

**Ordinary Meeting of West Dean Parish Council**  
**Wednesday 6 November 2019 at 7:00pm in King George's Hall, West Dean**

Present: Harry Urquhart (HU) – Chair, Sarah Hurst (SH), Mike Marx (MM), Astrid Lynn (AL), and Bill Seabrook (BS)

Others present: Melanie Camilleri (MC) – Clerk/RFO, and three members of the public.

**111/19 Apologies for Absence:** Christine Warry (CW)

**112/19 Open Forum**

**113/19 Declarations of interest:** None

**114/19 Minutes** of the **Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting** held on **Wednesday 23 October 2019** were agreed by all and signed by HU.

**115/19 WCC update:** Cllr Devine didn't attend

**116/19 Finance: MC**

- i) Budget/Precept 2020/21 – the draft proposal was discussed.
  - MM proposed and seconded by SH to create a reserve each year towards future playground maintenance. This was unanimously resolved.
  - JG proposed and seconded by MM that MC approach West Tytherley PC to make an annual contribution towards playground/rec grd maintenance costs - West Dean's HCC residents regularly make use of the West Dean Rec Grd yet their precept is paid to West Tytherley PC
  - JH proposed and seconded by HU to increase village maintenance and repairs budget to £3,000, to take account of increasing costs placed (away from WCC) upon Parish Council. This was unanimously resolved.
  - HU proposed and MM seconded a Precept of £11,200.00 for 2020/21. MC will revise the spreadsheet to take account of the above changes for final sign-off at the December meeting.
- ii) Request for donation from St John's Ambulance: Unanimously agreed to award £75. In the parish council's response letter, MC to indicate the councillors welcome attendance by St.John's Ambulance at the Village Fete on 30 May 2020
- iii) Payments to be authorised: None

**Bank balances**

Treasurers Account (as at 22 Oct 2019): £11,821.09

Savings Account (as at 22 Oct 2019): £5,357.02

**Main Account**

Payee	Detail	Amount £	Method
M Camilleri	Salary 1 Nov+ back-dated pay	592.71	
Total debit		<b>£592.71</b>	

Receipts	Detail	Amount £	Deposit Ref.
None			
Total credit		<b>£0</b>	

**117/19 Planning**

- i) Being prepared for planning development proposals: Housing Need Survey

AL proposed that an HNS is carried out **now** for the village of West Dean using Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) who operate under the auspices of HCC. She has been approached by various members of the community expressing concerns about the lack of Affordable Housing, and the risk of depleting Aster /other registered Housing stock. AL also expressed her view that it will be

easier for external developers to make a case for 'hostile development' if the PC doesn't have any HNS data.

#### About HARAHA

- Their vision is to ensure that rural communities are sustainable and inclusive by enabling an increase in the supply of affordable housing to meet local needs.
- They build small groups of affordable homes in rural villages for local people, to enable people with strong local connections to a parish to remain or return there. This helps to retain a mixed community and prevent it becoming a dormitory settlement of commuters and retired people.
- Local people are more likely to use the local amenities and facilities such as the school, shop, pub and church which helps them to stay open.
- They work with parishes in undertaking housing needs surveys, finding suitable sites and designing affordable housing schemes to meet local needs

Alan Bannister NDPSG confirmed:-

- the NDP Document states no land in either of the two settlements has been identified for strategic housing development by TVBC or WCC,
- only 'infill' development can take place in WCC,
- an HNS would be carried out if/at such time we are approached by an external developer.

For these reasons, AB is **not** in favour of doing an HNS **now**.

After further discussion between the councillors, it was unanimously agreed that a HNS would be carried out **now**, subject to:-

- 1) defining the scope of the survey: identifying households in West Dean as they come under both TVBC/HCC (West Tythelrey Parish Council) and WCC (West Dean Parish Council),
- 2) the timing of the survey in relation to the NDP Document Reg 16 submission
- 3) clarity of communication when issuing the HNS as to why one is being done now, after the NDP survey/consultation

MC to add this topic to the Agenda for the next meeting.

- ii) Application by landowner of Dean Hill for a restricted byway on Dean Hill Park to be extinguished: deferred until next meeting given CW (footpath lead) was absent.

**118/19**

#### **Village Maintenance updates**

- i) Playground RoSPA inspection and results. MC to re-send the report for the Councillors' consideration and discuss any remedy at the next meeting.
- ii) Grass cutting quotes (work wef March 2020): Two quotes obtained. MC to obtain a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote from Michael Eastwood (who cuts the grass at West Tytherley Reg Grd)
- iii) Village Management Plan: BS to present an outline to the Councillors at the next meeting
- iv) Proposal from Church Committee to locate a mirror opposite entrance to Rec Grd (share cost 50/50 – total estimate £200). MM confirmed that the Church would check and satisfy any requirements for WCC planning and Highways, gain any agreement from landowners, and own/maintain/insure the mirror. Subject to all of these matters being satisfied, it was unanimously resolved the parish council would contribute £100 towards the purchase

**119/19**

**Remembrance Sunday** – Service taking place 10:50am. Pat Cordingley will be laying a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council, saying "They shall grow not old...". Pat Hargrave will read names of those who dies during the two wars.

- 120/19**      **Carols on the Green** – Monday 23 December @6pm. Invoice for drinks to be sent to the Clerk (£25 budget)
- 121/19**      **Parish Council admin matters**
- i) Cllr dedicated emails. SH clarified the position– it’s not compulsory and set-out the personal responsibility/liability if a councillor chose not to do so.
  - ii) Meetings 2020: dates and location. To move to monthly meetings. MC to send booking request to Village Hall and will confirm dates at the next meeting
- 122/19**      **Correspondence and AOB**
- i) Lockerley PC – enquiry about location of telephone mast on Church spire. MM confirmed a mast is to be placed in the Church, and that he is happy to communicate directly with Lockerley PC with details
  - ii) MM tendered his resignation with immediate effect (as per his declared intention in Nov 2018), expressing his recognition and thanks to HU, the councillors, and Clerk. MM offered to continue to work on Broadband solutions for the village. HU, on behalf of the council, thanked MM for his hard work and dedication as a Councillor these past years.
- 123/19**      Given MM’s resignation, it was agreed to hold an **Extraordinary General Meeting** of the **Parish Council** on **Tuesday 10 December 2019 at 7:00pm** at **No 5 Moodys Hill**
- Being no further business, HU closed the meeting at 9:45pm