

ARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Arlington Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 17th May 2018 at 7.30pm in Arlington Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs M Garner (Chairman), J Parsons, V Radtke, N Kinghorn and J Sellars.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor N Bennett, District Councillor D White and A Stevens (Clerk) There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Parsons proposed and Councillor Kinghorn seconded Councillor Garner for the role of Chairman to Arlington Parish Council. All were in favour. Councillor Garner duly accepted the role.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Garner proposed and Councillor Kinghorn seconded Councillor Parsons for the role of Vice Chairman. All were in favour. Councillor Parsons duly accepted the role.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stenning and Robinson-Sivyer and were accepted by those present.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the Parish Assembly and the Full Council Meeting held on the 19th April 2018 were read, approved and signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman.

6. CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTER'S ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

All matters arising were included elsewhere on the agenda.

Councillors Radtke and Sellars entered the room.

7. TO SIGN IN AND OFFICIALLY WELCOME THE NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR – The Chairman officially introduced and welcomed Julie Sellars as the new Parish Councillor. Ms Sellars duly signed the Acceptance of Office, Register of Interests and Consent To Send Agendas Electronically forms.

8. COUNCILLOR'S DUTIES AND REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Finance Representative	Councillor Garner
WDALC Representative	Councillor Garner
Flood Forum	Councillor Garner
SLR	Councillors Parsons
Rights of Way – Upper Dicker	Councillor Kinghorn
Dicker Notices	Councillor Parsons
Tree Warden	Councillor Robinson-Sivyer

Public Transport (CCB)	Councillor Radtke
Newsletter	To be confirmed
Rights of Way – Arlington	Councillor Stenning
Emergency Officer	Councillor Sellars
Police Liaison	Councillor Parsons
Planning – Upper Dicker	Councillor Parsons
Arlington Notices	Councillor Stenning
Planning – Arlington	Councillor Stenning
East Sussex ALC Representative	Councillor Garner
Highways	Councillors Parsons, Garner and Radtke
Arlington Defibrillator	Councillor Stenning
Upper Dicker Defibrillator	Councillor Sellars
Allotments	Councillor Kinghorn

9. **STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Councillors **resolved** to adopt the Standing Orders from 2018 and the Financial Regulations from June 2014, as distributed by the Clerk.

10. **COUNCIL'S BANKERS AND SIGNATORIES**

Councillors **resolved** the Council's bankers will continue to be Barclays and the cheque signatories will continue to be Councillors Robinson-Sivyer, Garner and Parsons.

11. **GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

Councillors reconfirmed their eligibility to meet the requirements of the General Power of Competence.

The meeting was then suspended.

12. **PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no members of the public on this occasion.

13. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

District Councillor Pinkney said;

- The Wealden Local Plan is expected to be presented to its Full Council in July.
- Wealden's share of the Council Tax has increased in line with inflation. The Government has withdrawn its Revenue Support Grant so Wealden has had to source other sources of income. It is therefore building a crematorium at Horam which should generate £90,000 a year and it has also bought Vicarage Fields in Hailsham which should provide another £600,000 a year.
- Wealden has the best recycling rates in East Sussex. Only 1% of rubbish is now sent to landfill.
- A recent customer satisfaction survey showed 90% of those who responded said they liked living in Wealden and 75% said Wealden District Council is doing a good job.

District Councillor White said;

- There has been one Wealden Full Council Meeting since the last Arlington Parish Council Meeting. Councillor Chris Hardy has been elected Chairman for the forthcoming year and Councillor Pam Doodles remains the Vice Chairman.
- The Local Plan is due to be presented to Wealden's Local Plan Committee on the 5th July, its Planning Committee (North and South) on the 6th July and its Full Council on the 18th July.

Details of the Plan should be on the Wealden District Council website the week before each meeting.

The Plan will then be sent out for Representation and any comments from this stage will go straight to the Planning Inspector. The Plan is expected to go out for Representation on the 19th August and Representation will end mid-October. The Plan will then be submitted to the Planning Inspector with adoption anticipated at the end of 2019. Appeals may still be granted because the Council does not have a five year land supply.

14. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications:

The following planning application was considered;

WD/2017/0579/F - Rockys Place, The Street, Arlington, BN26 6RX - Construction of a two storey, four bedroomed house and associated access road, parking and turning spaces. Amended and additional plans received to show details of visibility and new statement date stamped 17/01/18 – Arlington Parish Council noted the changes but still objects to this application because;

- The access for the proposed dwelling is still at the narrowest point on The Street where there is only room for one vehicle at a time to pass i.e. it is not possible for two vehicles travelling in opposite directions to pass one another.
- The design, scale and mass of the proposed dwelling is at odds with its near neighbours in the conservation area of Arlington Village. Additionally, it will be highly visible from several Rights of Way which cross the adjoining fields, one of which passes right next to the south eastern boundary of the site and where the applicant has already removed portions of hedging and some trees.
- Whilst we appreciate it is not a prerequisite, the applicant has not made any attempt to engage with Arlington Parish Council or, close neighbours and local residents about their proposal.
- Additionally, the applicant has also reportedly previously felled mature trees on the plot which is within the Arlington Village Conservation Area and subject to planning approval.
- Finally, the revised Planning Statement refers to the plot, as having once formed part of the garden of Robin's Nest, which we understand was never the case, it was in fact woodland underplanted with naturalised daffodils and bluebells etc and called locally, a "woodland garden".

b. Approved Applications:

There following planning applications have been approved by Wealden District Council;

WD/2018/0177/MFA - Land at Wilbees Farm, The Street, Arlington, BN26 6SA - Minor material amendment to application WD/2017/1986/MFA (Variation of Condition 2 of WD/2015/2405/FA (Construction of a solar park to include the installation of solar panels to generate electricity with transformer housings, security fencing and cameras and other associated works)). Amendments to panels, layout, internal access track and structures on site.

c. Planning Matters:

There were no other planning matters on this occasion.

15. FINANCE

- a. To approve the payments to 17th May 2018 – Councillors resolved to accept the payments list to 17th May 2018 which totalled £1906.71.

1870	Mrs Gouin - Allotment Deposit	£ 50.00
1871	S Goacher - Payroll	£ 155.94
1872	Foster Landscapes - Play park repairs	£ 180.00
1873	Mr Hoad - Grass cutting	£ 81.00
1874	Mass Media - Website	£ 42.00
1875	Recycling Partnership - Bin Emptying	£ 34.61
1876	Stripes - Grass cutting	£ 90.00
1877	A Stevens - Salary - April	£ 559.59
1878	ESCC - Pension	£ 214.51
1879	M Garner - Picture	£ 46.99
1880	Came and Company - Insurance	£ 345.93
1881	Peter Frost - Audit	£ 86.14
1882	Arlington Village Hall - Hall Hire	£ 20.00

b. To agree and sign (i) the Annual Governance Statement and (ii:) the Annual Accounts to 31st March 2018 – Councillors resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement, the Annual Accounts, the Risk Assessment, Asset Register and Internal Audit Arrangements to 31st March 2018. Councillor Garner signed the Annual Governance Statement and Annual Accounts Statements.

c. Insurance – Councillors resolved to approve Aviva through Came and Company as the Council's insurers for the forthcoming year.

d. To approve the subscriptions to NALC, SSALC and the WDALC – Councillors resolved to approve the subscriptions to NALC, SSALC and the WDALC.

16. HIGHWAYS

Virgin Media have taken now responsibility for the two additional equipment covers between Arlington Village Hall and Copyhold Cottages and have told ESCC they will be carrying out the repairs shortly.

The next Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) Meeting is on the 11th July 2018. The agenda is being currently being prepared.

17. **RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATES** – Wealden has said it will empty the bin near the play equipment which has an 'out of order' notice on it. Councillor Radtke will see what is wrong with the bin.

18. **VILLAGE GREEN UPDATE** - Jakk is expected to complete its work within the next week, after which Councillor Rattle and Kinghorn finish the planting and consider gravel boarding. A cream tea has provisionally been planned for 27th May. The Parish Council agreed to use the Tesco funding to provide 50 cream teas at a cost of £5 per head. The tea will be provided by the Village Shop and Councillor Radtke will advertise the event.

19. **CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS** – Councillor Garner asked if the County Council should just be cutting a strip of grass on the A22 to help preserve the ecology.

Councillors agreed to send the following to Charles Horton, CEO of Govia Thameslink, about the changes to the train timetable;

'Arlington Parish Council (APC) wish to express their extreme concern regarding the proposed new timetable for Berwick Station East Sussex which, quite frankly, will have a huge impact locally.

The station in question not only serves residents of Berwick but also Arlington, Alfriston, Selveston and Upper Dicker. These communities rely heavily on a regular direct train service to London not only for commuters but also those who travel to London for business meetings, cultural, social/leisure purposes and theatre trips. Further, this station is also used by those wishing to travel from London and elsewhere to the South Downs National Park (SDNP) and other visitor attractions.

Collectively, the timetable changes being imposed will result in greatly extended journey times, additional road traffic congestion and pollution on already busy roads, plus a negative impact on business, leisure and tourism in the area.

Additionally, the loss of local services between Glynde and Berwick during the majority of the day i.e. after 09:52 and up to 18:28 will also impact on local residents, ramblers and others visiting the SDNP. Therefore on the Brighton-Eastbourne service please reinstate the service stops at both Glynde and Berwick to at least one per hour in each direction.

Arlington Parish Council understands that a Berwick resident has suggested some changes, namely that the 09:24 and 10:24 services from Eastbourne to London Victoria stop at Berwick and that the 19:16 and 20:16 services from London Victoria to Eastbourne also stop at Berwick. We strongly concur with these suggestions.

APC also understands that the 22:46 service from London Victoria to Eastbourne with a stop at Glynde and Berwick has been reinstated, can you confirm this is indeed the case? If so, then along with the other suggested amendments contained in this letter, it will go some way in defusing the many concerns being voiced by communities, residents and commuters who use this station on a regular basis'

- 20. ITEMS OF INFORMATION - to be included on the agenda for the next meeting – The Code of Conduct.**
- 21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Thursday 21st June 2018 at 7.30 pm in Upper Dicker Village Hall.**

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 9.30pm.