

10th January, 2023

WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 10th JANUARY, 2023 AT 7.30PM
WOULDHAM VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Bell (Chair), Cllr Baker (Vice Chair), Cllr Parris, Cllr Marr, Cllr Buchanan,
Cllr Rimmington, Cllr Savaryn, BCllr Dalton,
T Miles (Clerk). 9 Members of the Public

1.	APOLOGIES: BCllr Davis	
2.	MINUTES Monthly Parish Council meeting The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 th December, 2022 were proposed by Cllr Rimmington and seconded by Cllr McDermott. The minutes were to be signed by the Chairman.	
3.	MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES Members agreed that any other matters arising from the minutes would be dealt with under the appropriate heading, as the meeting progressed through the agenda.	
4.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None	
5	EXTERNAL REPORTS	
5.1	Borough Councillor: BCllr Dalton advised that BCllr Davis was awaiting a response regarding our request for information explaining the increase in council tax exemptions for the area.	DD
5.2	County Councillor: Not received – no questions raised.	
5.3	Community Warden: Cllr Bell reported that Simon White is the new Warden for the area and will be out and about shortly. His contact details will be published on the website and notice boards. They are: Email: Simon.White@kent.gov.uk Tele: 07813694140	CLERK
6.	COMMUNITY SAFETY	
6.1	PCSO report: Not received. Cllr Bell noted that there had been 2 phone calls received regarding a large amount of small gas canisters being left around PV. Cllr Rimmington noted that he had recently completed a litter pick across the bridge and a large canister and lots of small ones had been collected. It was felt that the issue is that people seem to be throwing them out of cars as they come over the bridge, which means they could be under the influence and it could cause injury to pedestrians.	
6.2	Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr Rimmington reported that he had spoken to Samir as he required access to any CCTV along the High Street. He noted that there seems to be more crime in Burham at the moment. The main crimes for Wouldham since the last meeting are: Vehicle damaged in Tusk Walk, tractor stolen from farmland and the BBQ damaged at the Common.	
6.3	Speedwatch: There will be no Speedwatch until the end of March as it is too dark in the mornings/evenings. Cllr Rimmington noted that PV needs to be included particularly as people are regularly speeding over the bridge. He will speak to Alan Watson (Speedwatch) to do a risk assessment to enable coverage of the bridge. Cllr Bell noted roadworks are due to start shortly on the opposite side of the bridge which may have an effect on the traffic using the bridge and local roads.	SR
7.	ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE MATTERS	
7.1	Signing of payment request – Done	SR/EB/ AB
7.2	RESOLUTION TO OPEN A NEW SAVINGS ACCOUNT: Cllr Bell advised that the Finance team had reviewed potential savings banks and recommend moving reserves to the Redwood bank who offer 2.25% interest on a 95-day account, details of other banks considered are in the Finance meeting minutes. However, with the current situation, rates are constantly changing. Cllr Rimmington noted that the reviews for the Redwood bank indicated only a 3.5* rating and felt further investigation is needed. Clerk reminded councillors that until they transfer the amount over 85k	

Signed _____

Date _____

7.2a	<p>funds remain at risk and we are in breach of the Investment Strategy so a decision needs to be made asap. Cllr Parris asked if comparison sites had been used. Clerk confirmed that this was done in December with money.co.uk and bestbusiness.co.uk who compare business savings accounts.</p> <p>RESOLVED TO DELAY A DECISION UNTIL NEXT MONTH. Proposed by Cllr Parris, seconded by Cllr Buchanan. All Agreed. Finance Group to make agreed recommendations at the February meeting.</p>	FINANCE
8.	<p><u>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (MOP)</u></p>	
8.1	<p>MOP1: Advised that a lamppost in Village Road, near the Co-op has a gap around the base which could be dangerous. She passed a photo with the light number on it to the Clerk to report it. Cllr Bell also noted that there is a dent in the post. Another MOP noted that there also one on Keepers Cottage Lane, but had no details. RFL will report if details are forwarded. MOP1 also noted that she had done the highways survey outlining issues on the highways across the Parish.</p>	CLERK SB
8.2	<p>MOP2: Asked if there could there be some traffic control outside the school as it is dangerous crossing the road outside. Cllr Rimmington advised that it has been raised it with the PSCO and management company. Also, the PSCO regularly visits at school times. However, there is little that can be done at the moment, but we are always looking for solutions.</p>	
8.3	<p>MOP 3: Asked if anything is being done about the number of potholes in the High Street, particularly the one by the Church. Cllr Bell advised that many had been reported to KCC by the council and individuals, but as we are all aware, they are very stretched at the moment. Cllr Buchanan noted that KCC say they should fix emergencies within 2 hours. Anyone can report, or add to a report by using the KCC website: https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/ReportAFault.aspx</p>	
8.4	<p>MOP 4: Asked when the doctor's surgery when it will be moving to PV. BCllr Dalton advised that he understands there seems to be a hold-up with the NHS and nothing will happen this year. The doctor situation at the moment is stretched and recruiting doctors is difficult. He also advised that there were 2 doctors and some newly to qualified doctors. MOP noted that she was told that there were no places. BCllr suggested that she asked again and he will find out what the current situation is.</p>	RD
8.5	<p>MOP 5: Asked if the Parish Council can act on behalf of Peters Village. Cllr Rimmington confirmed that the PC covers the whole parish and noted that the we regularly speak to the relevant parties on behalf of residents although the responsibility usually remains with the developers. MOP noted that cars are continually parked dangerously on footpaths and both sides of Keepers Cottage Lane and it is getting worse. Cllr Baker noted that Bovis residents are not parking in their car parking areas. Cllr Bell noted that when the original planning came through, the PC had noted that there was a lack of parking and it was not close to the houses, but this was disregarded leading the current position. BCllr Dalton noted that he is on the planning committee at TMBC and that parking is the largest concern. Current changes mean that car ports will now go across the borough. Also, the Scrutiny Committee are now looking at new that rules increase the parking demands from developers. Cllr Rimmington asked if parking on the pavement could be enforced. BCllr Dalton advised that are no laws to prevent it. Cllr Marr noted that a possible law could be introduced later in the year. A letter could be sent to developers asking for cars to be parked in car ports, however, Cllr Bell noted that most people just want to park outside their homes. Cllr Rimmington noted that he had raised the issued about parking 2 years ago and has an email identifying what can be done, he will re-post it on FB for reference.</p>	SR
8.6	<p>MOP 6: Asked if there were any plans for the vacant shop in the High Street. Cllr Bell advised that the planners had deemed it as a village asset and therefore had refused planning for conversion to flats as not enough effort was made to find another business and there would not be enough parking. We will contact the owner to find out if there are any further plans.</p>	CLERK
8.7	<p>MOP 2: Asked if anything was known about when the Community Centre will open. Cllr Rimmington advised that that there is a push to open it, but it appears that the owners are stalling.</p>	
8.8	<p>MOP 7: Asked if the defib been replaced in light of it being used recently and that at first, they had gone to the old shop and then had to go to the Hall. Clerk confirmed that the pads had been replaced and the unit re-registered and ready to use at the Hall. The other unit is due to be re-sited at the Church so is currently unavailable. But this will mean that there are units at the beginning, middle and end of the village.</p>	
8.9	<p>MOP 8: Asked if there had been any movement in removing the sign by the Medway Pub. Clerk confirmed that it is on her to-do list and should be done shortly. Cllr Rimmington offered to help.</p>	CLERK/ SR

Signed _____

Date _____

<p>9.</p> <p>9.1</p> <p>9.2</p> <p>9.3</p>	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>Cllr Bell noted that the PC had received an email from a resident stating that she objects to application 22/02766/NMA for re-handing of plots in Worrall Drive. BCllr Dalton noted that this emanated from an enforcement case as the build was not in line with planning. He asked that Planning have a look at the submission and if it is needed to be called in to ask, confirming concerns via email.</p> <p>BCllr Dalton also reported that he was most disappointed that the Downs Farm application, which was called to area 3 and after a long debate it was proposed to refused and carried to 7-3, has been re-submitted. He asked Planning have a look at the refusal notice and the new application to identify any changes and confirm whether the PC are still minded to object.</p> <p>Cllr Parris noted that Nelson Road, dropped curb application was submitted in error and will be re-submitting using the correct form.</p> <p><u>Planning applications considered and commented upon by the Planning Committee:</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="164 741 1326 969"> <tr> <td>22/02766/NMA</td> <td>Phase 5 Worrall Drive. Non-Material amendment to TM/19/00486. Handing of Plots</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22802637/FL</td> <td>223 High Street. Single storey extension to provide annex accommodation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/02559/RD</td> <td>Phase 5 Worrall Drive. Details of condition 31 (materials) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/15/01485/OAEA (Grant of replacement planning permission for TM/05/00989/OAEA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/02559/RD</td> <td>Ringshill Farm. Erection of a Fertiliser Store</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Planning applications approved:</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="164 1016 914 1126"> <tr> <td>22/0235/FL</td> <td>8 Heron Place. Single Storey Side Extension</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/02413/FL</td> <td>3 Keepers Cottage Lane. Single Storey Extension</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/02559/RD</td> <td>Ringshill Farm. Erection of a Fertiliser Store</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Planning applications refused/withdrawn: None</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="164 1173 1059 1249"> <tr> <td>22/01951/FL</td> <td>87 Oldfield Drive. Erection of Garage and Car Port. REFUSED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/02389/LDP</td> <td>2 Nelson Road. Dropped kerb. REFUSED (JAN)</td> </tr> </table>	22/02766/NMA	Phase 5 Worrall Drive. Non-Material amendment to TM/19/00486. Handing of Plots	22802637/FL	223 High Street. Single storey extension to provide annex accommodation	22/02559/RD	Phase 5 Worrall Drive. Details of condition 31 (materials) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/15/01485/OAEA (Grant of replacement planning permission for TM/05/00989/OAEA	22/02559/RD	Ringshill Farm. Erection of a Fertiliser Store	22/0235/FL	8 Heron Place. Single Storey Side Extension	22/02413/FL	3 Keepers Cottage Lane. Single Storey Extension	22/02559/RD	Ringshill Farm. Erection of a Fertiliser Store	22/01951/FL	87 Oldfield Drive. Erection of Garage and Car Port. REFUSED	22/02389/LDP	2 Nelson Road. Dropped kerb. REFUSED (JAN)	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>PLANNING /CLERK</p>
22/02766/NMA	Phase 5 Worrall Drive. Non-Material amendment to TM/19/00486. Handing of Plots																			
22802637/FL	223 High Street. Single storey extension to provide annex accommodation																			
22/02559/RD	Phase 5 Worrall Drive. Details of condition 31 (materials) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/15/01485/OAEA (Grant of replacement planning permission for TM/05/00989/OAEA																			
22/02559/RD	Ringshill Farm. Erection of a Fertiliser Store																			
22/0235/FL	8 Heron Place. Single Storey Side Extension																			
22/02413/FL	3 Keepers Cottage Lane. Single Storey Extension																			
22/02559/RD	Ringshill Farm. Erection of a Fertiliser Store																			
22/01951/FL	87 Oldfield Drive. Erection of Garage and Car Port. REFUSED																			
22/02389/LDP	2 Nelson Road. Dropped kerb. REFUSED (JAN)																			
<p>10.</p> <p>10.1</p> <p>10.2</p>	<p><u>ROADS, FOOTPATHS & LIGHTING -</u></p> <p><u>Updates:</u> Cllr Bell advised that the condition of the road between Borstal and Wouldham is so bad and that the Medway Officer and KCC are looking it. Cllr Parris asked what is being done about the flooding at Brambletree. Cllr Bell advised that work is due this year. That there is a tank to drain which is failing, so another system is needed which will require major earthworks. Cllr Parris felt that the drains could be blocking due to the fact that the field is higher and debris washes across the road.</p> <p>Car Park Lines: Cllr Bell noted that the only quote received to provide an additional 8 carparking spaces in the car park totalled around £1,300. Any further adjustments regarding resident parking will come later. RESOLUTION: As attempts had been made to secure additional quotes have been unsuccessful, to go ahead with getting the lines done with the quote obtained: Proposed by Cllr Parris and Seconded by Cllr Marr. All Agreed</p>	<p>CLERK</p>																		
<p>11.</p> <p>11.1</p> <p>11.2</p>	<p><u>OPEN SPACES</u></p> <p>Recreation Ground. Cllr Parris reported that the new equipment has been installed. She has also reported that the bins have not been collected this month although the dog poo bins have been done. Cllr Bell reported that Reids Playgrounds are coming to look at the zip line on 18/1 to see what can be done. Cllr Parris noted that the signs saying 'children only' keep getting taken off.</p> <p>Allotments : Cllr Bell reported that we have received notification that water usage is up which could be a water leak. He has visited and all taps were turned off except the second one from the top which was</p>	<p>OPEN SPACES</p>																		

Signed _____

Date _____

10th January, 2023

WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

11.3 11.4 11.5	<p>dripping, but the meter needs to be checked to see if there is a leak. Cllr Marr will check and let clerk know.</p> <p>Ground Maintenance: Cllr Bell advised that the contractor has been asked to do extra jobs around the village as there was some budget left from last year.</p> <p>PV Play Equipment: Cllr Rimmington reported that this was an ongoing issue. He and the Clerk had visited TMBC to complain about the lack of delivery and progressed it through various channels. Hopefully, work will start on all the outstanding play equipment this year. Clerk reported that we had also heard back from KCC about a Youth Worker, which is sounding positive.</p> <p>Common: Fire pit, built by volunteers, has been vandalised. It will be repairs when the weather gets better, but they have said they will only do it once more.</p>	AM
12. 12.1 12.2 12.3	<p><u>VILLAGE HALL</u></p> <p>End of year of accounts presented. The Chair thanked Sarah, the treasurer for all her hard work.</p> <p>Fabric: Cllr Marr advised that a Trustee has met 2 potential builders to get quotes for the disabled toilet/new kitchen and the repair work needed at the back of the building. He noted that one idea was, rather than replace the render, leave it there, treat it, batten, fill with insulation and clad it. So he is going to do separate quotes for the different works needed. Potential contractors are also pricing for the re-siting of the gate and an additional barrier along the dwarf wall and replacing the spring at the top of the rec. There are 2 other people who have shown an interest in quoting for the works. Finally, the ceiling should be painted shortly.</p> <p>Activity update: Brownies Mondays, Rainbows Wednesdays, Yoga Thursdays, Fitness class Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Cllr Parris enquired whether there were any plans to re-instate the Youth Club. Cllr Bell noted that there were no volunteers so unlikely at this point in time. Although if there is a Youth Worker in the Parish there could be something for older children. Sarah Briggs (Hall) noted Friday nights are generally free if anyone did want to take something forward and that more advertising will be done over the coming months.</p>	
13. 13.1 13.2 13.3 13.4 13.5	<p><u>HEALTH & SAFETY/RISK MANAGEMENT</u></p> <p>Defibrillators: Clerk confirmed that the pads have been replaced for the hall and re-registered. Cllr Bell asked whether there was an electric supply to the one in PV. Cllr Rimmington confirmed that it has, and was part of the agreement to put it there. Clerk has asked the electrician to quote for moving the unit from the shop and re-locate it into the Church porch. It can then be registered with the ambulance service.</p> <p>Lifebuoys: Cllr Rimmington reported that they were all OK, except on used for the one used as a sledge!</p> <p>Play equipment: Zip Line: contractor visiting on 18/1 to see what can be done.</p> <p>Village Hall: Clerk reported that the Asbestos survey has been forwarded showing very limited amount of asbestos on the outside of the building.</p> <p>Salt bins; Cllr Bell noted that there were 7 bins in the old village, Rectory and Medway has been refilled, but it appears the remainder had not been. Cllr McDermott will to check Oldfield and report to the Clerk. Cllr Baker noted that there were 3 salt bins in PV, but are not the responsibility of KCC. Cllr Rimmington advised that the site contractor has a full pallet available, but usage will be back charged through the service charge. Cllr Baker will check the bins in PV and advise of their location.</p>	<p>CLERK</p> <p>OPEN SPACES</p> <p>AMc</p> <p>AB</p>

Signed _____

Date _____

10th January, 2023

WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

13.6	<p>Cllr Bell advised that KCC had said they would not put salt bins into PV as it is too level. However, Cllr Rimmington asked whether this applies to an area around a school, which can become very dangerous. Cllr Baker to check with the school to see what the rules are.</p> <p>Cllr Bell noted that the PC risk assessment summary was not approved at the last meeting although it was sent out with the papers and therefore needs approval.</p> <p>RESOLUTION; to approve Proposed by Cllr McDermott, seconded by Cllr Rimmington. All Agreed</p>	AB
14.1	<p>GENERAL VILLAGE BUSINESS:</p> <p>Community News. Cllr Bell noted that the newsletter is no longer being produced and asked how do we get information out to residents. He suggests that something is put on the PC website each month. Cllr Parris noted that a lot of people do not have access to the internet and would rather a hard copy. Cllr Buchanan noted that information could go on notice boards, however there needs to be more notice boards in PV. MOP noted that the co-op has one which is a good location. MOP offered to develop some kind of newsletter. Clerk to contact him to go through what is needed. Cllr Parris asked if Burham had agreed anything moving forward. BCllr Dalton advised that there had been no discussions yet, but felt that they may just put information on their website.</p>	CLERK
14.2	<p>Coronation event planning: Cllr Bell suggested that something needs to be done to celebrate the coronation although the actual day may not be appropriate. He asked for councillors to come forward to form a planning group. Cllr Parris offered to help and 3 members of the public also registered an interest in helping. Other councillors are asked to consider how they can help.</p>	ALL
15.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: Cllr Bell read an email received from a resident and asked if he could respond – Agreed. He will respond on behalf of the Council.</p>	
16.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 7 Feb, 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.30</p>	
17.1	<p>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS, CHAIRPERSON AND CLERK:</p> <p>Cllr Buchanan is still looking at whether Helping Hands can support local transport needs. But needs to develop a questionnaire to see who would use a service.</p> <p>Cllr Parris asked if we could get some stronger signs for dog poo. Also, could the Clerk find out if the Henry Peters Charity is still offering transport for those in need as there appears to be no funding left.</p> <p>Cllr Buchanan asked when will feedback from the Regulation 18 consultation. BCllr noted that there were over 5k responses which are still being analysed. Initial findings can be read at: https://democracy.tmbc.gov.uk/documents/s65699/Report%20of%20Director%20of%20Planning%20Ho%20using%20and%20Environmental%20Health.pdf</p> <p>Cllr Marr advised that the Village Hall was also getting a quote for a new front door as the current one has rotted through</p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Bell thanked all the members of the public for attending and asking questions and if they have any further questions/comment, they can contact any Councillors or the Clerk.</p>	
18.	<p>MEETING CLOSED AT : 9.30</p>	

Signed _____

Date _____