ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

[www.alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)

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20th October 2017

**Minutes of a meeting of Alfriston Parish Council (APC)**

**held in Alfriston War Memorial Hall on Monday 23rd October 2017**

**Present:**

Cllr. J. Watkins – Vice Chair Cllr. D. Bell

Cllr. K. Halliday Cllr. R. Savage

Cllr. N. White

Cllr. V. Cooper

**In attendance:**

Victoria Rutt - Parish Clerk

Cllr Stephen Shing – ESCC

Approximately 24 members of the public

# 95. Chairman’s Welcome

Cllr Watkins (previously known as Cllr Dumelow) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Public Questions**
2. Rod Young wanted to ask a question which he did not expect an answer today but wanted his points noted. He went on to explain that he has received a copy of the byelaws and that Cllr Beechey stated at the last meeting that ‘this is not a new rule, the byelaws have been in place for many years and are now being enforced’. Rod feels that the byelaws do not prohibit vehicles from the Tye. He explained that after speaking to a number of people, particularly those involved in the project of refurbishing the hall, there was an ’agreement’ set up when they had to request the key for the gate and then display a permit in their car if using the hall. He now feels that this is a recent decision to ban all parking on the Tye. His question is ‘*Could the Council please explain why they are attempting to enforce a ban which is at odds with the byelaws, and at odds with the policy which has been deliberately adopted ever since the WMH was opened’*.
3. George Gulland wanted to reiterate Rod’s comments and requested that the issue be looked at for the long term and a close/safe parking solution found for users of the hall.
4. Adrian Butcher, chair of AWMH committee wanted to echo Rod’s comments and stated that he does not want to go down the legal challenge but the byelaws are not correct.

Minutes amended on 20.11.17 – Adrian Butcher did not state the byelaws are not correct, the byelaws are the byelaws. Adrian stated that the Council’s interpretation of them are incorrect.

1. Judy Byrne asked why had access to the Tye changed, is it to do with keeping the beautiful scenery clear of cars?
2. Diana Monteath-Wilson asked why has the car park attendant been told that he can’t ticket cars in Tye Road anymore when that is not correct? The Clerk updated that as Tye Road is a private road he can’t use his tickets for this road, Diana disagreed and stated she used to and believes it has not changed. Clerk will look into this further and report back at the next meeting. Action 1.

*Cllr Watkins stated that all questions/comments about the Tye parking issue have been noted and will be discussed under agenda item 103.*

1. **Report from Maria Caulfield MP**

No attendance or report.

1. **Report from East Sussex County Councillor Stephen Shing**

Cllr Shing updated that the consultation for the closure of the libraries is coming soon and that all residents need to voice the effect the closure of the mobile library would have on them. A resident asked Cllr Shing if he knew whether the white lines were being re painted as you go out of the village. Cllr Shing confirmed they should be and it was agreed it would be raised at the Strengthening Local Relationship [SLR] meeting on Friday.

1. **Report from Wealden District Councillor Phillip Ede**

No attendance or report.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Nick Beechey.

1. **Minutes**

Cllr. Savage proposed and Cllr. Cooper seconded a motion that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2017 were a true and accurate record. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cllr. Watkins duly signed the minutes

1. **Finance**

Cllr. White proposed and Cllr. Savage seconded a motion to approve the Statement of Finances. **MOTION CARRIED**

Cllr. Cooper approved and signed Invoices for Payment

1. **To consider vehicular access to the Tye for the disabled**

Cllr White stated that a number of letters, emails and comments have been raised and all the options need to be looked into and carefully considered so it was proposed that a working/ advisory group would be set up to discuss in full and report back at the next meeting with proposals for APC to consider and agree. It was agreed that the Clerk will send out a date for this and all Councillors to be invited and Adrian Butcher on behalf of the AWMH committee, Jane Alvey on behalf of the WI, Rod Young on behalf of the Historical Society and Diana Monteath-Wilson on behalf of the Church. Clerk to arrange this ASAP. Action 2. The clerk asked all those who had sent letters in, were they content to not have them read out, all Councillors have seen the content, but to take them to the working group so all points can be considered. This was agreed by all.

1. **To agree new Tye trustees**

The Clerk updated that the trustee list needed updating as two of the current trustees are not councillors. It was discussed and agreed that Sheila Charlton and Diana Monteath-Wilson would be removed, and in place would be Cllr Bell, proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Halliday. Cllr Savage proposed Cllr White which was seconded by Cllr Bell. The three new trustees for the Tye are Cllr’s Bell, Savage and White. Clerk to update this. Action 3.

1. **To discuss WDC proposed new parking charges in the Willows car park**

Clerk updated that WDC have proposed inserting a new charge for the Willows car park which will be £2.00 for 2 hours. This was agreed by all Councillors, proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Cooper. Cllr Savage asked whether the all-day charge could be increased? Clerk to report back that APC are happy to go ahead with the new charge as long as costing of signs will be down to WDC and also raise the possible increase to the all-day tariff. Action 4.

1. **To consider APC’s response to the South Downs local plan consultation**

Clerk updated that the deadline for this consultation is the 21st November. It was agreed that a carefully considered response from APC would be best, Cllr’s Bell, Savage and Watkins are going to meet to draft something to circulate to Councillors. Action 5.

1. **To consider granting a wayleave agreement for Openreach to install PVC duct and cable along the Tye to the Clergy House**

Clerk updated Councillors that a request has come in to install PVC duct and cable from the start of Tye Road, along outside the Wingrove and up the track to the Clergy House. It was discussed what machine they would use as concern was raised from Cllr Savage that it will effect the tree roots up the track. Clerk to seek advice from tree warden and report back to Councillors. Action 6.

1. **Report on Highways & Twittens – Cllr. Halliday**

108.1 Replacement bins for Market Square

The Clerk updated that this is work in progress.

108.2 ESCC High St traffic proposal update

Cllr Halliday reported that the traffic data from the recent survey has been received from ESCC and Clerk will email this to subscribers for their information. Action 7. Cllr Halliday confirmed that the letter was sent to Cllr Bennett asking him to recuse himself, no reply has been received as yet.

108.3 Market Cross update

The Clerk updated that this is work in progress.

1. **Report on Allotments – Cllr. Cooper**

Cllr Cooper reported that nothing new to update, however there are still vacant plots available if anyone is interested.

1. **Report on Rights of Way and Countryside – Cllr. Watkins**

Cllr Watkins reported that there is nothing to update.

1. **Report on Car Parks and Public Transport – Cllr. Savage**

111.1 Replacement bins in Willows car park

The Clerk updated that WDC have now come back and stated that it is not their responsibility to fix the wooden bin enclosures, it is down to APC. Clerk has approached the handyman and a quote is due in any day for Councillors to consider.

111.2 Bus Shelter

Cllr Savage have sought clarity around the funding of the bus shelter. AEG have designed and will build the shelter but the cost of the materials will be down to APC. It was confirmed that APC do not have the funds for this in this financial year so will need to be deferred for the following year to be considered. It was suggested that donations are always welcome, the bus shelter will cost around £600.

1. **Report on Strategic Planning – Cllr. Watkins**

Cllr Watkins updated that she is attending the 2017 Wealden Parish Conference in December so will report back at the meeting in January 2018.

1. **Report on Tye and Recreation Ground – Cllr. White**

113.1 Playground refurbishment – Cllr. Cooper

Cllr Cooper updated that the Tesco voting is open until the end of October. Clerk reported that she has been to two of the stores and it is very close so please go and vote.

113.2 Playground further funding avenues – Cllr. White

Cllr White confirmed that this is progressing and will update at the next meeting.

113.3 Repainting and signwriting the mine

The Clerk updated that this is on her to do list and will hopefully have an update at the next meeting. The first task is to see if can get the donation box fixed, Clerk is going to speak with Cllr Bell as he has knowledge of it. Action 8.

113.4 Medawar Grove update – Cllr. White

Cllr White confirmed that this is progressing and will update at the next meeting.

1. **Report from Planning Committee - Cllr Bell**

114.1 Applications to be considered by APC planning committee at this meeting

**SDNP/17/03451/FUL**

Timbers, Sloe Lane, Alfriston, BN26 5UU

Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new replacement dwelling.

*APC planning committee support this application. Clerk to submit comments to SDNPA this evening.*

114.2 Applications considered by APC Planning Committee since last meeting

114.3 Applications notified or awaiting decision from SDNPA

**SDNP/17/02253/HOUS and SDNP/17/02254/LIS**

Burnt House Cottage, Whiteway, Alfriston, BN26 5TS

Refurbishment and extension of existing cottage including demolition of existing extension and introduction of enhanced landscaping.

*Cllr Bell confirmed that permission has been granted to Burnt House Cottage.*

1. **Reports from Outside Bodies**

115.1 Lorry Watch – no report received.

115.2 Heartstart – Cllr Watkins updated that they still only have 3 volunteers.

115.3 Alfriston Emergency Group – David Lewis confirmed that the bus shelter can have a bin added to it if required so that is an option. This will now be deferred until next year unless any donations come in. He updated that East Sussex Fire Brigade have given AEG some great hoses which will really help with clearing larger amounts of water. David also asked that if anyone sees any issues i.e. blocked drains, please report this to AEG as soon as possible on 01323 871136.

115.4 Flood Forum – no report received.

115.5 Neighbourhood Watch – no report received.

115.6 Twinning Committee – no report received.

115.7 Alfriston and Cuckmere Connect – Cllr White updated that the brochure is coming out soon for the village Christmas ‘event’ so the secrecy will be lifted and the details revealed!

115.8 Cuckmere Buses – no report received.

115.9 St Andrews – Diana Monteath-Wilson confirmed that services are continuing as normal, and it is believed that an advert is to be going in by November so hopefully some news in January for an appointee. They do have a temporary full-time priest in place at the moment.

1. **Correspondence to The Clerk**

* Clerk updated that since the last meeting, permission has been granted via email to Mrs Gulland to reserve a space for a speaker attending the hall on the 5th October and for the A board to be put out on Sunday 15th October for the Swing Music Concert.
* Clerk asked if anyone had any knowledge of the road closure yesterday, Sunday 15th October, from Alfriston to Seaford. This was not an approved ESH closure. Residents and Councillors believe it was something to do with tree cutting but no one was around working on the Sunday and the signs did not look official. Clerk will raise this at the SLR meeting on Friday as a lot of complaints received and it affected the businesses. Action 9.
* Letter received from June Goodfield and neighbours about the ongoing issue of dog fouling on the corner of River Lane and High Street. She has her suspicions and would like to know if APC would write to them officially. Clerk agreed to provide June with a poster to put in her window but APC can’t send letters without evidence.
* The Cricket Club have a quiz night in the AWMH on Saturday 21st October and are asking for reserved bays. This was discussed in full and until the November meeting, any request will be considered on case by case basis. This request was agreed for one space to be reserved. Clerk raised issues on the logistics on putting out the bollards, it was agreed that the hall should be responsible so Clerk to contact AWMH committee.
* Permission was granted to Alfriston Cuckmere Connect to use the A board on the weekends in November to promote the Christmas weekend.
* Jane Alvey has requested permission for the catering van who is doing the Horticultural Society dinner on November 7th to park on the Tye between 18.00 – 22.00. It was discussed was there a reason as to why it needs to remain on the Tye and could it not be parked on Tye Road. Clerk to email Jane to ask the question and a reserved space on Tye Road to be considered.
* Permission was granted for a space to be reserved in the Willows coach park on the afternoon of 2nd December for the Salvation Army Band. Cllr White to put out the bollard for this.
* Permission was granted to The Rude Mechanical Theatre to book the Tye for an outdoor show on Wednesday 1st August 2018.
* Permission was granted for the Horticultural Society to erect a gazebo on the allotments on the 5th May 2018 for a plant swap.
* Question raised from Mark Wadlow about the recreation ground, and if there were any future thoughts on installing a gate to stop travellers accessing this green. This was discussed and as there are so many places around the ground that they could access it will not be something that will be looked into at the moment.
* Permission granted to the Historical Society to use the A board on the 19th October and 23rd November 2017.

1. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 19:15 on Monday 20th November 2017 in Alfriston War Memorial Hall. The meeting will be suspended after the Chairman’s welcome to allow Public Questions and Reports from County and District Councillors.

1. **Public Questions**
2. Diana Monteath-Wilson raised issues with comments from Cllr Bell throughout the meeting, she stated that at the last meeting when Sherry Ward reserved parking was discussed it was going to be a future agreement so people can send requests to APC. The Clerk read the minutes out from previous meeting which stated that the reserved space was a compromise for Sherry, not a new agreement.
3. David Lewis strongly supported that the Clerk speak to ESH about the road closure the previous day as it was not an official road closure. David also wanted it noted that although it is APC’s responsibility, AEG are happy to help with putting out the bollards for reserved spaces.
4. Adrian Butcher wanted it noted that the AWMH are not responsible for putting the bollards out. A conversation was held about them getting the benefit of a booking and previously reporting on their website that parking was available. It was agreed that the working group would meet to discuss the way forward and the bollard for the cricket club would be done by AEG/APC.
5. Hugh Chapman raised his concerns about the SDNPA planning consultation as he lives on the corner of King Rise and Broadway. Mr Chapman and his neighbours have concerns about the style of housing, parking, walkers accessing the South Downs Way and cyclists to name a few. Clerk stated that all residents who wish to send comments in, please do and she will collate for the Councillors who are drafting the response.
6. Pat Straker reported that she is not able to go to the Remembrance Service Parade this year but she has got a wreath at home that APC are welcome to use. Cllr Watkins will look into this further, thank you to Pat from APC.

Signed Nicholas Beechey

20th November 2017