

# COLDWALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 7.30PM SANDHAM HALL, LONDON ROAD, COLDWALTHAM

<b>Those Present:</b>	<b>Cllr G Nelson</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>Cllr J Evans</b>	<b>Vice-Chairman</b>
	<b>Cllr A Davies</b>	
	<b>Cllr O Dudman</b>	
	<b>Cllr K Coughtrey</b>	
	<b>Cllr A Lane</b>	
	<b>Cllr C Dennis</b>	
	<b>C Cllr C Kenyon</b>	<b>County Councillor</b>
	<b>D Cllr P Clarke</b>	<b>District Councillor</b>
	<b>D Cllr I Ellis Brown</b>	<b>District Councillor</b>
	<b>Mrs LD Sherlock-Fuidge</b>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>Parishioners:</b>	<b>Iain Dreger</b>	<b>Louise Brace</b>
	<b>Ken Rowsell</b>	<b>Diana Rowsell</b>

Cllr Nelson welcomed the public to the meeting.

Louise Brace spoke regarding the Parish Priorities request distributed to residents: she saw the priorities as: sustainable transport to include better access to Pulborough train station, with improved cycling routes, to acknowledge the cost-of-living difficulties felt by residents, increased tree planting especially in communal areas. Cllr Nelson noted that the PC would agree with most of these areas. He shared a copy of the Village Plan with her. Iain Dreger agreed with the items raised, and also emphasized the levels of traffic on the A29, advocated taming the A29.

**Request for Funding for the continued publication of the Link** - Ken Rowsell advised that in the future, the Link will no longer be supported by the Arun Churches PCC, the current income does not cover the £7645 required to maintain the current 10 editions, it would require another 5 pages of advertising.

This was a complete surprise to the Parish Council. The chairman advised that the PC had not been informed about this or received any information on the planning for any transfer of The Link.

The Link has recently received some support from Bury PC. Ken asked Coldwaltham PC for funding of £250 per annum. Ken is keen to distribute to all addresses. In the past, The Link only covered the cost of paper as the printing was done on church printers. They have also considered an electronic format; however, this was tried in during the COVID period, but it wasn't welcomed by readers. The Arun Churches PCC have agreed to fund the next two issues. Cllr Nelson asked how it was currently distributed, - Ken advised by a band of volunteers organised by Pauline Streeter.

This will be discussed at future meetings.

**23 / 20.00**      **TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from D Cllr Campbell.

**23 / 21.00**      **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS, AND ANY CHANGES SINCE THEIR LAST DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No new declarations were received.

**23 / 22.00**      **TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES**

Minutes for the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and the planning meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

**23 / 23.00**      **2022/23 YEAR END ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk confirmed that, Moore had completed the external audit of last years' accounts and advised that their comment noted that the clerk had failed to provide an explanation for the difference between the year-end totals with the original papers, the clerk had forwarded these. This report has been added to the reports for the 2022-23 Year End Accounts on the website and have been posted on the noticeboards for the last month.

**23 / 24.00**      **FINANCE**

**23 / 24.01**      **Account Summary:** The Clerk distributed the accounts for Parish Council and Alban Head Playing Fields Committee to members prior to the meeting. These are attached as Appendix A & B respectively.

Cllr Nelson announced that the End of Summer Fayre at the Alban Head raised £4100, The fayre had been very well attended, the feedback by everyone was tremendous. These funds would be used for future investment at the field.

**23 / 24.02**      **Insurance Premium Renewal:** The Clerk advised the renewal quote is £2228.78, this is the second year of the current 3-year LTA which runs to 30/09/2025.

**23 / 24.03**      **Purchase of Plaque:** two residents have approached the Parish Council and the Sandham Hall for a contribution towards the cost of a plaque for Pauline Streeter to recognise her contribution to the community, Members agreed in principle, the clerk asked for an invoice.

**23 / 24.04**      **Payments:** payments were authorised for the cheques and signed by signatories for:

Mark Streeter	Hedge Cutting	£250.00
Moore	External Audie fee	£252.00
HM Revenue &n Customs	PAYE (Apr to Jun)	£103.80
Business Services at CAS Ltd	Insurance Renewal	£2226.12
Mrs LD Sherlock-Fuidge	Travel, salary, Expenses	£139.00
Sandham Memorial Village Hall	Meeting Fees (Jul)	£10.00
Horsham Assoc of Local Councils	Annual Subscription	£20.00
Travis Perkins Trading Company	Line Marking Paint	£82.48
Coldwaltham Parish Church	Local Gov Act 1972 s215 (6)	£300.00
Hardham Parish Church	Local Gov Act 1972 s215 (6)	£200.00
Royal British Legion	Wreath and Donation	£40.00

**23 / 25.00**      **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Nelson updated members regarding the following issues:

- There is a lot of unhappiness regarding the post office, Andrew Griffiths MP has also written to the head of the PO requesting the restoration of this vital rural service.
- Is there any post office notice of statutory period to close?
- Fayre was very busy and well attended.
- Bailiffs – still liaising with Cllr Dudman regarding this.

**22 / 26.00**      **TRANSPORT ISSUES IN THE VILLAGE UPDATE**

Cllr Evans updated members regarding the A29: On the 16th of August, he had met with the officer from WSCC Highways, who continues to maintain that the data does not support any further action on speed through the village – Coldwaltham, it appears is the most signposted village giving warning to various dangers along its stretch of the A29, but this is as far as WSCC will go. Again, it appears that there needs to be a fatal or near fatal accident to change this data.

WSCC Highways would support us (at our cost) to bring into the village speed indicators systems, however, WSCC Highways have indicated their preferred systems and where they could be sited. Cllr Evans advised that this is where the PC is waiting on their bid for funding from SDNP. He has also contacted Bury PC and await their response. The main issue continues to be vehicles overtaking on double white lines, on the bends and hills, and speeding.

**A29 - Church Hill** – members received an update from C Cllr Kenyon, there is no change to the situation. The highways authority has a duty to keep the road open but have no control over the type of vehicles which use it. Separately, a Traffic Regulation Order is the pipeline for reducing the speed on the A283 between Pulborough and Storrington, but this would only be successful if it is policed consistently and catch the speeders at it.

Cllr Nelson reminded C Cllr Kenyon, that at the meetings held in Pulborough back in February/March, WSCC Highways had agreed to a review of the A29 after the situation on Church Hill had been resolved, the Deputy Head of Transport at WSCC promised this. Cllr Nelson wanted to remind WSCC of their promise, least it be forgotten.

**22 / 27.00**

## **PLANNING UPDATE**

The Clerk updated Council regarding recent applications decisions:

- SDNP/22/01192/HOUS, The Old Forge, Old London Road, Coldwaltham, Permitted.
- SDNP/23/00111/FUL, Hardham Water Treatment Works, London Road, Hardham, Permitted
- SDNP/23/01676/HOUS, 29 Arun Vale Coldwaltham, Permitted
- SDNP/23/00304/HOUS & SDNP/23/00305/LIS, 2 Thatched Cottages, Kings Lane, Coldwaltham, Permitted
- SDNP/23/01773/FUL, Coldwaltham House Waltham Park Road, Coldwaltham, Permitted
- SDNP/21/00625/TCA, The Cottage Sandy Lane Watersfield, Permitted
- SDNP/23/00848/LDP, Ingrams Barn, London Road, Hardham, Withdrawn,
- SDNP/22/03705/HOUS, The Peppers, 20 Arunvale Coldwaltham, Permitted
- SDNP/22/03971/HOUS, 1 Silverdale, Coldwaltham, Permitted
- SDNP/23/02618/HOUS, Hoeland Cottage, London Road, Watersfield, Permitted

Cllr Dennis updated members regarding new applications:

- Winter Farm, - proposed addition of an orangery.
- Beacon House – proposed erection of an air source heating.
- The Warren, Brockenhurst Farm – Amended plans with a new position for the proposed annex garden room.

Cllr Nelson noted that agricultural land along Kings Lane has been sold off as separate plots of land.

**23 / 18.00**

## **ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL / PARISH CLERK**

**23 / 18.01**

**Winter Resilience Plan** – The Clerk distributed a basic resilience plan for the Parish, which would be forwarded to WSCC, however she still needed information from Neil Dallyn, to enable him to be paid by WSCC should his services be required over the winter.

**23 / 18.02**

**Parish Preference Responses;** Cllr Evans advised that he had compiled a summary of the ideas received from residents, the Parish Council needs to respond to SDNP by October 23rd. Emphasizing sustainability but highlighting the loss of infrastructure like the Post Office. Cllr Evans agreed to draft a response for approval from members prior to the deadline.

**23 / 18.03**

The Coldwaltham Sign along Brook Lane has gone missing – Clerk to raise with the highways.

**23 / 18.04**

Cllr Dudman also highlighted that the vegetation along Brook Lane continues to encroach along the road.

**23 / 18.06**

C Cllr Kenyon has ordered a wreath on behalf of WSCC for laying at the remembrance service at St Giles, Coldwaltham

Still chasing about the state of the footpaths along the length of the A29

**23 / 18.07**

D Cllr Clarke updated members regarding HDC items –

- Pulborough PC had a transport plan which wasn't maintained during COVID, this is being resurrected and are meeting later this week to discuss.
- Offer to businesses in the village for grants up to £20K for renewable energies, recently a grant was awarded for the installation of solar panels.
- Planning Inspectorate open comments on the plans for the expansion at Gatwick Airport.

D Cllr Ellis Brown updated members from Pulborough PC:  
• recently met with the owners of the Church Hill land.

**23 / 18.07**

Cllr Coughtrey noted that she had discussed with Ken Rowsell about the Link the potential to look at the production of the Link as a new model, with new distribution and advertising. She will be sharing her comments with the chairman.

**23 / 19.00**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

**Next meeting of Council** is on Tuesday 14th November 2023, at 7.30pm, in the Sandham Hall.

A provisional 2024 meeting schedule was distributed to councillors, Cllr Evans requested that the September meeting be moved to the last Tuesday (24<sup>th</sup> September). The Clerk will check availability for the Sandham Hall.

**Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.**

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

Distributed to those present and D Cllr Campbell.

**DRAFT MINUTES - Not confirmed until the next council meeting**