

WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL
THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD
REMOTELY VIA ZOOM
ON THURSDAY 11 JUNE 2020 AT 7.00PM

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

Also in attendance: Amanda Barlow (clerk), WDC Cllr Bob Standley (in part) and 2 members of the public (in part).

1. To receive apologies and reasons for absence.
Apologies received and reasons accepted, from Cllr Maggs and Tincombe
2. To receive declarations of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda and updates to members' register of interests.
None..
3. Public Forum – time limit 15 minutes

Ben Ashton from the Fire Brigade Union advised Members of the proposed cuts to downgrade Wadhurst from 2 appliance station to 1 appliance station and explained that 2 appliance means a fire engine with land rover which could take 11 firefighters. A 1 appliance station with no land rover with less firefighters. Cllr Bob Standley advised that Fire and Rescue Services are a County matter and discussed the issues around the type of appliances and the outdated land rover. The Clerk has Mr Ashton to send the full details of his representation to her.

Cllrs Anderson and Murphy joined the meeting.

Cllrs asked Mr Ashton questions regarding the information.

Cllr Griffin 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.

None.

5. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor
Cllr Standley had provided a written report.
Cllr Murphy asked about the Parish Panel meeting and the change in Standing Orders with regard to the number of dwellings and speakers. Cllr Standley advised that there have been changes due to the current Covid19 pandemic and the backlog of applications. It is proposed to return to previous numbers. Cllr P Moore thanked Cllr Standley for the parking survey and the advised about proposal to meet with East Sussex Highways (ESH) to do a walking meeting through the High Street. Cllr Gadd commented that Members were disappointed that St James's Square was not included. Cllr Standley advised he has also raised with ESH the entrance to Uplands.

Cllr Edwards joined the meeting.

6. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2020 as a true record
Members resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of 21 May 2020.
7. To determine matters arising from the previous minutes for updating and noting.
10.3 Clerk and Chairs of Finance & Resources Committee and Community are preparing tender for the public conveniences and are also preparing a Tender Process Policy document to be reviewed by the F&R Committee.
10.5 Quotes from 2 other companies are being sought for the fence at the war memorial.
10.13 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to be agreed at Finance & Resources Committee and brought to the following Full Council meeting for agreement.
8. Chair's Announcements
Cllr Gadd announced that the new RFO, Claudine Feltham has joined the Council and will be joining the next Full Council meeting in July. Cllr Gadd asked that all Members send papers for meetings to the Clerk by the deadline of the Friday before at 1pm and if Members did not receive the by the following Monday they should contact the Clerk or look on the website. (Action: All Councillors)

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Members agreed to take Agenda Item 10.4 at this point so Mr Ashton could leave the meeting.

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

10.4 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next actions with regard to the reduction of service at the Fire Station.

Members resolved that the Council should formally oppose the proposed reductions in fire services for our local station in Wadhurst. This should be done both by the Council as a body and those Members who wish do so as individuals. It was agreed that Cllrs P Moore, Anderson and Morris would prepare a response for the Clerk to send out. (Action: Clerk, Cllrs P Moore, Anderson and Morris)

9. Finance items for decision and allocation of resources

9.1 To approve the Annual Return 2019/20

9.1.1 To approve Annual Governance Statements for 2019/20

Members resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20.

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

Cllrs Morris and Peaford abstained.

9.1.2 To approve Accounting Statements for 2019/20

Members resolved to approve the Accounting Statement for 2019/20.

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

Cllrs Morris and Peaford abstained

9.2 To note the internal audit report 2019/20

Noted.

9.3 To approve/note items payable and paid.

Members resolved to approve items payable and paid at Appendix A.

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

Cllrs Morris and Peaford abstained

9.4 To note the 2020-21 budget

Noted.

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

10.1 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next actions with regard to the Marlpit Fence

Members resolved to agree to go with the quote from Tate Fencing of £2,907.75 providing that the posts were concreting it. It was agreed that Cllr Griffin would confirm with Tate Fencing the posts would be concreted in and inform the Clerk prior to instruction. (Action: Cllr Griffin and Clerk)

10.2 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next action with regard to the website provider for the Parish Council

Members resolved to move the provision of the Parish Council website to Vision ICT. (Action: Clerk)

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

Cllrs Morris and Peaford abstained

10.3 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next actions with regard to actions following the Covid19 pandemic

Members agreed that a poster should be produced to support local shops. (Action: Cllr Gadd)

10.5 To adopt minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 30 May 2020 (not yet approved)

Members resolved unanimously to adopt the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 30 May 2020 (not yet approved).

10.6 To discuss and agree a response to Wealden District Council's Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Consultation

Cllrs Anderson, Bullock, Crawford, Edwards, Gadd, C Moore, P Moore, Morris, Murphy Niell and Peaford voted for the proposal.

Cllrs Griffin abstained.

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11. Items for noting

11.1 To note the Minutes from the Communications Committee meeting held on 4 June 2020

Noted.

11.2 To note newsletter draft and deadline for articles

Noted.

11.3 Correspondence

Noted.

11.4 Meeting Dates

Noted.

11.5 Procedures

Cllr Morris queried why his paper was not circulated. The Clerk advised that she was seeking advice from SSALC.

12. Items for Focus and Communication

Members agreed to submit an article regarding the proposed reduction at the Fire Station as discussed at Agenda Item 10.4.

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

None.

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Appendix A

May 2020 Transfer and Cheques					
Cheque No.	To who	Description	Amount	VAT	NET
BP100115	Mrs A Barlow	Clerks Expenses	£106.61	£0.00	£106.61
BP100115	Europlants	Inv 21731	£61.25	£10.21	£51.04
BP100115	Cllr Murphy	Expenses	£73.44	£0.00	£73.44
BP100115	Mrs V Ramm	Inv 24	£180.00	£0.00	£180.00
Bacs	Nest Pension	Pension Contribution	£192.94	£0.00	£192.94
BP100115	Mr R Penny	Caretaker Salary	£616.41	£0.00	£616.41
BP100115	Mrs A Barlow	Caretaker Salary	£1,423.14	£0.00	£1,423.14
BP100115	Age Uk	Grant	£2,000.00	£0.00	£2,000.00
BP100115	Thorpe Building Supplies	Fixing Toilets	£144.00	£24.00	£120.00
BP100115	Richard Milson	Annual service Pavilion	£150.00	£0.00	£150.00
BP100115	Richard Milson	Annual service Pavilion	£390.00	£0.00	£390.00
BP100115	BT	WIFI	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00
BP100115	Biffa	inv 026019906	£42.80	£7.13	£35.67
BP100115	Mr R Penny	Caretaker Expenses	£294.10	£0.00	£294.10
BP100115	Streetlighting	Annual Charge	£12,506.41	£2,084.40	£10,422.01
		Total	£18,221.10	£2,125.74	£16,095.36

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Appendix B

Correspondence May 15 to June 06 2020

1. Southeastern launches £400,000 community rail fund
2. News from the High Weald AONB - May 2020
3. WDC - Minutes for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 14th May, 2020, 10.30 a.m.
4. WDC - A decision by Chief Executive has been published: OFF 09/2020 - CE - Crisis Grants
5. Sussex ALC Bulletin
6. Newly published decision: Statement of Common Ground between Mid Sussex District Council and Wealden District Council
7. News from Nus Ghani MP 02.06.20
8. Minutes for Full Council, Wednesday, 20th May, 2020, 10.00 a.m.
9. COVID-19 - Community Hub update

The following have already been circulated to all Members

10. ESH - Tidebrook Road, Wadhurst - planned road closure
11. WDC - The May Wealden Parish Bulletin
12. ESH - Fortnightly Lookahead w/c 25/5/20
13. SSALC - OPEN LETTER TO ALL COUNCILLORS
14. ESH - EMERGENCY TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE - C214 TIDEBROOK ROAD, WADHURST - 2/6/2020 TO 5/6/2020
15. TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE - U7534 BEWLBRIDGE LANE, COUSLEY WOOD, WADHURST - 20/7/2020 TO 22/7/2020

WPC continue to receive updates on the Covid19 situation. Members should visit the following site for the latest information:

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/coronavirus>

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Appendix C

Full Council – Remotely via Zoom or at Sparrows Green Pavilion

June 11

July 9

September 10

October 8

November 5

December 3

January 7

February 4

March 4

April 8

May 13

Finance & Resources – Remotely via Zoom

July 2

Environment, Highways & Transport – Remotely via Zoom

June 18

Community - Remotely via Zoom

June 25

Recreation Ground Management – Remotely via Zoom

July 2

Communications – Remotely via Zoom

June 4

Planning – Carillon Cottage – Saturdays at 9.30 - Remotely via Zoom or at Carillon Cottage

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