

*DRAFT*

**WEST WICKHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday**

**24<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall .**

Those present were: Councillor P Charlton (Chairman), Cllrs. M Cornish, P. Grieve, A. Hazelhurst, D Licence, A Schuilenburg and D. Sargeant, District Councillor G Harvey, County Cllr. H Batchelor, the Parish Clerk and 1 member of the public

- 1. Election of Chairman:** Cllr. Schuilenburg proposed Cllr. Charlton to remain as Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Licence. Council agreed to this and Cllr. Charlton accepted.

**Election of Vice Chairman:** Cllr. Charlton proposed Cllr. Cornish to remain as Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Grieve. The Council agreed the nomination and Cllr. Cornish accepted. The Declaration of Acceptance forms were signed and witnessed.

**Appointment of two councillors to represent the Parish Council on the VHMC:** Cllrs. Schuilenburg and Licence were happy to continue in this role which was agreed by the Council.

- 2. Apologies:** None

- 3. Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Schuilenburg under item 7e.

- 4. Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2021 by zoom were signed as correct.

- 5. Correspondence:** None

- 6. Planning:** Work req.                      daterecd      date  
retd.

<b>21/0247/TTCA</b>		27 High St West Wickham	Tree work	26/2/21		<b>Support</b>
<b>20/02564</b>	Mr Lodge	Land SE of Burton End	Installation of solar farm & assoc. infrastructures	7/9/20		<b>Support with comments</b>
<b>21/0161/TTCA</b>		35 Hih St. West Wickham	Tree work	3/3/21	24/3/21	<b>Support</b>
<b>21/00680 HFUL &amp; 21/00681 LBC</b>	A McWilliam	38 Streetly End	Erection of a barn carriage house	12/3/21	24/3/21	<b>Support</b>
<b>21/01607/HFUL</b>	Mrs S Preston	2 Manna Cottages, Burton End	Two story side & front ext.	12/5/21	15/5/21	<b>Support</b>
<b>21/01752/HFUL</b>	R Ling	49 High St.	Timber framed garden studio	18/5/21	To discuss	

- 7. Finance:**

- a) End of year accounts 2020/21** (distributed to all councillors). The Chairman went through the year's accounts and was pleased that they were in good shape with

continuing savings to carry out any necessary work required. The Precept is acceptable to the village and we are building a sensible reserve. The accounts were agreed and signed off.

**b) Exemption form:** This form is required by the External auditors if the accounts expenditure and receipts is less than £25,000 which means it will be unnecessary to have an external audit. An internal audit will still be required. It was agreed to request Exemption and the form duly signed.

**Statement of Governance & Statement of Account:** These were agreed and was signed by the Chairman and Parish Clerk.

**Allocated reserves to 31/3/2021:** These were agreed and remained the same.

**Unallocated reserves:** These were agreed.

**c) Authorised payments:**

£309.16 BHIB Insurance 2021/2022 renewal.  
£115.80 RoSPA safety inspection of play area (chq.0958)  
£405.00 ABC Tree Surgery Inv. 272 & 279. (chq. 0959)  
£300.00 Age Uk re Mobile warden scheme (chq.0960)  
£398.90 J.Richards April/May salary less PAYE (chq. 0961)  
£ 49.50 Unlimited Web Hosting Ltd. Inv.987759012 (chq. 0962)**Cancelled**  
£ 36.00 CPRE annual subscription (chq. 0963)  
£155.00 ABC Tree Surgery Inv.288 (chq. 0964)  
£ 49.50 A. Schuillenburg re payment of Unlimited Web Hosting ltd. (chq. 0965)

**d) Monies received:**

£83.96 Eastern Power Networks plc – Wayleave.  
£6,000 SCDC first half of the Precept.

**8. Traffic & Parking issues:** Trevor Hall said he had noted that traffic going out of the village were speeding but were coming into the village at an average of 26mph probably due to the new 40mph sign. Cllr Grieve said when wearing bright high viz. gear whilst litter picking there was a distinct slowing down on traffic but suggested the purchase of more SID signs might keep speed down. The Speed Watch team are still unable to go out as it requires three people to do the job. **Trevor Hall requested the Police contact from Cllr Licence.**

**9. Maintenance:**

*a) Flooding at Streetly End & High Street:* The main area of flooding at Streetly End has been dealt with by Mr Covey who has dug a deep ditch at the side of the road and there has been no flooding despite heavy rain. The owners of Half Moon House in Streetly End where flooding also occurs are taking this up with Highways.

*b) Curbing of High St:* Nothing to report.

*c) Dead beech tree at Webbs Road:* Despite Highways being notified about this dangerous dead tree nothing has been done. Cllr Grieve got in touch with the Electricity

Power Co. and told them that the dead tree was likely to fall on their cabling and they said they would come and look. It would also most likely block the road.

d) *Fallen tree on Footpath 7:* This has now been removed.

e) *Litter problems:* Cllr Grieve told Council that residents in Streetly End had received an award of £50 from their oil supplier and this was being donated towards the purchase of litter equipment gear. He spoke of Weston Colville's use of their defunct telephone box to keep a selection of litter pick-up gear for people to use and thought it an excellent idea. This was agreed and something will go into the Village Voice about the idea. ***The Parish Clerk will give Cllr. Grieve contact details of Cobby McCall, the Tree Officer in West Wrating.***

f) *Footpath & Street signage:* The Parish Clerk had notified the Footpath Dept at SCDC who had replied that they were not able to replace these at present. SCDC were also notified of the missing Street sign at the entrance to Streetly End and it is hoped that it will be replaced.

g) *Defibrillator purchase:* Cllr Schuilenburg had been in touch with the supplier notifying that the Parish Council were happy to pay for this but were informed that they would need proof of fundraising before donating the equipment. So maybe put something in the Village Voice asking for donations.

h) *Replacement bench:* There had been some complaints about the bench being removed, but it had been knocked over whilst grass cutting and on inspection was found to be rotten and so unfit for repair. ***It was agreed to purchase a replacement bench at a cost of approx.. £300.***

i) *Mole draining:* Cllr Cornish had organised this out but had to buy 12 new wooden rails but has not received a bill yet. The mole draining was carried out by Bartlow Estate without charge. The Chairman thanked Cllr Cornish for getting this job done so speedily.

## **10 Village Hall & Recreation ground:**

- a) *Potential extension to the Village Hall:* No plans had yet been received from the two proposed architects. The Chairman had received feed-back that there was a clear need for additional amenities in the village. Cllr Licence wondered if with the closure of Daisy Chains there was a need to extend. Cllr Sargeant said there had been some response in the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation document regarding more noise.
- b) *RoSPA report:* There are some minor faults to be dealt with and Cllr Hazlehurst suggested that there is a Maintenance Plan for work to be carried out over the next few years to keep the equipment up to scratch. ***This was agreed.***
- c) *Climbing Wall demolition:* Tom Licence will carry this work out when there is a dry period.
- d) *Allotments re vandalism:* This has been satisfactorily resolved.
- e) *Post-lockdown celebration:* The organisation of this is in hand and will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> September. The VHMC have got plans for a day of games, music, bar-b-q and bar. £500 is being donated by the VHMC and £500 from the Parish Council. Fuller details will be given later. Cllr. Cornish reminded Council of the Village Fete to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July at Manor Farm.

## **11. Parish Communication:**

a) *Website provider update:* Cllr Schuilenburg was thanked for changing the website provider which proved to be a difficult job but it seems to be working well.

b) *West Wickham website picture:* This is being used by Bromley. Cllr Schuilenburg contacted the FaceBook's group owner and asked them to stop using our image and use one appropriate to their village, and he responded that he would not, and then suggested he contact the business which also appeared to be an owner of the FaceBook group, with the same request, which was supported by the other members of the PC. The Facebook group is "West Wickham (WW) Community", and owner contacted was "Alex Stansescu".

**12. Zero Carbon Funding:** Trevor Hall said the VHMC are applying again for funding of £15000 for replacement of heating system in the hall.

**13. Neighbourhood Plan:** Cllr Sargeant said the Consultation document was now out and supportive responses are coming in from W Suffolk, Planning and 20 responses so far from parishioners but would like more responses to demonstrate that the village is in favour of it and represents the wishes of the community. He will be putting more in the Village Voice about this. The forth grant application for £2976 has been agreed and starts from 29<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr. Cornish had noticed how improved the High Street looked where the hedges had been cut right back and the grass mowed.

**14. Meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllr Licence had attended the second Covid meeting which was informative. Cllr Sargeant had attended Local Planning meeting?

**15. Reports by District Cllr Harvey & County Cllr Batchelor:** These are published on the website. Cllr Batchelor was congratulated on his re-election as a County Councillor.

**16. Any other business:** None.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 26th July at 7.30pm hopefully in the Village Hall.**

**Chairman.....**