

WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date 6 th April 2023		Venue & Time: WA Village Hall, 7.30pm
<u>Present:</u> Cllr Stephen Lees (in the Chair) Cllr Kathryn Rawlinson Cllr Helen Rhymes	<u>In Attendance:</u> Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk) Dist. Cllr Mark Long Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce Parishioners/Guests: 3	<u>Apologies:</u> DCC. Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Leanne Carr Cllr Liz Chin Cllr Rachel Saunders Andrew Pascoe Cllr Derek Winser

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

PARISHIONERS OPEN FORUM (Allocated time not longer than 15 minutes, a member of the public shall not speak for more than 2 minutes as per Standing Orders):

Baker Estates: Graham Hutton & Planning Director, Nicole Stacey attended the meeting to give an overview of the K5 development.

Nicole has prepared an application for light industrial employment units that has recently been submitted to SHDC. This incorporates seven small employment units on the site. The outline consent has now expired, therefore this is now a full planning application. The plan is to obtain planning permission with a view to the site being sold to a landlord who would rent out the units to small businesses. The original permission was B1 – light industry that is suitable to be sited next to a residential development.

Councillors raised the issue with the path gradient between West Alvington and Kingsbridge. The gradient is particularly steep 1:7 and there have been problems with skateboarders using it late at night. All parties are happy to keep communicating regarding the path with Graham suggesting possible consideration to staggered barriers in the future.

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:

Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Email: Rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk

Noted that Cllr Gilbert awaits a report from WAPC following the meeting between the Council and DCC Highways. Cllr Lees will forward to Councillors prior to issue.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Judy Pearce: cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk

Email Cllr Mark Long: cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk

- Photo ID will be required for the May 4th Elections for anyone intending on voting at a polling station. No ID is required for postal votes. If a parishioner does not have the required ID they can either apply for a postal vote or to SHDC for a Voter Authority Certificate. More details can be found at <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/voter-ID>

THE MEETING CONVENED

188 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

189 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY/OTHER INTERESTS & Updates to Register of Interests:

No declarations of interest or updates were received.

190 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to accept the minutes from the meetings held on 2nd March 2023 without alteration, these were then signed by the Chairman.

191 CLERKS REPORT:

1. Burial Ground Bench: We are looking to purchase a bench from The Plastic Company but to date have not been able to speak with the relevant contact.
2. Elections: With effect from 9th May your new Councillors will be Cllrs Chin, Lees, Rawlinson, Rhymes and Winsor, we are very sorry to say goodbye to Cllrs Carr, Pascoe and Saunders and would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all the time and effort they have given to West Alvington Parish Council over the years.

The Representation of the People Act 1985, Section 21 allows the elected members, provided there is a quorum (i.e. – one third of the whole number of members with a minimum of three) to co-opt members to fill the remaining vacancies. If the Parish Council fails to exercise their power to co-opt within seven weeks (35 working days) or if there is no quorum, South Hams District Council may order a fresh election to properly constitute the Parish Council. We therefore have four vacancies to fill by co-option at the May or June Parish Council Meetings.

3. P3: We await a response from Devon County Council regarding our P3 grant for the period.
4. Parish Newsletter: The most recent newsletter has been distributed in the parish, if anyone would like to receive an electronic version please contact the Parish Clerk.
5. Woodland Trust: Further to the March meeting we have successfully applied to the Woodland Trust for saplings to plant along the West Alvington to Kingsbridge footpath. In November we are due to receive 210 saplings half from their Wild Harvest package and half from the Wildlife package.

192 PLANNING & ENFORCEMENT

a) LIST OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:

1153/23/ARC, The Stable, Longbrook Farm, approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (Landscape), 4 (Joinery), 5 (Stonework), 6 (Rainwater Goods), 7 (Roofing System) and 8 (Roof Abutment) of planning consent 3918/19/LBC. **Support**

b) SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL DECISIONS: No outstanding decisions.

c) ENFORCEMENT & OTHER PLANNING ISSUES

Please note that the Enforcement Lists are confidential and issues concerning Enforcement cannot be discussed at a public meeting.

South Hams District Council are responsible for the enforcement of all planning breaches, the Parish Council have no authority to deal with issues of this nature. Please will all parishioners continue to report full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported to Enforcement via www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach

193 BUSINESS TO BE NOTED/DISCUSSED:

- a. It was resolved to employ Iain Randall (Greenspace) to take over the ongoing maintenance of the play area and adult gym equipment in the parish.
- b. Update: Highways – Village Gateway and other developments including planters on the main street. The report written by P Everett will be forwarded to the Councillors to view and comment.

WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

- c. It was resolved to purchase a Classic Range two bay noticeboard for the village hall area to replace the one that had to be removed. Wording on top to be West Alvington. The old post will need to be removed, new signage installed and the information board to be moved.
- d. To agree the planting and commemorative plaque for the Jubilee Tree. Cllr Rhymes will arrange a suitable time and date, it was agreed that no plaque will be purchased. Photos will be taken of the event.
- e. Town Park Car Park update:

The landlords appreciate the increase to £2,000 pa is significant but it is less than the £3,000 market rent they could charge. They have confirmed they are prepared to concede a reduction to £1,800 per annum to get the matter settled. The landowner has also agreed that there would be no objection to the council subletting the individual spaces to parishioners.

West Alvington Parish Council is disappointed with the response as the fees proposed are a very significant part of the precept and due to the severe lack of parking in the parish the option of charging for spaces would ultimately penalise those who can least afford it. A response will be issued via the Chairman.

Any proposed works are on hold until this matter is settled.

West Alvington Parish Council resolved to report any parked vehicles with no vehicle tax and/or MOT to the relevant authorities.

- f. P3 Footpath 11 works to be agreed. Deferred until May.
- g. To review the burial ground policy: It has recently been established that our burial ground policy may require further clarification regarding who is entitled to a plot. It was agreed to review the policies of other local grounds and bring this back to the May meeting for further discussion. In the meantime, the Clerk is to contact Keith Steer for clarification of a parish link regarding a recent request for a burial plot.
- h. Coronation Update: The gifts have been ordered, we await delivery.
- i. Village Hall Update: We have recently successfully applied to Cllr Pearce for a £200 locality payment to assist with the upgrading of the kitchen equipment.

194 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

- a. **Receipts & Payments:** Month 1. Clerk Salary & HMRC, WAVH Hire £20, WAVH Cornwell's Cleaning Mar Invoice, WAVH Electricity, SHEPS £80, South Hams District Council PAYE £120, DALC Renewal £155.91.

The councillors resolved to accept the above payments.

- b. **Governance:**

The 2022/23 financial year is now in the process of being finalised before reports are issued and the year is closed down.

Internal/External Audit data will be provided for the May agenda, relevant documentation will be posted to the website at the earliest opportunity.

195 NEXT MEETING DATES: 11th May, 1st Jun, 6th Jul, 7th Sept, 5th Oct, 2nd Nov – WA Village Hall.

Meeting Ends 21:27 hrs

Signed as a true record: _____

Print Name & Date: _____

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk by the last Wednesday in the month to ensure time for inclusion, circulation, and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to the Clerk for distribution) together with their apologies.

Distribution List: All WAPC Councillors. **For Information to:** County Cllr R Gilbert, South Hams District Council Ward Councillors, Parish Tree Warden, WAPC Notice Board.