

WEST WICKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday

18th July 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Those present were: Chairman Charlton, Cllrs. Cornish, Hall, Licence, Plumb & Schuilenburg, 3 parishioners & the Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Apologies from Dist.Cllr. Turner and Cllr. Grieve.
2. **Minutes of the meeting** held on Monday 23rd May 2016 were signed as correct.
3. **Declaration of interest:** None
4. **Matters arising:**
 - a) Dean Road hedging: Cllr. Licence had a meeting with Melanie Lang, Parish Clerk for Horseheath on 23rd June. They walked along Dean Road taking pictures which they submitted to Highways on 8th July. Highways replied they would investigate it again and if necessary they would do the necessary work. The Chairman of Horseheath Parish Council, Stuart Miller, is happy to support.
 - b) Signage repairs: Despite an email to Nicola Burdon listing the various signs which needed replacing or repairing nothing has been done apart from the replacement of one sign opposite 37 High St. The Parish Clerk will write again to Highways.
 - c) Flooding: No. 1 High St. has again been flooded due to blocked drains, the responsibility of Highways. They have been notified and asked to come and investigate, so Mr & Mrs Swadling can satisfy their insurance requirements
 - d) Commemorative Medal: Cllr. Plumb said that the schools had not given the children any commemorative memorabilia but it might be too late to order the medals. The Parish Clerk will check this.
5. **Traffic issues:**
 - a) Simon Blackwell from Maple Croft told Council that there were now 7 volunteers being trained to man the speedwatch monitoring equipment and they will have a session shortly in two "hot spots" in the village, namely the bottom end of Burton End and the corner bend by the Church. Options to keep speeds down would be to move the 30mph signs further out of the village, particularly going out from Burton End where there is a very bad bend almost on top of the 30mph sign. Also to have the 30mph speed limit from West Wickham down to and joining Streetly End and the possibility of having 20mph speed limit through the village. Moving speed limit signs would be costly but if it was agreed perhaps an application to the Wadlow Wind Farm Fund for funding would be an option. Cllr. Hall said he would look up the statistics resulting from the old Speed Watch group and pass them on. The use of 30mph stickers on rubbish bins might make villagers and drivers more aware of the speed problems. No decision was made on this. The Chairman thanked Simon for all his

time and effort and Cllr. Hall asked him if he would be prepared to join the Neighbourhood Planning Group to which he agreed.

b) Other traffic issues: A request for a “concealed entrance” sign from the Highways for No.49 (Mr & Mrs Jarman) on the bend out of Streetly End to Horseheath. The Parish Clerk will check this with Highways.

- 6. Broadband:** Cllr. Schuilenburg reported that two cabinets have been put in, one at Burton End and the other at the front of the Village Hall. He is still waiting for the paperwork regarding the wayleave and this needs signing off. As he will be going on holiday he will leave details as where to return the signed form. Cllr. Hall considered the cabinet at Burton End is badly positioned and likely to be knocked down. Cllr Shuilenburg was asked what the position was with Air Broadband and he said it would cost £5000 but he had been pledged £2000 so far towards this cost.

7. Planning:

S/1355/16/FL – W Stone. Change of use of stables to a single dwelling (recommend for refusal). Concerning this application there appears to be misinformation regarding village facilities e.g. Community Orchard, which does not exist. The Chairman wished to discuss how to deal with comments on Planning Applications. A “Drop box” was suggested.

S/0993/16/F|L – C. Norman, single dwelling 39-47 High St. – withdrawn.

8. Correspondence: None

9. Finance:

a) Authorised payments:

- £ 138.60 HM Inland Rev. 1st qrt. PAYE (cheque 748)
- £ 372.14 Mrs J Richards salary for June/July. (cheque 749)
- £ 153.20 A Morris, Village Voice costs for Feb/March/April (cheque 750)
- £ 258.74 CGM Inv. 198806 (less Cr.Note for £86.26) (cheque 752)
- £ 17.00 STP Stationery for printing inks (cheque 753)
- £ 45.00 Jackie Dockerill for int.audit charge (cheque 754)
- £ 345.00 CGM Inv. 199338 (cheque 755).

b) Monies received: None

c) Internal audit report: No issues.

10. Neighbourhood plan:

Cllr. Hall reported the need to get a grant application in place but first have to decide on what professional services are needed and he is looking into this with the group. A “Drop box” has been set up for the group to make their comments.

11. Maintenance:

- a) *Grass cutting on rec. etc:* Cllr Licence asked who cut the verges in the village as some parts have not been cut and are impeding drivers views, she also said the grass at the staggered junction was again in need of cutting back. The Parish Clerk will enquire.
- b) *Condition of Pavements:* Cllr. Licence had hoped to speak to Cllr. Hickford about three particularly bad areas outside Nos. 94, 71 and 77. Highways had been painted and marked two of these with yellow (for work) but the one she considered to be the worst was not. She had emailed Highways about this but heard nothing back so far.

12. Key Parish Priorities: The Chairman decided to move this forward to the next meeting as it needed a full discussion.

13. Playground report: Cllr. Plump reported that the Wickstead report was satisfactory with just one or two minor issues which he would deal with. There was no charge for the report. Cllr. Licence asked whether the gate into the playground could be locked which would stop dog walkers going through this area. This is in hand but not by a lock.

14. Dog Noise: There have been complaints of dogs howling continuously and the first approach should be a talk to the dog owners as they may not be aware of the noise their dog makes. It was agreed to put something in the Village Voice pointing out that it is the responsibility of any dog owner to try and prevent it from persistently barking as this can be very stressful to neighbours. The Chairman will write something.

15. Reports on meetings attended by cllrs:

- a) .Cllrs. Charlton and Hall had attended the A1307 Forum and discussed ways and means of keeping the road safe.
- b) The Chairman had attended the Parish Liaison meeting and again the A1307 was discussed. It is now designated a radius road rather than an orbital road. The City Deal could raise a great deal of money to help with changes to the A1307.

16. Report by County Cllr. Hickford: He had not attended and no report.

17. Report by Dist.Cllr. Fraser: Not attended and no report.

18. Any other business:

- a) Cllr. Shuilenburg thanked Kevin Newey for all his work making the West Wickham Fest such a success, raising £16000, £800 will be going to the Church, £800 to the Village Hall plus a further £500 ex ARM for Village Hall.
- b) Thanks were also given to Cllr. Licence for all her time and work organising the Wickham Fest.

The next meeting of the Parish Council to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 26th September.

Chairman.....