

COLDWALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD

ON TUESDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2020 7.30PM (*Held Virtual)

* The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 (Regulation 5)

Those Present:	Cllr G Nelson	Chairman
	Cllr O Dudman	
	Cllr C Dennis	
	Cllr Hewer	
	Cllr Bowler	
	Cllr J Evans	
	Cllr A Hewitt	
	D Cllr B Donnelly	District Councillor
	D Cllr P Clark	District Councillor
	Mrs LD Sherlock-Fudge	Clerk
Parishioner	Mr Andy Davies	

Before the meeting there was an opportunity for members of the public present to speak with council. There was no public requests to speak.

ACTION

20 / 09.00 INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES FOR CO-OPTION AS NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Cllr Nelson welcomed Andy Davies to the meeting and thanked him for expressing an interest in becoming a councillor. He emphasized that it was important for councillors in attending meetings, and highlighting the main responsibilities of the Parish Council: managing the Alban Head Playing Field, consulting on planning issues for the SDNPA, listening to residents' concerns and acting upon them, also linking with HDC and WSCC.

Members questioned the candidate as to his ideas for the Parish Council, his community contribution and any continued links to the school.

Mr Davies left the meeting for members to discuss the co-option.

Cllr Nelson highlighted how Mr Davies had been very helpful to local residents during the recent lockdown period, making many deliveries a week of medicine and orders.

Members asked about the other candidate, the clerk advised that they had both been asked to confirm their attendance only Mr Davies had confirmed.

RESOLVED Members agreed unanimously to co-opt Mr Davies.

Mr Davies returned to the meeting. Cllr Nelson welcomed Mr Davies on to the Parish Council. The Clerk to contact Mr Davies with the necessary paperwork for completion.

20 / 10.00 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from D Cllr van der Klugt.

20 / 11.00 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS, AND ANY CHANGES SINCE THEIR LAST DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No new declarations were received for the meeting.

20 / 12.00 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

Minutes for the council meeting held on 16th June 2020 were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

20 / 13.00 FINANCE

20 / 13.01 Account Summary: The Clerk distributed copies of up to date accounts for the Parish Council and Alban Head Playing Fields Committee to members prior to the meeting. These are attached as Appendix A & B respectively.

20 / 13.02 Insurance Quote Renewal: The Clerk advised that the schedule had been no changes to the insured items. The renewal quote is £740.85, this is the second year of the current 3-year LTA.

20 / 13.03 Parish Council Bank Signatories: Following the retirement of Tim Burr, the clerk recommended that Council should appoint a replacement, Cllr Dennis volunteered, members confirmed this nomination. The Clerk would contact the bank for the necessary forms for completing.

20 / 13.04 Payments: Authorised and cheques signed by signatories after the meeting for:

Arun Mowers	Tractor Repair	£99.67
Horsham Assoc. of Local Councils	Annual Subscription	£15.00
Mrs S Hewer	Land Registry Fee	£35.94
Barlavington Estates	Permissive Path Fee	£10.00
Chubb Fire & Security	Fire & Extinguisher Service & Rental	£155.52
Mark Streeter Gardening Services	Church Path Hedge	£250.00
Mrs Sherlock-Fuidge	Travel & Expenses	£68.04
Insurance Premium	Insurance Renewal Premium	£740.85
Mrs Sherlock-Fuidge	Poppy Wreath	£40.00
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE (Jul to Sept)	£83.80
NALC	LCR Magazine Subscription	£17.00
Travis Perkins Trading Co	Line Paint & Bus Shelter Roof Supplies	£120.06

20 / 14.00 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE ON THE PUBLIC SLIPWAY

Cllr Nelson reminded members that the Environment Agency had contacted the Parish Council believing we were the owners of the Public Slipway at Swan Corner.

Cllr Hewer updated members: the background is that on 1st August 1974 the Chief commissioner for Common Land directed West Sussex County Council to register Coldwaltham Parish Council as the registered owner of the slipway. After further investigation a letter has been received from WSCC Legal Department advising that there is no registered common land in that location. This item will be discussed at the next PC meeting.

20 / 15.00 ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL / PARISH CLERK

20 / 15.01 Cllr Nelson noted that the Community Hub had wound up on 31st July, contacts with the Liaison Team remains should it be required again.

On the Alban Head Playing Field, Cllr Nelson noted that various trees require some maintenance and he has been liaising with Cllr Hewer and a local resident on this issue. He reported that there had been no further damage over the summer. The Playing Field has seen some use over the summer with good social distancing. Cllr Evans asked about the vandalised stile- Cllr Nelson confirmed that it hasn't required any further repairs, but will need replacing in the future.

- 20 / 15.02** The Clerk updated the Council regarding recent applications
- SDNP/20/01528/FUL, St James Church of England School, Church Lane, Coldwaltham, Permitted
 - SDNP/20/02030/HOUS, 10 Brookland Way, Coldwaltham, Permitted
 - SDNP/20/02426/TCA, Yew Tree Cottage London Road Hardham, Permitted
 - SDNP/20/01767/HOUS, 23 Arun Vale Coldwaltham, Permitted
 - SDNP/20/00839/HOUS & SDNP/20/00840/LIS, Ivy Cottage, Brook Lane, Coldwaltham, Permitted,

20 / 15.03 The Clerk advised that there was extra work was required on the Village Sign, Mark Weston advised that that there were some areas that required repainting, and the final required re gold leafing total cost to be £160.00. This was agreed to.

20 / 15.04 Cllr Dudman updated members regarding the repairs made to the Silverdale Bus Shelter. The bus shelter sits on a concrete slab, however over the years has shifted and has caused the frame to deteriorate, the PC will need to consider replacing over the next few years. Cllr Nelson thanked Cllr Dudman and his father for the repairs.

20 / 15.05 Cllr Evans noted that The Link is returning to a printed version following the lockdown. So, items are required sooner in the month.

Cllr Evans updated members regarding the recent recruitment drive for new speed watch volunteers. This has netted some new volunteers and potentially to have both a Coldwaltham and a Watersfield group, giving rise to some pressure for a second camera to support this second group, currently investigating other grant sources of funding. The local feedback seems to be about 95% positive. Sundays continues to be the key day for large groups of motorbikes travelling through the village.

Cllr Bowler highlighted the police Project Edward – ‘every day without a road death’, with campaigns on speeding, drink & drug use and the use of mobile phones whilst driving.

Cllr Evans advised that our local MP Andrew Griffiths has taken this issue up quite strongly.

20 / 15.06 Cllr Evans advised that he is no longer a school governor. However, updated members that a new headteacher Miss Gibson is in place for Coldwaltham & Amberley schools, which continues in a partnership. The proposed partnership to include Bury school came to nothing in August, as Bury deciding not to join the partnership. But St James is in a healthy position for numbers this autumn term.

20 / 15.07 Cllr Dennis attended the Sandham Hall AGM last week, which highlighted the improvements recently made regarding the proposed project to install electric vehicle charge points any funding available is being viewed district wide, not looking at small local schemes.

Over the Lockdown period there had been a couple of accidents using the steps during the one-way system for the hall and post office. The committee are going to use a grant to improve the main access, they are collecting quotes from local builders for this work.

Cllr Nelson asked if there had been any response to the Parish Council’s proposal, on behalf of many local residents, that a few members of school staff be allowed to use the Sandham Hall carpark during the school day. Cllr Dennis noted that the SMVH committee were reluctant to consider this as they didn’t want to inhibit parking for their own hirers during the day. This was met with incredulity by the PC. Cllr Evans noted that the car park has plenty of room, especially with the overflow area installed recently, with a little organisation.

Cllr Nelson pointed out this parking issue impacts about a quarter of the local population. He also reminded the PC that the SMVH had put considerable pressure on us to have a PC member of the SMVH Committee: but there seemed to be no wish by them to reciprocate on local issues?

Cllr Nelson is of the personal view that we should now consider ending any links with the SMVH Committee.

20 / 15.08 Cllr Hewer reported the pot holes along Sandy Lane to Love West Sussex, as the lane is used by many people accessing the playing fields.

20 / 15.09 D Cllr Donnelly updated members with HDC items:

- Council operating as normal
- Finances have taken a massive hit with closure of car parks, theatre and leisure centres being empty – so there is a large hole in the budget.
- HDC are currently reviewing their 25 year housing plan – currently under instruction to build about 950 homes a year at the moment expecting to be lifted this figure to 1100 a year.
- A recent White Paper from Central Government puts the number of new houses required even higher 1700 a year. Covering West Crawley 5K to 30K over 30 years. Southwater, Billingshurst another big one is at Mayfield near Henfield 10K to 15K houses there, but the one that would affect the parish most would be Adversane about 4.5K homes, with an increase to 1700 a year had hoped to avoid a development at Adversane. These developments have not been discussed yet are only the developer led figures.
- Parham PC highlighted that the proposed changes by Pulborough PC to the traffic in Lower Street by closing the north side of the street with traffic lights would increase traffic using their roads. D Cllr Clarke noted that these changes were as part of the Get Back to the High Street initiative, but Pulborough PC still to discuss the item this week at their meeting.

20 / 15.10 D Cllr Clark updated members with further HDC items and a Pulborough Parish item:

- Suggested applying for a grant for 106 moneys for replacement bus shelters – Clerk noted that there are no more Section 106 fund currently.
- Car park revenues have taken a hit over the lockdown period. However, commuter traffic has about returned to pre-COVID levels but the shoppers, although returning not yet at the same levels and shoppers are not staying as long as previously.
- HDC and WSCC are looking for a partner for an Easy Charger Scheme to install electric car charging points in the county, but these are more likely to be where the scheme will make the most money or where users can charge overnight, less likely in rural villages.
- Pulborough Partnership are investigating options for the Public Slipway at Swan Corner regarding a water sport hub.

20 / 15.11 Cllr Evans highlighted the government's pronouncement about the latest restrictions on people's movements. Last night's news, there was a minister talking about encouraging people to snitch on their neighbours, proposing to form some word for the Link to heed the advice regards the gatherings of no more than six but nothing else.

20 / 15.12 Items collected from council for inclusion in the Parish Link for July:

- Police highlighting recent thefts from sheds
- Speeding news.
- Latest government restrictions of gatherings of six.

20 / 16.00 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Next meeting of Council: is on Tuesday 13th October 2020 at 7.30pm. The Clerk advised that the date on the agenda was incorrect.

Meeting Closed at 8.35 pm.

Chairman:..... **Date:**.....

Distributed to those present, also Cllr Lane, D Cllr van der Klugt and C Cllr Arculus.