

7 September 2021

Wouldham Parish Council

**MINUTES OF WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 7th September 2021 AT 7.30PM
WOULDHAM VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Bell, Cllr Marr, Cllr Parris, Cllr Gray, Cllr Savaryn, BCllr Davis, 2 members of public,

1.	APOLOGIES: BCllr Dalton Cllr Rimmington, Cllr Baker	
2.	MINUTES The minutes of the Parish council meeting held on 3 rd August they were proposed by Cllr Parris and seconded by Cllr Marr to be a true record of proceedings. It was agreed by all other councillors that the minutes were to be signed by the Chairman. With a note that Cllr Gray requested a meeting of the Highways Committee	
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: Reported under item 13	
5.2	County Councillor: None. His newsletter is available to subscribe to if interested	
5.3	PCSO/Police report NONE. However, there was a report from the Rural PCSO	
5.4	Neighbourhood Watch Scheme : Cllr Gray has put an article in the Parish News to gain interest. However, it gave the wrong contact details, so it will go in again this month.	
5.5	Community Warden. NONE - Clerk to see if anyone else is available to report on activities	Clerk
5.6	Waste bins: Cllr Bell noted that normal service should be resumed by 27 th Sept. BCllr Davis believed that the brown bin service was suspended indefinitely. Currently the black, food and green bins are regularly being collected. He noted that arrangements have been made to extend brown bin subscriptions. Cllr Gray noted that if the service is just extended, it would be through winter when there is less need and therefore people are not getting value for money. Moving forward would like it extended for a longer period of time due to the winter period. BCllr Davis to raise this point with TMBC. She also noted that a number houses in the High Street don't have front gardens, so there are 8 bins in an alleyway courtesy of the home owner . Why is it not first on the collection rota? BCllr stated that BCllr Dalton is dealing with the logistics of the whole route. Bulk Waste: BCllr Davis advised that this is still a low priority. He went to Cuxton and found it very easy, didn't have to queue although he appreciated some people don't have cars and we want it back asap. He re-iterated that there was still a huge problem with contract and competition for HGV drivers. Cllr Gray stated that Urbasor should have been able to predict and if they cant fulfil contract, there should be an option to get out. BCllr Davis advised that due to the nature of contract and due diligence TMBC had to use them. Cllr Parris commented that they are doing their best in difficult circumstances. Pop up Café: There is 1 more due outside, but they are negotiating to do them in the Medway Pub as previously done during the winter months.	BCllr Davis

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<p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Planning applications considered and commented upon by the Planning Committee TM/21/02010 206 High Street (re-submission) It was agreed that Cllr Bell will prepare an objection document again and circulate to Planning Committee. He noted that members need to be aware it may have to be moved to Area 3 and a Planning Committee member may have to attend. It was emphasised that each application needs to be objected to as they are not carried forward, and where possible, include anything against planning rules. BCllr Davis noted that because Committee and individuals are not experts, they can put in all objections whether or not it is planning law. There is also no harm in saying 'I object as previously', and list reasons. Cllr Savaryn noted that involvement in social media in such matters is not acceptable. He was aware that someone had asked why planning was objected to and was subject to a barrage of abuse. Cllr Gray apologised for any derogatory language used in the post, but believed that she has left an open comment which was then picked up by other users. It was noted that there was a Social Media policy which needs to be adhered to.</p> <p>Planning consents issued: TM/21/01647/LDP Dropped curb, 2 Walter Burke Certified 17/8</p> <p>Planning applications refused: None</p> <p>Other planning issues: None</p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>7.4</p> <p>7.5</p>	<p>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.</p> <p>MOP commented that the path to Winchester House remains overgrown and now dangerous. It needs digging back to allow prams to pass. Cllr Parris stated that it has been neglected far too long. Cllr Gray said that if 2 people walk along there 1 has to walk in the road. BCllr Davis and Cllr Bell will chase Andrew Kennedy as he has previously been asked for help to resolve the problem.</p> <p>Broken bench in rec near Knowle road. Clerk advised that repairs had been ordered and will chase up</p> <p>Outside school and Oldfield Drive, there is growth going up pole. Cllr Marr advised that the gas or electric board who own land and are responsible for it.</p> <p>Cllr Bell suggested time be allocated for members of the public to speak. All agreed to set time for the next meeting to test out if any more people attend.</p> <p>MOP challenged the behaviour of a PC member on Facebook. She stated that she had asked 2 questions regarding the 206 High Street plans which were totally ignored. She felt vilified by Cllr Gray and others for asking the questions. People then trolled her causing distress. Her opinion was that it was a good idea to smarten up the area and it would be impossible to get 15 vehicles on the site. Cllr Gray apologised again to the individual.</p> <p>Cllr Bell stated that the PC are concerned with planning and representing all local residents. TMBC has turned down applications each time and they have gone to appeal. The only planning application to be passed is for 20 cars to be parked on the site. TMBC Officer remarked that there was no open space at that end of the village amongst other issues. He said that all previous objections were available through the TMBC website. BCllr Davis handed her his card if she needed any further assistance.</p>	<p>BCllr Davis Cllr Bell</p> <p>Clerk</p>

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	<p>The MOP also queried how the Tramway was allowed to go ahead. Cllr Bell explained that planning was approved under normal planning process and all applications are undertaken under the same process.</p> <p>Cllr Marr also noted that the only planning to be approved was for a car park which was done so that the owners could charge.</p> <p>Cllr Parris outlined some history of the site. It was a piece of untitled land used by the houses as drying land. Someone registered it and sold it on, so it has always been a contentious piece of land.</p> <p>The MOP thanked the PC for answering her questions.</p>	
8.	<p>HIGHWAYS AND VERGES: Cllr Bell noted that the Fly tipping by the Army Camp is now been added to. Clerk confirmed that it has been reported to TMBC/Highways. BCllr agreed to arrange for removal</p>	BCllr Davis
9.	<p>Highways Committee Report. Cllr Bell will contact Andrew Kennedy to suggest that KCC need to be more flexible. Thursday's meeting must be cancelled as its too short notice for members to change diaries. Try to get a meeting around the 20th September with the possibility of having it earlier to suit KCC. Cllr Parris requested that it must be in person.</p>	Cllr Bell
10.	<p>STREET LIGHTING: Car Park light has been fixed but is still quite dull. Cllr Parris noted that for security there should be good light. But need to be aware of light shining into people properties. Clerk advised that 3 companies had been approached to quote for upgrading the CCTV and it could be incorporated into that to ensure the light is sufficient for the camera usage. She also advised that the Steelight company had suggested a change to LED lights. Clerk to present at next meeting</p>	Clerk
11.	<p>FOOTPATHS/PROW Cllr Bell advised that MR 9 has been cut back. Cllrs Marr and Gray confirmed that Hall Road also been done</p>	
12.	<p>ALLOTMENTS: Cllr Bell reported that the fence along MR 6 by the pylon has been broken. In fact, it hasn't. It was just that growth has been removed. Cllr Marr noted some of the posts are starting to decay and believes they are the responsibility of Trentport</p> <p>Cllr Gray asked whether there as any update from Trentport regarding planning. Cllr Bell reported that there was nothing at the moment, because they are concentrating on Bell Lane, the Southern Extension and Bushy wood. BCllr Davis noted that Trentport are following pre-application procedures.</p>	
13.	<p>PETERS VILLAGE Cllr Bell and BCllrs Davis and Dalton did a walk around to look at areas not maintained at the request of a resident. He spoke to a contractor cutting verges, employed by Trentport. He said that it was only cut once things have seeded. Area that usually flooded, has been cut down now.</p> <p>Areas of concern were: residents have paid management fees but no work appeared to be done on the Ashby development. BCllr Davis made it clear that there was nothing we could do but keep a watching brief. Cllr Gray explained that people are having to pay Trentport under the covenant and now expected to pay 2 service charges and still not getting a good service.</p> <p>Cllr Parris asked if it's worth writing to Trentport to find out who is responsible for communal areas. Graham Div has been contacted and it's an ongoing issue. TMBC will have an issue as they will be sweeping roads. The only roads adopted Village</p>	

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19.	CORRESPONDENCE:	
19.1	Clerk read email from Bar of Chocolate, thanking the PC for helping out when their generator failed. They also have asked to use electric once a month. It was agreed that no keys be given out and Cllr Savaryn noted that they have to use a generator used elsewhere, so it should only be needed in an emergency. We would revisit this once the cabin has been re-vamped.	
19.2	There has also been an invitation from Citizens Advice offering energy advice/switching sessions. She can give further details if anyone is interested.	
20.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 5 October	
21.	QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS, CHAIRPERSON AND CLERK:	
21.1	Cllr Parris noted that the Perspex in carpark noticeboard has completely discoloured and it's virtually impossible to read any information. Cllr Bell noted that funding had been approved for 3 new boards. Clerk to follow up	Clerk
21.2	Cllr Parris was also concerned that there appears to be no accurate information as the whereabouts of keys for Parish equipment/buildings. Cllr Bell confirmed that he has no keys, Cllr Gray passed keys for the cabin and container to the Clerk. Clerk will produce a Key Register and get all keys back	Clerk
21.3	Cllr Gray reported that the Funday went really well. Cllr Bell thanked all who worked so hard to put the even on.	
	Meeting Closed at 10pm	

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