

Draft

## WEST WICKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

By zoom at 7.30pm.

Those present were: Councillor P.Charlton (Chairman), Cllrs. M. Cornish, P. Grieve, A Hazelhurst, D.licence, A. Schuilenburg & D Sargeant. County Councillor H Batchelor, Dist.Cllr. Harvey & the Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** None.
2. **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr. Cornish under item 4, Matters arising and Cllr. Licence under item 7, Finance.
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September were approved and signed as correct.
4. **Matters arising:**
  - a) **Affordable Housing:** Cllr. Cornish told Council that the hand-over to SCDC would be on 11<sup>th</sup> December. He suggested that the Parish Council write, as a reminder, a letter to the Housing Officer regarding the S106 agreement that priority is given to local people for ownership/rent of the affordable houses, as when the housing survey was carried out the results were never published. The Housing Needs survey carried out by ACRE showed 9 households but only 1 is on the SCDC housing list. ***The Parish Clerk will write this letter.***

Cllr., Grieve asked about the surface water drainage as a lot of water is coming on to the road. Cllr. Cornish said drains were being put in which should deal with the excess water which will be run away into a tank, although it will be several months before the water stops running along the road.
5. **Correspondence:** A letter from Keith Day regarding the Parish Nurse Project Plus. ***The Parish Clerk will scan this to the Council.***
6. **Planning:**

20/3139/ S73	W Stone	The Meadow, Streetly End	Amendment to S/ 4286/19	12/10/20	26/10/20	Supt.	
20/3900/ LBC	G Ireland	19 High St.	Replace dormer windows etc.	12/10/20	26/10/20	Supt.	
20/04192/ FUL	Agent	Land s. of 24 High St.	Change of use to resid.	27/10/20	10/11/20	Supt.	

<b>20/2565/ HFUL</b>	Mr Jordan	The White Horse	Amendment re rear element	31/10/20	13/11/20	Obj.	
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a) 20/2565 has been turned down by SCDC.

## 7. Finance:

a) Update of Accounts distributed to Councillors.

b) *Authorised payments*

£420.00 R Giles (ABC Tree Surgery) Inv.181 (chq. 0937) **paid**

£ 10.00 Royal British Legion (Poppy wreath) (chq. 0938) **paid.**

£426.22 Mrs J Richards Oct/Nov. salary plus back pay from April (chq.0939)

£ 35.00 E&E Plumridge Inv.1046 Aug. Village Voice (chq.0940)

£ 31.78 STP Stationery – printing inks Inv.,156589 (chq.0941)

£129.99 S Licence – WildLife area grass cuts 10 @ £10 each. + spray (chq.0942)

c) *Monies received:*

£217.00 Allotment rents.

d) *Precept* – The Chairman asked councillors to think about future projects or any particular needs for next year's budget which will be discussed at the January meeting.

e) Quote for repairing climbing wall from Wicksteeds £11,244.38. Tom Licence had put in a quote just to repair the mound and estimated that his cost for work comparable to Wicksteeds would be in the region of £6000. On the other hand he could totally dismantle it which would leave the slope. Council agreed that as it was at present it was dangerous. Therefore a vote was taken for it to be dismantled and then regressed as a slope. The Council were in full agreement that this should be done.

f) **VAT reclaim: *The Parish Clerk will put in a claim to HM Rev & Customs.***

**8. Correspondence:** A letter of thanks had been sent to the Community Support Group headed by Cllr. Licence and Nicky Cornish from Graham Hadley from SCDC.

## 9. Traffic & Parking issues:

a) *Speed Indicator & Speed Watch Reports:* Cllr. Licence reported that nobody had carried out a speed watch. Trevor Hall reported on the results of the Speed Indicators at Burton End seemed to have improved.

b) The Chairman spoke about the work still to be done at Streetly End, the 30mph sign entering West Wickham from Streetly End, the red strip and Dragons teeth and had been told by Highways that the contractors were unable to complete it and if it was still required the Parish Council would have to pay for it, an extra £2500. It was agreed that having been awarded this work to be done through the LHI scheme it should be completed as part of the contract. ***The Chairman asked Cllrs. Harvey or Batchelor to look into this on behalf of the Parish Council.***

- c) *Report on A1307 Phase 1 zoom meeting:* Cllr. Hazlehurst had nothing more to report but Cllr. Sargeant said there was a consultation open for comments by the Parish Council or as a private individual. Did the Council wish to support it. It was agreed to remain neutral.

#### **10. Maintenance:**

- a) *Flooding at Streetly End:* No further progress.
- b) Nicola Burdon is no longer in charge of Highways and her replacement has yet to be appointed. Cllr. Licence said she had seen Highways in the village cutting out a gully and also looking at the drains. Cllr. Cornish felt that until a new Highways Officer was appointed the work needed, such as cutting culverts, would not get done.
- c) *Pot hole and 30mph road markings:*  
The red strip across the 30mph marking has not been done. Cllr., Grieve thought the new 30mph sign seems to be slowing cars down.

#### **11 Village Hall & Recreation Ground:**

- a) The visiting Post Office van despite various problems did arrive on Thursday. Cllr. Charlton thanked Trevor for opening the rear car park and the loo.
- b) *Extension to the hall:* The original design of the hall was not to impinge on the pub The White Horse, however this is no longer an issue and therefore it was felt that better use should be made of the hall as a social place. Trevor Hall (Chairman of the VHMC) spoke about creating a social area for smaller meetings; another idea was to have a consultation room for use as an office, where Council and Village Hall records could be kept. He suggested extending at the front of the hall, approx.. 3m depth giving 80sq.m extra space, possible cost £120,000. The first thing would be to get an architect to give some idea of what and how this could be done. He had put feelers out to architects and had two responses back which he would circulate. The Chairman asked Cllr Cornish was it something James Midwood would do to give a ballpark idea of how much it might cost and Cllr. Cornish said he would ask him. It was agreed that one should use local people to carry out work.

**12. Zero Carbon Funding:** An application had been made by the Village Hall for funding of £15,000 to put solar panels on the roof. Cambridge Solar Together had said a group purchase would be £9000, information which had been sent to SCDC. ***Cllr. Harvey was asked if anything had happened about this and he said there was a meeting next week.***

#### **13. Neighbourhood Plan:**

The first draft has been sent to South Cambridgeshire District Council and we are meeting with them this week to discuss their response. We will start our Regulation 14 statutory consultation period next year. Pending the completion of final due diligence checks we have secured a £4149 grant to cover the costs of this process. The majority will be used to employ an expert planning consultant to help us navigate the process.

#### **14 Allotments:**

- a) *Vacancy and use of allotments:* All the allotments are now in use. ***The Chairman requested a map of the allotments which the Parish Clerk will send him.***

**15. Covid 19:** Cllr. Licence reported that Nicky Cornish and she were happy with how things were at present. The question was asked would there be Christmas carols but will have to see how things develop.

**16 Reports from County Cllr. Henry Batchelor and District Cllr. Geoff Harvey:**

*Dist.Cllr. Harvey reported:*

- a) Various issues regarding the A1307
- b) £50,000 grant to people who have been providing safety and care in the villages.
- c) New Planning format – Agreed it is most useful
- d) Special housing allocation – *check re affordable housing in village.*
- e) LHI – The Chairman will send full details of the LHI award to Cllr. Batchelor.
- f) Covid grant – apply to business rates. This applies to businesses which have had to close down.

*County Cllr. Batchelor reported:*

- g) Brexit – The end date is the end of December. The Chamber of Commerce has a helpful link [www.cambridgeshirechamber.co.uk](http://www.cambridgeshirechamber.co.uk).
- h) Regarding the lack of a Highways officer, he will deal with anything urgent.
- i) Uttlesford is going through its Local Plan – the 10,000 houses proposed development near Chesterford was turned down and they are restarting the process of siting the development

**17. Any Other Business:**

- a) Cllr. Licence asked about the proposed new bench for the playground and was told it was in progress.
- b) Hedge which is hanging over pavement: the hedge is unruly but not really a problem. Cllr. Licence said it would be mentioned at the Village Hall meeting.
- c) Cllr. Cornish felt that more of the High Street should be curbed because it has become incredibly muddy due to the high amount of rain. Cllr. Schuillenburg added that a lady had come off her bike due to mud on the road. *The Chairman said he would ask County Cllr. Batchelor about getting the problem resolved.*

The Chairman thanked all the Councillors and the Clerk for a good meeting.

**The next meeting will be on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

**Chairman.....**