Email fee - £2.63 £7.12

100859 - V. Bennett re First strike Computing Ltd. Repair to computer £40.00

All confirmed and cheque signed

We have not yet received a bill from Rother District Council for the elections

The meeting closed at 8.55p.m.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

21st September 2023

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