



Westmeston Parish Council

**COUNCILLORS ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF COUNCIL
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 9TH JULY 2024 AT 6.30PM AT WESTMESTON PARISH HALL**

P. Vidler

Paul Vidler
Clerk to the Council

3rd July 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. **Election of Vice Chairman.**
4. **Public questions:** To receive questions from members of the public.
5. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th June 2024:** To approve the minutes to be signed by the Chairman.
6. **Financial matters:**
 - (a) **To approve payment of invoices.**

Payee	Reason	Amount
Cathy Mills	Additional email storage	£13.94
Cathy Mills	Church Corner maintenance 26 th June 2024	£35.00
Westmeston Parish Hall Trust	Hire of hall for meeting 10 th June 2024	£10.00
Paul Vidler	Postage stamps	£17.60
Lewes District Association of Local Councils	Subscription 2023-24 and 2024-25	£40.00

- (b) **NS&I Account: To consider the continuation of the NS&I account.**

7. Planning:

(a) **Land opposite Westmeston Place, east of Lewes Road and Blackdog Farm east of Lewes Road:** To receive updates.

(b) **To agree response to the following application:**

SDNP/24/02361/LIS Hayleigh Farmhouse, Streat Lane

Removal and replacement of entrance door, courtyard door and single door and sidelight. Internal alterations to North Extension, instead of the previously approved demolition of the extension. Replacement of external window to courtyard, removal of low level wall to kitchen. (Amendment to Applications SDNP/22/05336/LIS and SDNP/22/05335/HOUS)

(c) **To note the submitted response to the following application:**

LW/24/0354 Land Adjacent To Mid Sussex Golf Club, Spatham Lane

Provision of 4no. padel courts (Class F2) with ancillary office unit and casual seating area, provision of vehicle parking area, bicycle storage and soft landscaping.

Westmeston Parish Council objects to this development on the following grounds.

The development is wholly inappropriate for a rural location adjacent to the South Downs National Park and the Dark Sky Reserve, operating 15 hours each day between 07.00 and 22.00. It will lead to a significant increase in car journeys, increased noise, light pollution, degrade the habitat for wildlife and detrimentally impact on landscape views from footpaths. It is a development more appropriate for an urban or suburban location and will not enhance the rural landscape. The development is contrary to the following policies of the Lewes Local Plan Part 2 (LLPP2) and the Ditchling Streat and Westmeston Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

The development is outside the planning and settlement boundaries. The development is not small scale and will have considerable adverse impact, contrary to LLPP2 policies DM1 and DM11 and NDP policy DS1.

The development fails to protect the distinctive character and quality of the countryside, contrary to LLPP2 policy DM1. It will intrude into views of the landscape and is a floodlit facility adjoining a Dark Sky Reserve, contrary to LLPP2 policy DM25 and NDP policies CONS 2, CONS 6 and CONS 8.

Access to the development is served solely by a narrow dangerous country lane used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders. The bus service to the lane is infrequent and realistically journeys to the development will be by car. The application details a significant increase in journeys which would be detrimental to highway safety, contrary to LLPP2 policy DM11.

Car parking for the development is proposed on the current overspill car park which is currently often full. This area suffers from water logging. If the development is successful there will be a need for further car parking.

Padel is a noisy game because of the hard racket and the use of the hard walls of the court. The noise has been described as being like constant gunfire. The development would result in significant levels of noise and disturbance to local residents and the rural setting of the site. We note that the padel court at Withdean sports complex in Brighton has been served a noise abatement order. The development is contrary to LLPP2 policy DM11.

Given the location of the site adjacent to the National Park and the adverse impacts of the development, the parish council requests the South Downs National Park Authority is consulted on this application.

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

8. Weald to Waves – Sussex nature recovery corridor: To receive update.

9. Any other information for noting: None.

10. Date of next meeting: 10th September 2024 at 6.30pm.