

WARTLING PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF

6th November 2024

This meeting was held at the Reid Hall in Boreham Street.

34 Present

Councillors K Stevens (Chairman), W Reid, M Shine and C Paterson.

County Councillor B Bowdler, District Councillor M Fairweather, A Stevens (Clerk) and fourteen members of the public were also in attendance.

35 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

36 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 9th July 2024

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 9th July 2024 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Chairman.

37 Clerk's Report on Matters' Arising

Any matters arising were covered elsewhere on the agenda.

38 Disclosures of Interests

There were no declarations of interests or changes to the Register of Interests.

The meeting was then suspended.

39 Reports from the County Councillor on matters from the County Council affecting this Parish.

County Councillor Bowdler sent a written report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

He also said the County Council has received funding which will allow the Flexibus to continue for another year. It is having to make drastic savings elsewhere because of the current financial situation. The £13m extra funding received recently will be largely taken up with the changes to the living wage and increase in employer's NI contributions. The funding set aside by the Government to help with the latter will not be available for Parish and Town Councils.

In reply to a question from a member of the public he also confirmed that the County Council is considering implementing a booking system for those who use Household Waste Recycling Sites. Residents are being encouraged to make their views known about the change via a consultation which can be found here:

<https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/booking-system-household-waste-recycling-sites/>

40 Report from the District Councillors on matters from the District Council affecting this Parish.

District Councillor Fairweather said the District Council is reviewing the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) system. Councillors are also discussing new projects they want to take forward.

He also agreed to try and find out if a recent agricultural determination submitted to the District Council should be a full planning application.

41 Questions from Members of the Public

Member of the public asked:

- i. how long the applicants of Wartling Wood have to appeal against their planning decision. The Parish Council understands that an Appeal has been submitted.
- ii. The Chair to clarify an item on the agenda which he did.
- iii. For the pavement to be cut back, repaired and the kerb replaced as necessary between Paddock House and Wartling Road on the north side.
- iv. The Parish Council to report that when the paths were widened they stopped short and were supposed to go as far as Tilley Lane.

The meeting was then re-opened.

42 Planning Applications

The following planning application was commented on at this meeting:

WD/2024/2354/F, Oak Lake Farm, Boreham Lane, Wartling, BN27 1RS - Construction of swimming pool with changing and plant room building, erection of carport and associated landscaping – Councillors asked that measures will be put in place to prevent chemicals used when cleaning the pool from seeping onto the Pevensey levels and said that if they are then they have no objections to this Application.

43 Reports

a) Planning

It was noted that planning comments submitted by Wartling Parish Council have broadly been supported by Wealden District Council, and that planning application WD/2024/1916/FR has been Refused.

b) Environment

There has been one minor incident of flytipping since the last meeting which Councillor Shine has subsequently reported to the District Council.

c) Footpaths

Despite it being a difficult summer and autumn weather wise there was nothing new to report.

d) Highways

There have been two accidents in Boreham Street recently, one where a van took out street furniture which was quickly replaced, the other involved a car which has now been removed.

Work has also been carried out to the drainage at Boreham Street and it was agreed that more needs to be done.

Councillor Paterson also said there is water flowing down the Wartling Road which he will report via FixMyStreet.com

e) Police

There was nothing new to report from the Police.

f) Communication

There was also nothing new to report.

h) Speedwatch

Fifteen Speedwatch sessions have been carried out since the last meeting, eleven offenders were recorded in one session. All are written to or receive a visit from the police.

In September, 47,329 motorists were reported nationally for speeding. There was a 94.81% compliance rate ie; they did not re-offend within the year. 336 sessions were carried out by 750 volunteers.

i) Trees

There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

44 Reports from outside meetings and courses attended

Councillors Stevens and Shine attended the East Sussex Association of Local Councils AGM on the 4th November which was well attended. Most parishes there had an issue with speeding and it was suggested that they need to work together to overcome it.

45 Finance Report

Councillors resolved;

- To approve the payments list to the 6th November 2024. The payments were as follows;

		<u>£</u>
101062	ESCC - Pensions	228.84
101063	A Stevens – Salary – July	410.96
101064	A Stevens – Salary - August	410.96
101065	HMRC - PAYE	121.80
101066	ESCC – Pensions	238.84
101067	HMRC – PAYE	6.03
101068	A Stevens – Salary – September	410.76
101069	A Stevens – Salary – October	410.96
101070	ESCC - Pension	238.84
101071	WDALC – Subscription	15.26
101072	HMRC – PAYE	284.40
101073	Defibrillator Warehouse – Batteries and Pads	686.80

- To approve the accounts to 27th September 2024.
- To continue with the existing verge cutting arrangements for 2025 (Option 2). Councillors had one question in that the maps don't go down as far as Peckfield Cottage in Boreham Street so the grass doesn't get cut there. The Clerk will find out why not.
- The precept for 2025-2026 will be £9500. This helps the Parish Council precept keep pace with inflation, and also include some provision for defibrillator spares.

46 Highways

- i. Councillors considered the results of the black cat monitoring device reports and it was agreed they prove there is an issue with speeding in the parish. The Clerk will now set up a meeting with the Road Safety Team at ESCC to work out what measures can be taken and the reports will be used as evidence.

- ii. It was RESOLVED to fit a bench outside the Village Hall where the Memorial Bench was and that it will be a three seater Wooden Tommy Memorial Bench. The £700 cost will be funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- iii. The Parish Council will keep pushing to improve visibility at the Wartling Road/Boreham Street and will be taking the matter up with the Road Safety Team at Highways.
- iv. The Parish Council will also continue to push Satellite Navigation companies to remove unlisted lanes from their systems.
- v. The County Council has mislaid the Parish Council's original application despite having given the Parish Council an order reference. The Clerk has submitted a new order which she has been assured will be treated as a priority. Both applications are for a grit bin at the junction of Wood Lane and The Strait.

47 Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Shine asked the Parish Council to consider commemorating Remembrance Sunday in future by providing either 'Tommys' for the side of the road or poppies which could be fitted to the street furniture. The Clerk will bring prices for each to the next meeting.

He also asked the Parish Council to review its Emergency Plan. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

48 Dates of future meetings

The following meeting dates are; 7th January 2025, 4th March 2025, 7th May 2025, 1st July 2025, 2nd September 2025 and the 4th November 2025.

This meeting ended at 8.25pm

Members' Update – East Sussex County Council – October 2024 Cllr Bob Bowdler - Wealden East Division - *"The Heart of Wealden"*

(Wealden East Division:

Heathfield, Horam, Hooe, Herstmonceux, Ninfield, Warbleton & Wartling parishes)
(and temporarily Pevensey Parish Council)

LOCAL ISSUES:

Update: Punnetts Town Road works (water): Now Progressing towards Three Cups Corner, but still two sets of lights remain along Battle Road. No diversions currently in place, as far as I am aware, but another 12 months of this to go!

Heathfield Youth Centre: Works on the new building are progressing at pace, with section of the prefabricated construction having arrived late October.

Children in Care:

As the Lead Member for Children & Families in the County, I make no apology for including the link below, which is our latest film to promote the importance of Fostering with our own East Sussex Fostering Service. But be warned, it's emotional (more information below):

eastsussex.gov.uk/EverythingFosteringFilm

Plea from the Heathfield Branch of the Royal British Legion:

Recently the branch was near to closing due to the lack of support, by both veterans and lay supporters of the RBL. The branch covers Heathfield, Warbleton and Horam Parishes and meets at Heathfield Ruby Club. The contact is Graham Baldwin (Chairman) at:

safegraham@googlemail.com

COUNTY REPORT:

County Wide Public Consultation:

VIEWS are being sought on proposals to introduce a booking system at household waste recycling sites across the county. The move could reduce queuing at sites, help save East Sussex County Council as much £50,000 a year and help ensure only residents' waste is being disposed. The proposals are part of the authority's work to identify areas where savings can be made to address an expected £55 million funding gap next year.

The proposal would see the introduction of a booking portal on which residents would be able to book a time to visit one of the county's 10 household waste recycling sites. Residents will also be able to book via telephone. As well as helping the county council make much-needed savings, the new system would reduce queuing at busier sites, help stop trade waste being taken to sites and stop people from outside the county using the facilities to which they do not contribute.

The consultation opened on Monday, October 28 and will run for eight weeks, closing on Sunday, December 22. Your views will be taken into account when council makes a decision in February 2025:

<https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/booking-system-household-waste-recycling-sites/>

Adult Social Care

ESCC approve plans for the Household Support Fund

Plans for the allocation of funds from the Household Support Fund (HSF) were agreed by the council this month. The Household Support Fund, intended to support those who are struggling with bills and essential costs, was extended last month by central government. East Sussex

County Council has been allocated just under £3.9 million over the next six months to support eligible residents.

This grant will see continued allocation to a range of needs including food banks and vouchers, providing support to vulnerable families and children, and helping pensioners and disabled people who are at risk of food and fuel poverty. Over recent years the cost-of-living pressures have grown and are now affecting more people and families. The allocation of funds considers the increased financial pressures on all households and partners over the winter period. Consultations with delivery partners will help to ensure the best use of the funds.

Funds will be distributed through a variety of partners, including District and Borough Councils and the voluntary sector, who have helped to administer previous funds. Engaging with the same partners will provide continuity and aid with the effective administration of the fund.

More information regarding the Household Support Fund can be found [here](#).

Children's Services

More students to take steps to success

Pupils from across East Sussex have been selected to join a programme which supports young people as they move from school into work, training and further education.

Between September 2024 and August 2026, the Steps to Success programme will work with 315 current year 10 students to develop personal and career development goals to help them with finding opportunities at the end of year 11.

The county council has been awarded over £480,000 for the scheme, which is phase two of a national research programme into supporting young people with their post-16 options. After phase one nine out of ten participating students in East Sussex progressed to sustained post-16 education, employment or training.

From September, the Phase Two project will work with groups of students who are eligible for free school meals and are either persistently absent from school, or have a special educational need or disability (SEND). Students will receive 1:1 coaching to help develop personal and career development goals.

More information regarding the scheme can be found [here](#).

New film pays tribute to foster carers

The new film released this month pays tribute to the unsung heroes of the foster care system.

"Everything" highlights the difference one individual can make to the lives of many through fostering. The fictional story played out in the film centres on foster carer Mike and his family. Mike's wife organises a surprise 60th birthday party for him and invites two of the children they looked after, who are now adults.

The film has been produced by a partnership of councils and children's trusts across the country to promote local authority fostering. The project is the largest public sector fostering film collaboration to date, with over 100 participants including East Sussex County Council.

Help and advice is available to county council foster carers, day or night and every foster carer has a dedicated social worker who is locally based in East Sussex. In addition, a 24-hour telephone helpline is available, seven days a week.

Communities, Economy and Transport

Apprentices invited to celebrate success

Apprentices from across East Sussex are invited to celebrate their achievements at this year's graduation ceremony. The evening event will acknowledge the commitment and hard work of local apprentices of all ages and levels, across all sectors.

The East Sussex Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony will take place at the Winter Garden's Floral Hall in Eastbourne on, 21 November from 6.00pm to 8.00pm.

Apprentices who have, or will have, achieved their apprenticeship between 1 November 2023 and 1 November 2024, and live or work in the local authority area of East Sussex, are eligible to graduate and are invited to this year's event.

The Apprenticeship Graduation Awards acknowledge the contribution of those involved in making apprenticeships a success in East Sussex and will be presented at the ceremony. Former apprentices, businesses that employ apprentices, and training providers who deliver apprenticeships are also invited to join the 2024 graduates and celebrate with them. *More information regarding the event and how to register can be found [here](#).*

For your information: **Meetings I attended in October as your County Councillor:**

ESCC 3 x Weekly DCS/ADCS Briefings
Warbleton Parish Council SLR
LM for Education and SEND
Visit to Heathfield Army Cadet Force
ESCC Full Council
AFC (South East) Employment Impact Conference
GATCOM Steering Group - Gatwick
ESCC 'Be a Councillor' Panel - Lewes
WSCC Armed Forces Covenant Conference – Horsham
South East Virtual REEG Meeting (Veteran Employment)
Virtual School Governors – Bedes School
ESCC Planning Committee
Joint meeting ESCC & B&HCC AFC's - Brighton
ESCC Cabinet Briefing
Coram Voice (Children in Care) Event – Bedes School
Horam Parish Council
ESCC Children in Care Awards – Bedes School
ESCC Cabinet Briefing
Herstmonceux Parish Council
MOD Annual Armed Forces Covenant Conference - Winchester
Warbleton Parish Council DNA
ESCC AFC & CiC HR Working Relationship
Senior Staff Interviews
GATCOM Planning Workshop
East & West Sussex Lord Lieutenants Awards - Lancing



1/11/24