

**WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD**  
**REMOTELY VIA ZOOM**  
**ON THURSDAY 21 MAY 2020 AT 7.00PM**

Present: Cllrs Anderson (in part), Bullock, Crawford (in part), Edwards (in part), Gadd (Chair) (in part), Griffin, C Moore, P Moore, Morris, Murphy (Vice Chair), Niell (in part), Peaford (in part), Smith, Tincombe (in part)

Also in attendance: Amanda Barlow (clerk), WDC Cllr Bob Standley (in part) and WDC Cllr Johanna Howell (in part) and 3 members of the public (in part).

1. To receive apologies and reasons for absence.  
*Apologies received and reasons accepted, from Cllr Maggs*
2. To receive declarations of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda and updates to members' register of interests.  
*Cllr Peaford declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 10.15*  
*Cllr Gadd and Cllr Tincombe declared an interest in Agenda Item 10.2 and 10.3 as they are Trustees of the Wadhurst Hall & Field Institute.*  
*Cllr Murphy declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 10.4.*
3. Public Forum – time limit 15 minutes  
*Polly Canning of KLV Planning gave a presentation about the scheme in relation to the Planning Application WD/2020/0717/MAJ which had previously been sent to Members via email. Cllr Standley addressed the issue with the application as a member of the public. Cllr Howell stated that she was Chair of the WDC Planning North and therefore did not think it was appropriate for her to make any comments on this planning application.*  
*Cllr Anderson joined the meeting.*
4. To consider, and approve if appropriate, which agenda items are sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.  
***Members resolved unanimously to discuss Agenda Item 9.6.1 in confidence.***  
***Members resolved to discuss Agenda Item 9.6.2 in the majority. Cllrs Gadd, Crawford, C Moore, P Moore, Murphy, Smith, Griffin, Niell and Cllr Anderson voted for the proposal. Cllrs Peaford, Bullock and Morris declined to vote.***  
***Members resolved to discuss Agenda Item 9.6.3 in the majority. Cllrs Gadd, Crawford, C Moore, P Moore, Murphy, Smith, Griffin, Niell and Cllr Anderson voted for the proposal. Cllrs Peaford, Bullock and Morris declined to vote.***  
***Members noted that the quotes attached to Agenda Item 10.3 and 10.6 are confidential.***
5. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor  
*Cllr Standley had previously circulated his report. Cllr Standley stated that the WDC have paid out a large number of small business grants. He commented that it seems likely small businesses may be affected for a long time.*  
*Cllr Gadd, on behalf of Wadhurst Parish Council, asked Cllr Standley to thank all the WDC staff for their hard work for continuing working to provide assistance and services to Wadhurst residents.*
6. To approve the minutes of the following meetings as a true record
  - 6.1 Minutes of 27 February 2020  
***Members resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of 27 February 2020.***
  - 6.2 Minutes of 5 March 2020  
***Members resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of 5 March 2020.***
7. To determine matters arising from the previous minutes for updating and noting.
  - 7.1 Minutes of 27 February 2020  
*None.*
  - 7.2 Minutes of 5 March 2020  
*None.*

## WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

### 8. Chair's Announcements

None.

**Members agreed to discuss Item 10.15 at this point so the member of the public could leave the meeting and to discuss Agenda Item 10.2 at the end of the meeting so that those Members who had declared an interest in that item could leave the meeting.**

10. Items for decision and allocation of resources, if necessary.

*Cllr Peaford left the meeting.*

10.15 To discuss and agree a response to planning application WD/2020/0717/MAJ

**Members resolved in the majority that the Clerk should submit the following objection to Wealden District Council:**

*Comment - OBJECT*

1) *Substantial adverse impact on the High Weald AONB. The proposals do not protect or conserve the AONB landscape, which is particularly sensitive in this part of the AONB with open countryside and rolling hills, where the tranquil setting makes an important contribution to the landscape and intrinsic beauty of the AONB. The refused earth lodges (appeal APP/C145/W/18/3217263) would have been partially set into the slope of the land, with the blocks of lodges graded into the natural slope, with grass and wild flower planting covering the embankments at each end and the roofs of the units to blend them into the landscape. Up to 100 tents of various colours and sizes cannot be so disguised, and would draw the eye, detracting from rather than enhancing the natural beauty of the AONB. The proposed planting will take many years to mature, and would alter the existing open character;*

2) *No "exceptional circumstances" have been demonstrated to justify the proposed development in the AONB;*

3) *Noise and loss of residential amenity to adjacent properties in this tranquil, sensitive AONB location;*

4) *No evidence of wider benefits to the local economy. There are a number of other camping sites in the vicinity and without evidence that there is demand for an increase of 100 pitches, concern that there will be no net gain in employment or income within the local economy;*

6) *Those using the campsite would be reliant on private cars to access their everyday needs beyond the site;*

7) *The traffic generated by 100 pitches would create congestion on the A21 at peak arrival and departure times.*

*Cllr Standley and Cllr Howell left the meeting.*

*Cllr Edwards joined the meeting.*

*Cllr Peaford joined the meeting.*

### 9. Finance items for decision and allocation of resources

9.1 To approve/note items payable and paid.

**Members resolved to adopt the items payable and paid as at Appendix A.**

9.2 To agree the final budget for 2019-2020

**Members resolved to adopt the final budget for 2019-20.**

9.3 To note the 2020-21 budget

*Members noted the 2020-21 budget.*

9.4 To agree expenditure for personal data request by a Member of Wadhurst Parish Council

**Members resolved to agree the possible expenditure of up to £1,000 in order to respond to a personal data request by a Member of Wadhurst Parish Council.**

9.5 To discuss and agree a budget for employee cover

**Members resolved to adopt the proposal for the employee cover as presented by the Finance & Resources Committee.**

## WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

9.6 To discuss and agree confidential items from Finance & Resources Committee meeting:

9.6.1 To discuss appointment of new Finance Officer

**Members resolved unanimously to make an offer to the Finance Officer as stated in the proposal. (Action: Cllr Gadd)**

9.6.2 To discuss next steps with regard to abusive members of the public

**Members resolved in the majority to ban the abusive member of the public Cllrs Gadd, Crawford, C Moore, P Moore, Smith, Griffin, Edwards, Tincombe and Anderson voted for the proposal.**

**Cllrs Peaford and Murphy abstained.**

**Cllrs Bullock and Morris voted against the proposal.**

9.6.3 To discuss member/officer relations

**Members resolved to agree to the actions in the proposal as presented.**

**Cllrs Gadd, Crawford, C Moore, P Moore, Niell, Smith, Griffin, Edwards, Tincombe and Anderson voted for the proposal.**

**Cllr Murphy abstained**

**Cllrs Morris, Peaford and Bullock voted against.**

*Cllrs Tincombe and Crawford left the meeting.*

10. Items for decision and allocation of resources, if necessary.

10.1 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, the next actions with regard to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

**Members resolved to appoint the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group as presented in the paper.**

**Cllrs Anderson, Bullock, Gadd, C Moore, P Moore, Murphy, Smith, Griffin and Edwards voted for the proposal.**

**Cllr Morris and Peaford abstained**

10.1.1. Funding

*Cllr Bullock asked if this was enough funding and Cllr C Moore advised that this was the best estimate. Cllr Peaford asked if there was still money available and Cllr C Moore advised that there is money and these further funds are to ensure that AIRS can finish the job.*

**Members resolved to allocate a further £6,000 of funding for AIRS to complete the Neighbourhood Plan**

**Cllrs Anderson, Bullock, Gadd, C Moore, P Moore, Murphy, Smith, Griffin and Edwards voted for the proposal.**

**Cllr Morris and Peaford abstained**

10.1.2 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Terms of Reference

**Members resolved to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Terms of Reference**

**Cllrs Anderson, Morris, Gadd, C Moore, P Moore, Murphy, Smith, Griffin and Edwards voted for the proposal.**

**Cllr Bullock and Peaford abstained**

*Cllr Murphy took the Chair for Agenda Item 10.3*

10.3 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a contractor to clean the public conveniences

*Members asked Mr Ramsden, the current contractor, some questions. Cllr Morris stated that Mr Ramsden had done an excellent job with the cleaning of the toilets over a period of time.*

**Cllr C Moore proposed that both contractors were offered to quote after being presented with the same tender. (Action: Clerk)**

*Cllrs Murphy, Edwards, C Moore, P Moore and Smith voted for the proposal and Cllrs Morris, Bullock, Griffin and Peaford voted against. Cllr Anderson abstained.*

**Cllr Anderson proposed that Mr Ramsden should be awarded the contract for the toilet cleaning.**

*Cllrs Anderson, Morris, Bullock, Griffin and Peaford voted for the proposal, Cllrs Murphy, Edwards, C Moore and P Moore against and Cllr Smith abstained.*

*Cllr Murphy, as she was in the Chair, had the casting vote so Cllr C Moore's proposal was carried.*

## WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

- 10.4 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a new commemorative bench for Jonas Lane  
**Members agreed to discuss the position with residents of Jonas Lane. Members discussed the design of the bench and it was agreed to look at further options. (Action: Cllr Gadd)**
- 10.5 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a new fence around the war memorial  
**Members resolved to spend up to £3,500 on the fence around the war memorial. (Action: Clerk)**  
**Cllrs Gadd, C Moore, P Moore, Griffin, Murphy, Smith, Edwards and Anderson voted for the proposal.**  
**Cllr Peaford and Bullock abstained.**  
**Cllr Niell joined the meeting.**
- 10.6 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a contractor for the Jardin  
**Members resolved unanimously to award the contract to Your Head Gardener for 2020-21 as quoted. (Action: Clerk)**
- 10.7 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a new fence around the Marlpit  
*Cllr Gadd advised that the fence needs to be replaced.*  
**Members agreed that the Clerk should get quotes to repair or renew the fence in its entirety. (Action: Clerk)**
- 10.8 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a contractor for grass cutting at the recreation ground  
**Members agreed that this item should be discussed at the next Recreation Ground Management Committee meeting.**
- 10.9 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next actions with regard to a new website  
**Members agreed that this item should be discussed at the next Communications Committee meeting.**
- 10.10 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next actions with regard to the Parish newsletter  
**Members resolved that the expenditure for the Parish newsletter could include the funds set aside for the Annual Village Meeting as this meeting had been cancelled due to the Covid19 restrictions.**
- 10.11 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a new lap top for the Clerk  
**Members resolved, in the majority, to purchase the new laptop for the Clerk as per the quote. (Action: Clerk)**
- 10.12 To adopt the Code of Conduct  
**Members resolved in the majority to adopt the Code of Conduct. (Action: Clerk)**
- 10.13 To adopt the Standing Orders  
*Members agreed to defer discussion and agreement of the new Standing Orders to a later meeting.*
- 10.14 To adopt minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 7 March, 18 April, 2 May and 16 May (not yet approved) 2020  
**Members resolved to adopt the Planning Committee meeting minutes held on 7 March, 18 April, 2 May and 16 May (not yet approved) 2020.**
11. Items for report/discussions
- 11.1 Reports from committees
- 11.1.1 Environment, Highways & Transport Committee  
*Noted.*
- 11.1.2 Community Committee  
*Noted.*
- 11.1.3 Communications Committee  
*Noted.*
- 11.1.4 Recreation Ground Management Committee  
*Noted.*
12. Items for noting
- 12.1 To note the Minutes from the Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on 7 May 2020  
*Noted.*
- 12.2 Correspondence  
*Noted.*
- 12.3 Meeting Dates  
*Noted. Cllrs asked that Planning Committee meeting was not held in the same week as the Full Council meeting.*

## WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

13. Items for Focus and Communication

*Cllrs were asked to send Agenda items to Cllr Smith.*

14. Urgent issues at the discretion of the Chair for noting or inclusion on future agenda

*None.*

*Cllrs Niell and Gadd left the meeting.*

*Cllr Murphy took the Chair of the meeting.*

10. Items for decision and allocation of resources, if necessary.

10.2 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a playground at the Wadhurst Hall & Field Institute field  
*Cllr Morris proposed that, given the current and future uncertainties with the COVID 19 pandemic, if the Council is minded to approve the course of action set out by Cllr Griffin, no decision should be confirmed on this project until an effective vaccine is available to all members the public.*

*Cllr Peaford seconded the proposal.*

***Cllr Peaford, Bullock and Morris voted for the proposal. Cllr C Moore, P Moore, Edwards, Griffin Smith and Murphy voted against the proposal.***

***Cllr C Moore proposed that members agree to adopt the recommendation from the Finance & Resources Committee to fund the project should it go ahead. Cllr Griffin seconded the proposal.***

***Cllr C Moore, P Moore, Edwards, Griffin Smith and Murphy voted for the proposal. Cllr Peaford, Bullock and Morris abstained from the vote.***

# WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix A

April 2020 Transfer and Cheques							
Cheque No.	To who	Description	Amount	VAT	NET	Agreed Bank Transfer Signature one	Agreed Bank Transfer Signature two
BP100114	Mrs A Barlow	Clerks Expenses	£149.28	£0.00	£149.28	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Europlants	Inv 21595	£61.25	£10.21	£51.04	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Your Head Gardener	Inv WPC-1-18	£487.50	£0.00	£487.50	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	ESALC Ltd	Subscription inv 777	£1,559.88	£0.00	£1,559.88	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	ESCC	Add Grass Cutting inv 8005061241	£1,134.00	£189.00	£945.00	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Mrs V Ramm	Inv 23	£168.00	£0.00	£168.00	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Nest Pension	Pension Contribution	£186.66	£0.00	£186.66	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Mr R Penny	Caretaker Salary	£616.41	£0.00	£616.41	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Mrs A Barlow	Caretaker Salary	£1,365.94	£0.00	£1,365.94	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Mrs Fiona Hensher	Locum RFO	£302.06	£0.00	£302.06	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
BP100114	Action in Rural	3401 NH Plan	£2,772.00	£0.00	£2,772.00	Email Authorisation SG	Email Authorisation JC
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,802.98</b>	<b>£199.21</b>	<b>£8,603.77</b>		



# WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

March 5 to May 15 2020

## Appendix B

1. Southeastern - Female train to mark International Women's Day
2. SSALC - PC-EB 1-20 - Dormant Assets – consultation
3. WDC - Newly published decision: Parental Bereavement Leave Policy
4. An update from Southeastern
5. WDC - Newly published decision: Joint Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMM) Strategy Legal Agreement
6. WDC - Minutes for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 5th March, 2020, 10.30 a.m.
7. WDC - Decision sheet for Cabinet, Wednesday, 18th March, 2020, 10.00 a.m.
8. News from the High Weald AONB - March 2020
9. SSALC - Responding\_to\_COVID19.v5\_\_1\_ Local authority contracts
10. SSALC - Government to grant permission for pubs and restaurants to operate as takeaways as part of coronavirus response - GOV.U
11. WDC - FW: Martin Lewis Fund for small charities
12. Action in rural Sussex - Covid 19: information for community groups and volunteers
13. NALC  CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN
14. WDC - Fw: Information on Covid 19 from Wealden District Council
15. SSALC - Extra protection for businesses with ban on evictions for commercial tenants who miss rent payments - GOV.UK
16. WDC - Newly published decision: Consultation Response to First Homes
17. Wealden Citizens Advice – Update
18. South East Water – Keeping you updated
19. WDC - Suspension of bulky collections
20. WDC - Newly published decision: Review of Risk Based Verification Policy for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction Claims
21. WDC - Newly published decision: Approval of Accounting Policies
22. WDC - Community Support arrangements
23. ESCC - Surveys on Covid - the one stop shop
24. WDC - Suspension of Garden Waste Collection service
25. SSALC - \*\*Sussex Crisis Fund - funding available\*\*
26. Southeastern confirms new Direct Award Contract
27. SSALC - Clarification on ambiguities needed from BEIS re support for Village Halls & similar Rural Community Buildings
28. ESCC - Covid 19: Wealden and Rother have now launched online registration for their small business grants
29. WDC - Supporting Wealden communities
30. ESCC - FW: Covid-19 Tourism SE info re. The Independent Online
31.  NALC CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN
32. News from Nus Ghani MP 03.04.20
33. RSPB - Weald reserves E-update
34. News from the High Weald AONB - April 2020
35. Sussex ALC Bulletin
36. SSALC -FW:  CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN
37. Bewl Water Update
38. WDC - Volunteers reach out to help people in self-isolation
39. WDC - Newly published decision: Management of Remote Meetings during the Covid 19 Emergency
40. Covid-19 Update from Nus Ghani MP
41. WDC - Newly published decision: Hailsham Town Council Neighbourhood Plan: Examiner's Report and Referendum (Recommended to Full Council)
42. WDC - Newly published decision: Hellingly Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan: Examiner's Report and Referendum (Recommendation to Full Council)

## WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

43. WDC -Newly published decision: Timetable of Meetings 2021
44. ESCC - Tourism in the time of Coronavirus
45. WDC - Minutes for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 23rd April, 2020, 10.30 a.m.
46. WDC - Resumption of Wealden's Bulky Waste Collections from 5 May.
47. Healthwatch East Sussex: COVID-19 Public Survey
48.  NALC PUBLISHES THE FIRST-EVER REPORT ON LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
49.  Sussex ALC Bulletin
50. Southeastern - The railway remembers VE Day
51. News from Nus Ghani MP 14.05.20



## WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL

### Appendix C

- All meetings will be held remotely until further notice
- All Full Council meetings will start at 7pm if via Zoom
- The Commemoration Hall (to allow for social distancing) has been provisionally booked for the Full Council meeting on July 9 should the lockdown measures be eased by then but Zoom facility will also be available

### Full Council – Remotely via Zoom or at Sparrows Green Pavilion

June 11

July 9

September 10

October 1

November 5

December 3

January 7

February 4

March 4

April 8

May 13

### Finance & Resources – Remotely via Zoom

July 2 at 7pm

### Environment, Highways & Transport – Remotely via Zoom

June 18 at 7pm

### Community - Remotely via Zoom

June 25 at 7pm

### Recreation Ground Management – Remotely via Zoom

July 2 at 6pm (before Finance Meeting)

### Communications – Remotely via Zoom

June 4 at 7pm

### Planning – Remotely via Zoom or at Carillon Cottage - Saturdays at 09.30

May 30

June 13, 27

July 11, 25

August 8, 22

September 5, 19

October 3, 17, 31

November 14, 28

December 12

January 2, 16, 30

February 13, 27

March 13, 27

April 10, 24

May 8, 15

**Tuesday 11 May 2021 at 19:00 - Annual Parish (Village) meeting  
Commemoration Hall**