

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 25TH MAY 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm

Two District Councillors had been appointed by Rother District Council for the council to be quorate

PRESENT:- Councillor Fisher
District Councillor Cook
County/ District Councillor Field

Councillors signed The Register of Members Interests and Acceptance of Office forms.

AGENDA

1) ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Fisher was proposed by Councillor Field seconded by Councillor Burton
Councillor Fisher then signed his Acceptance of Office as Chairman form.

OPEN SESSION / LATE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

4 local electors attending

As only one councillor submitted an application and was appointed there is to an election for councillors on 29th June 2023 with applications for this to be submitted by the 2nd June 2023. The short time scale for applications is due to legal matters. To help this time forms can be obtained from the clerk. All this information is on our website. One parishioner said there was little advising of the election not like the last time. Both the clerk and Chairman said there had been publicity.

A member of the public said a quantity of concrete has been put on the grass verge in Riccards Lane, at the junction of Woodmans Green Road/Hastings Road, possibly for National Highways use. County Councillor Field will report this to East Sussex Highways and District Councillor Burton will report to the District Council as it is fly tipping

A parishioner asked why Mobile Homes transporters can be driven through Battle. After a short discussion it was agreed this was a matter for Battle Town Council.

2) APOLOGIES

None

3) ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Left until full meeting of the council

4) DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

No disclosure made

5) APPOINTMENT OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO ROTHER ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

Left until full meeting of the council

MINUTES

6) Minutes of the council meetings held on the 16th March 2023 copies of which had been circulated. The minutes were then confirmed and signed by the Chairman

7) MATTERS ARISING

a National Highways A21 Safety Team - They advised they are still working on the matter and hope to contact us towards the end of the summer with a date for a meeting. They are also to start a feasibility design work for footpath improvements through the village in early June.

WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

8) CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Rother District Council - Advising on two District Councillors to attend 25th May meeting to make the parish quorate.
- b) East Sussex Highways. Advising new management contract arrangements with Balfour Beatty Living Places. Councillor Field advised this is not taking place.

- 9) **REPORT ON SPEED WATCH – STEVE TURNER** The report was available. Mr. Turner advised they will soon be supplied with a new more accurate speed gun, he understands they are still looking at having a speed check along Whatlington Rad.

10) PLANNING

RR/2023/333/T	1 Forstals, Woodmans Green Road	GRANTED
RR/2023/512/P	Hancox Oast, Woodmans Green Road	
RR/2023/564/P	Hillside Nursery, Woodmans Green Road	
ENF/90/23/BAT	Ringlets Farm, Whatlington Road	

11) FINANCE

The balance in Barclays Bank as at 1st May 2023 was current account - £1,314.29
deposit account -£11,522.85

Seven accounts were paid between meetings. All approved by councillors via email

100849 –Ben Clarkson – Replacing broken bus shelter window	£120.00
100852 - East Sussex Association of Local Councils – Subscriptions	£97.41
100853 - BHIB Insurance – Annual Premium	£215,84
100854 - Whatlington Village Hall – Annual rent	£200.00
100855 - Whatlington Church Parochial Church Council – Annual Grass Cutting	£500.00
100856 - K.E. Jones – Contribution towards printing of village newsletter	£250.00
100857 - Cheque cancelled	
100858 - McCabe, Ford and Williams - Internal Audit fee	£240.00
Barclays Bank – Bank interest charge	0.29

11) AUDIT

- a) The Internal Audit of the councils' finances has been completed with receipt of the auditor's report and letter

The accounting statements need to be reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk /RFO

- b) Accounting section – 1
- c) Accounting section – 2
- d) Notice of electors' rights- to confirm dates
- e) The AGAR form needs to be agreed and signed by the Chairman and our Responsible Financial Officer
The AGAR form allows the council not to have a full second external audit saving the council unnecessary expense.
This year we will be having a limited external audit
Papers for sections a- b-c-d-e were agreed and forms signed by the Chairman and Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer
All papers for the audit will be on the council's website

11) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13TH July 2023

The meeting closed at 8.10p.m.

Minutes remain in draft format until approved at the next Meeting of the Council