

ARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Arlington Parish Council held on 21st February 2019 at 7.30pm in Upper Dicker Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr M Garner (Chairman), J Parsons, P Stenning, V Radtke and N Kinghorn.

IN ATTENDANCE: District Councillor D White, A Stevens (Clerk) Barry Ling (Bedes) and two members of the public were also present.

115. PUBLIC SESSION

Mr Ling, from Bedes School, described the latest Bede's application;

- The new development will be in the centre of the school site and is part of the original S106 Agreement.
- It is a new build but it is being built to replace older buildings which are no longer market suitable.
- It will provide 60 rooms and allow the school to be more competitive.

Residents were concerned about the increase in vehicle movements and the heavy plant that will be needed whilst the development takes place.

In answer to their questions Mr Ling confirmed;

- There will be a road cleaning programme in place.
- The heavier work will mostly take place over the summer.
- The waste will be stored and pumped as it is now.
- The existing building will be used as offices and a day house.

Residents also;

- Expressed concern about the next Bede's application which is for some new sports pitches. They were especially worried about the loss of so many mature trees. Mr Ling said that whilst there will be a planting programme in place, the new trees will unfortunately be much younger. He also confirmed that the application is currently waiting to be validated by Wealden.
- Asked what has happened to the oaks in Camberlot Road. They have been hacked for no apparent reason and are understood to be protected. It was suggested that the work had been carried out by the County Council so the Clerk will contact the County Councillor and try and find out more. The matter will also be raised at the next SLR Meeting.

District Councillor White said;

- Wealden is set to increase its share of the Council Tax by 2.7%, the County Council is set to increase its share by 3% (plus 2% for Adult Social Care) and the Police and Fire Authorities are set to increase theirs by 12%. As a result a Council Tax D property owner here will pay £256.70 a month from April. Wealden is investing in other ways to generate income so it is not totally dependent on the council tax payer.
- The new Wealden Local Plan was sent to the Planning Inspector on the 28th January. The further it progresses the more weight it carries in Planning.
- Planning application WD/2018/2507/MAJ (Bedes School) is being considered by Planning Committee South on the 28th January. District Councillor White said he will ask officers why residents' comments are not shown on the Wealden website.
- The appeal for the site at Camberlot Stables, Camberlot Road, Upper Dicker (Appeal Reference 3197286) has been allowed and Wealden District Council will be challenging the decision through the Courts. If the decision goes against it Wealden could have to reimburse substantial sums to developers.

116. APOLOGES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors J Sellers and Jo Robinson-Sivyer and were accepted by those present.

County Councillor Nick Bennett and District Councillor Mark Pinkney also sent apologies for their absence.

117. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS.

Councillors Kinghorn and Stenning attended a recent SCATE Meeting about the A27. Councillor Stenning announced he is now a member of the Arlington Village Hall Committee and will send the Clerk an updated Register of Interests Form.

118. MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18th JANUARY 2019.

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 18th January 2019 were read, approved by all and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

119. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications:

WD/2018/2507/MAJ - Bedes School, Camberlot Road, Upper Dicker BN27 3QH - New boarding house accommodation to Bede's Senior School providing modern facilities and accommodation for 60 boarders, a house master house and house masters' apartments – Arlington Parish Council has no objections to this application but would like;

a) A general embargo which applies to the delivery/removal of material by HGV during peak school arrival/departure hours in respect of both Bede's and Park Mead CP School.

b) Wheel-washing to take place as necessary when leaving site.

c) A competent member of contractor's staff to be stationed on site who would be responsible for 'site gate duty' to ensure safe ingress and egress for heavy vehicles.

d) Safe routing of plant and heavy vehicles into and out of Upper Dicker village to be via Coldharbour/High Barn Roads (ie: not via Camberlot Road or Michelham Priory Road).

e) ESCC Highways will be in sole charge of arrangements for the Cross-Roads remodelling scheme. Councillors suggested Highways may wish to consider a 20mph road works restriction within village limits for the duration of this scheme

b. Approved Planning Applications – The following planning application has been approved by Wealden District Council;

WD/2018/2446/MAJ - Parkwood Farm, High Barn Road, Upper Dicker, BN27 3QL - Retrospective application for cattle barn (amendments to WD/2017/1929/F and WD/2018/0070/F).

b. Planning Matters – No other planning matters were discussed at this meeting.

120. FINANCE.

To approve list of payments – Councillors resolved to accept and approve the list of payments to the 21st February 2019 which totalled £1349.75

1946	Recycling Partnership – Bin Emptying	£ 43.26
1947	Computer Plus - Computer	£ 454.80
1948	Mass Media – Website	£ 50.40
1949	A Stevens – Salary	£ 568.90
1950	ESCC – Pension	£ 210.39

b. To approve the accounts to date – Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts to 31st January 2019.

121. HIGHWAYS –

i: The Parish Council received a request from a member of the public who was concerned about road safety in Tye Hill Lane.

Councillor Stenning met County Councillor Bennett near Tye Hill Cottage where the road is very narrow and has no passing points so it means that when two vehicles meet, one has to reverse 200m round a dangerous bend. County Councillor Bennett subsequently spoke to officers to see if they can find a solution.

The reply from the Traffic and Safety Officer at ESCC was as follows;

'I am writing to let you know that I have taken the opportunity to visit Tye Hill Lane with a colleague to look at the ad-hoc passing place which you have plotted on the map you sent through. I apologise for the delay in sending my full response.

While we appreciate the problem, almost all of our county's narrow lanes have a similar situation. All of Tye Hill Lane is very narrow and if we were to install a passing place in one part of it, we would need to repeat this process throughout the length of the lane, which would be prohibitively expensive in relation to the amount of traffic using it. Also, if we were to consider this for Tye Hill Lane, we would set a precedent for putting passing-places along the many other rural narrow lanes across the County.

Satellite navigation (satnav) systems have played a big part in directing drivers of all classes of vehicle to use routes they had not previously been aware of. We are well aware that the situation is made worse as the trunk and main road network within the county is not well developed and drivers are increasingly looking to minor roads for alternative, less congested routes. Current advice from the Department for Transport is that anyone with concerns about the possible misrouting of vehicles needs to contact the companies responsible for the satnav systems, but there are so many different providers that this is only likely to be possible for the satnav user to do, not an observer. You may find it of interest to see how satnav updating works by visiting the Ordnance Survey: <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/resources/sat-nav-data.html>

I realise that you will be disappointed by my response but I would like to thank you for taking the time to contact us about this issue.'

Councillor Stenning also said the hedge at Tye Hill Lane has still not been cut. The County Council has said they will now prioritise the work.

Councillors also noted there are deep chasms in the verges opposite the entrance to Primrose Farm which could cause serious damage if a car comes off the road.

ii: Councillors suggested adding the hedge trimming at Tye Hill Lane, the verges outside Primrose Farm and the trees in Camberlot Road to the agenda for the next SLR Meeting and then approved the draft agenda circulated by Councillor Parsons.

iii: Councillors considered the response to the Campaign for Better Transport Research Project on the physical provision for buses on the A27 from Falmer to Lewes and asked if there could be a similar project for the stretch from Lewes to Polegate.

Councillor Parsons asked councillors to bear in mind, that in his opinion;

- When discussing the A27, that SCATE is a pressure group.
- Talk of 'integrated systems' has been going on at least since the 1950s.
- He supports a 'dual carriageway' because he feels it is safer and more environmentally friendly and the outcome needs to be a safer, higher capacity route. In his opinion the problem is being reviewed from the wrong end.
- In his experience decisions about the rail timetable are not taken lightly or without a great deal of thought.

Councillor Kinghorn raised the issue of the proposed plan for the 'offline' new dual carriageway A27 through part of the Parish. It was decided not to discuss this further at this stage because it was not an agenda item.

122. RISK ASSESSMENTS –.

At the last meeting councillors noted that the noticeboard outside the Yew Tree in Arlington is in a poor state of repair and agreed to ask a local carpenter to price to make another. On his recommendation, the Parish Council approached a joinery workshop, Jakk. Councillors considered the price from Jakk and agreed to ask Jakk to replace the notice board.

Councillors also discussed whether to repair or replace the fingerpost outside the Yew Tree Inn and agreed it needs replacing. They resolved to accept the price from Jakk but asked that the work goes ahead in April when part funding should become available from the County Council.

Councillors considered and noted the risk assessment of the telephone kiosk, defibrillator, fingerpost and noticeboard (in Arlington) for January 2019.

Councillors Radtke and Stenning met at the Recreation Ground and investigate the recommendations made in the ROSPA Report. They made the following notes;

The page numbers relate to the ROSPA Report page numbers.

- Page 5 Bench – No action required.
- Page 6 Picnic table – Needs refurbishment.
- Page 9 Litter bin – Is there a contract to empty the bin? Also, consider removing this bin, placing a sign reminding people to use the bins near the entrances and re-siting this bin near the small gate entrance to the Recreation Ground.
- Page 10 Seesaw – No action required.
- Page 12 Sheep rocker – No action required.
- Pages 14 to 16 Swing Basket – Treatment to the base of the support legs to stop any further deterioration.
- Page 18 Goal Post – Consider removing this as it's not compliant with the required standards, and appears not to be often used, if at all.
- Page 20 Multiplay Ropes and Nets – Treatment to the base of the support legs to stop any further deterioration.
- Page 22 Multiplay – Possibly use filler in the hole as indicated.
- Pages 23 to 25 Multiplay with Swings – Treatment to the base of support legs to stop any further deterioration, and fit fillet on the ramp as indicated.
- Page 26 Play House – Treatment to base timbers, also treatment of roof timbers as required.
- Page 28 Play Tractor and Trailer – Filler on tractor engine section as required.

The Clerk confirmed the bin is now being emptied regularly. Councillors asked the Clerk to get a price for the items which need attention.

- 123. ALLOTMENTS** – Councillors resolved the allotment charge for the forthcoming year will remain unchanged. The cost for the use of water will be proportionately charged out.
- 124. VILLAGE GREEN PROJECT** – The gravel boards have yet to be fitted but the contractor has been chased and the boards should be fitted soon.
- 125. PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER** – Councillor Radtke distributed a draft newsletter for councillors to consider. Councillors will let her know their thoughts on it by 1st March. Councillors will then discuss how they are going to distribute it.
- 126. REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS** – Councillor Garner reminded everyone this is an election year.
- 127. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA** – Parish Newsletter.
- 128. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting will be the Full Council Meeting which will take place on Thursday 21st March 2019 at 7.30pm at Arlington Village Hall.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 9:00pm.