



Westmeston Parish Council

**COUNCILLORS ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF COUNCIL
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 12th MARCH 2024 AT 6.30pm AT WESTMESTON PARISH HALL**

P. Vidler

Paul Vidler
Clerk to the Council

6th March 2024

Members of the public have a right and are welcome to attend.

Please do not attend the meeting if you are experiencing a high temperature, continuous cough, loss or change of smell or taste, headache, sore throat or runny nose. If you require paper copies of the meeting documents, please print them off and bring them to the meeting, as we are unable to provide these.

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence:** To receive and accept any apologies for absence.
- 2. Declarations of interest:** To note any declarations of interest.
- 3. Public questions:** To receive questions from members of the public.
- 4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th January 2024:** To approve the minutes to be signed by the Chairman.
- 5. Financial matters:**

(a) To approve payment of invoices:

Payee	Reason	Amount
Cathy Mills	Reimbursement for website hosting	£78.00
Lewes District Council	Election expenses 4th May 2023	£139.97
Paul Vidler	Clerk's pay January to March 2024	£941.10
HMRC	PAYE	£235.40
Paul Vidler	Clerk's expenses January to March 2024	£22.95

(b) 2023/24 Quarter 3 Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation: To note.

- 6. Annual Risk Assessment:** To receive report.
- 7. Planning:**
 - (a) land opposite Westmeston Place, east of Lewes Road and Blackdog Farm east of Lewes Road:** To receive updates.

(b) To note comments made on the following planning applications since the previous meeting:

(i) SDNP/23/05134/FUL Ditchling Rugby Club, Keymer Road (in Ditchling)

Engineering works, to consist of re-profiling of site and realignment of pitch, new drainage system, creation of new access from Clayton Road leading to new parking area, erection of groundsman's store/facilities, associated landscaping, and extension to the existing allowed playing season.

Westmeston Parish Council objects to this development. The development is contrary to policy CONS 7, "Protect important gaps between settlements" of the Ditchling, Streat and Westmeston Neighbourhood Development Plan. This is development on the gap between Ditchling and Keymer, the protection of which had overwhelming public support during the consultation part of the preparation of the NDP.

The scale of the development is excessive. A car park for 133 cars and two coaches. A groundkeeper's store extending over 225 square metres. An approximately 250-metre-long access road running from the B2112 to the far side of the site. A new pillared 20-foot-wide gateway giving access from the B2112.

Previous developments on this site were predicated on agreement between the rugby football club and the cricket club to share existing facilities. It is now claimed that this is not possible, although the reasons given lack detail.

(ii) LW/24/0044 Lone Oak Farm, Spatham Lane (in Ditchling)

Lawful Development Certificate for the continuous use of static home as a dwelling for a period in excess of 4 years.

No comment submitted.

(c) Inter Parish Working Group on Housing/Eton College Site/Lewes District Local Plan/South Downs Local Plan: To receive updates.

- 8. East Sussex Local Transport Plan consultation:** To receive update.
- 9. Lewes District Council Climate and Nature Strategy Refresh consultation:** To receive update.
- 10. East Sussex Local Nature Recovery Strategy:** To receive update.
- 11. Weald to Waves nature recovery corridor:** To receive update.
- 12. East Sussex Highways Rural Grass Cutting:** To note.
- 13. B2116 Lewes Road:** To receive update on potential extended 40mph speed limit.
- 14. South Downs National Park Authority Board vacancy:** To receive update.
- 15. Any other information for noting.** None.
- 16. Date of next meeting:** 14th May 2024 at 6.30pm.