

**MINUTES OF WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY
16th NOVEMBER 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

PRESENT: - Councillor Fisher in the Chair
Councillors Clarkson, Davis, Sullivan and White
District Councillor Burton
County/ District Councillor Field

OPEN SESSION / LATE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Two government electors attending

Our Footpath Warden advised that the broken fence and damaged footbridge on the Battle side of the footpath along Petley Wood was to be mended by East Sussex Highways in the next two weeks.

Councillor Field said that county is in a difficult financial position needing to find 4.7 million.

Both children and care management is not under threat.

Councillor Burton said Rother had been in a similar problem but have managed to deal with it.

There is an online questionnaire on finances which the parish council could submit. It was agreed that councillors will complete the questionnaire themselves.

On the subject of closing toilets. They have been looking into devolving toilets for over a year but as they are only allowed to lease these for 20 years only one council has taken this up.

AGENDA

Two late received bills from Rother Association of Local Councils and East Sussex ALC Limited and a letter re Battle Abbey School and Leeford Place Hotel. Chairman will be attending the meeting on the 23rd November all added to Agenda

1) APOLOGIES

No apologies

2) DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

No disclosure made

MINUTES

3) Minutes of the council meeting held on the 21st September 2023 copies of which had been circulated. were confirmed and signed by the Chairman

4) MATTERS ARISING

a Flexi Bus - Councillor Field said they do not wish to take passengers away from the Stagecoach bus and in line with their rule - parishes, if, on a current bus route cannot use Flexi bus.

b Quantity of cement in Riccards Lane. Councillor Field said she has a meeting with the Highway Steward and will raise this.

c. A.21 Safety Team meeting. They will advise us of dates for a meeting in December.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

a) St. Mary Magdalene Parochial Church Council. They have invited councillors to the Licensing of John Harkins our new vicar at 7.30p.m. on the 12th December at Sedlescombe church. Councillors will contact them to advise if attending.

b) Barclays Bank - All bank mandates have been registered and confirmed

c) Rother District Council – They have invited two councillors to attend the Annual Parish Assembly on 5th December Brede Village Hall 2.00p.m. – 4.00p.m. Councillors will advise the clerk if wishing to attend.

6) REPORT ON SPEED WATCH – STEVE TURNER

No report as no meetings have been held

At the meeting with Huw Merriman M.P. the leasing or purchase of Black Cats was mentioned, Steve Turner is now looking into this.

WHATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES 17th NOVEMBER 2023 CONTINUED

7) **REVIEWS OF FOLLOWING: -**

Code of Conduct

Internal Auditor Scope and Coverage

Planning Policy – Query on section i4. Councillor White advised the copy shown was not the one he delivered. The clerk will check the files for the correct policy.

The first two policies were agreed

8) **COUNCILLOR DAVIS ASKED IF THE COUNCIL HAD A RESILIENCE PLAN**

The council have an A.4 Emergency Plan but not updated since 2015. Most Resilience Plans have many pages of information, but, after discussion it was agreed a single sheet for the plan was a better way of doing this and councillor Davis offered to update the plan for the January meeting

9) **MEETING WITH HUW MERRIMAN 3rd November 2023**

26 parishioners attended. The Chairman said it was a good meeting and perhaps he could attend a meeting every year in the village.

10) **PLANNING**

RR/2023/1651/P

The Old Rectory, Whatlington Road

GRANTED

11) **FINANCE**

The balance in Barclays Bank as at 1st November 2023 was current account - £1,218.70

deposit account -£11,276.04

100865 Rother District Council. Photocopying of flyer for M.P. meeting £35.00

100866 Rother Association of Local Councils Subscription - £25.00

On Line mapping - £54.00 £79.00

100867 East Sussex ALC Limited - Training Costs £48.00

Direct Debit Barclaycard payments made: -

August – H.P. Instant Ink – Photocopying - £5.49

Fasthosts – Email fees - £2.88 Remembrance Poppies- £23.99 £32.36

September- H.P. Instant Ink – photocopying - £4.49

Fasthost – Email fee - £2.88 The Poppy shop – Poppies £40.00 £47.37

All agreed cheques drawn and signed.

We have asked, yet again, for the bill for our two elections but not yet received.

12) **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

18th January 2024

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.