

# WESTMESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 6.30 pm at Westmeston Parish Hall

**Present:** Councillors Rob Mills (Chairman), Cathy Mills (Vice-Chairman), Joyce Dudeney, Clare Farrands, Vincent Tickner  
Paul Vidler, Clerk  
No members of the public were present.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Councillors Clark and Haughton.
- 2. Declarations of interest:** None.
- 3. Public questions:** None.
- 4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022:**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the previous meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman. Members noted that payment in connection with the previous clerk's pay claim was outstanding pending receipt of address details for forwarding the cheque and instructed the Clerk to request a response within 14 days so this matter can be concluded.

**5. Financial matters:**

- (a) **RESOLVED:** Payment of the following invoices:

Payee	Reason	Amount
Paul Vidler	Clerk's pay January to March 2022	£860.70
HMRC	PAYE	£215.20

**RESOLVED:** Deferral of payment of the following invoices:

Payee	Reason	Amount
Cathy Mills	Reimbursement for website hosting	£78.00
Paul Vidler	Clerk's expenses October to December 2021	£33.15

- (b) **NS&I Account:**

**RESOLVED:** To change the signatories to Councillor Rob Mills, Councillor Dudeney and the Clerk.

- (c) **Annual Risk Assessment:**

**RESOLVED:** To agree the 2022 Annual Risk Assessment.

**6. Planning:**

- (a) **Development opposite Westmeston Place, east of Lewes Road and Blackdog Farm east of Lewes Road:** To receive updates from Lewes District Council.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk reported the building under construction and keeping of horses opposite Westmeston Place and the residential caravan at Blackdog Farm were referred to Lewes DC for planning investigation in May and September 2021 respectively. Whilst the Lewes DC planning

enforcement officer had undertaken site visits, further comments are awaited. Members expressed concern about the length of time taken to investigate these matters and instructed the Clerk to write to the Lewes DC cabinet member for planning, ward councillor and Head of Planning.

**(b) Planning applications considered at the previous meeting:**

**NOTED:** That the comments made at the previous meeting on applications LW/21/0821 at The Gallops, Middleton Common Lane and SDNP/21/05797/HOUS & SDNP/21/05798/LIS at Spatham Farm Cottage, Spatham Lane were unable to be submitted as these applications were determined and approved on 11<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 respectively.

**(c) Comments made on the following planning applications since the previous meeting:**

**NOTED:** Members noted the comments made on the following applications since the previous meeting:

**SDNP/21/06407/HOUS Barncroft, Lewes Road**

Alterations to fenestration on south and west elevations, hip to gable ends extended to natural ridge including change of roof light into dormer window on east elevation, application of plain clay tile hanging to east and west elevations and timber vertical cladding to north and south elevations.

WPC comment: No comment. SDNPA decision: Refused on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

**SDNP/22/00478/FUL Green Plat, Spatham Lane**

Removal of stable and workshop and erection of new 3 bedroom dwelling house with parking.

WPC comment: Westmeston Parish Council objects to this application, which will result in development within the National Park outside the settlement boundary in open countryside, contrary to policy SD25 of the South Downs Local Plan and policy DS1 of the Ditchling Street and Westmeston Neighbourhood Development Plan. The proposed house does not meet the specific exception criteria set out in these policies.

**NOTED:** Members noted the following application was withdrawn on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022:

**SDNP/22/00545/HOUS Westmeston Farm, The Street**

Extend existing garage to create secure machinery store. Convert existing roof void to create dressing room and ensuite bathroom. New ground floor extension with accommodation in new roof void.

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

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to the request from Plumpton Parish Council for the council to be a signatory to a letter from parish councils in Lewes District about excessive housing targets to District Councillors.

**7. Spatham Lane speed limit:**

**NOTED:** The Chairman reported that design work is currently being carried out in connection with the implementation of the speed limit.

**8. Notice Board replacement – Church Corner:**

**RESOLVED:** Members considered three quotations for a replacement community notice board and agreed the purchase of a metal framed notice board from Notice Board Company (UK) Ltd at a cost of £438.10 including VAT. The notice board will be installed by Colin Hall.

**9. Wapple Way fly tipping:**

**NOTED:** Following recent fly tipping at Wapple Way, Councillor Cathy Mills is arranging a meeting with Plumpton College and the East Sussex CC Rights of Way Officer regarding land ownership and measures to prevent further tipping.

**10. Boundary Commission Review of Parliamentary Constituencies:**

**RESOLVED:** Members noted the review proposes including the parish in a constituency including East Grinstead and Uckfield, rather than Lewes and the current public consultation closes on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Members resolved to submit comments to the Clerk by 28<sup>th</sup> March for collation into the response from the council.

**11. Lewes District ALC meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022:**

**NOTED:** Councillor Tickner updated members on the LDALC meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Members confirmed there were no public electric vehicle charging points in the parish.

**12. Any other information for noting:**

- Members noted the thank you letters received from the Ditchling, Streat and Westmeston PCC, Springett and Campion Educational Trust, Westmeston Jubilee Pathway Trust and The Monday Group following the receipt of 2021/22 grants.

**13. Date of next meeting:** 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm.