

# WESTMESTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 6.30 pm at Westmeston Parish Hall

**Present:** Councillors Cathy Mills, Mark Clark, Joyce Dudeney, Clare Farrands, Tessa Haughton, Rob Mills and Vincent Tickner

Paul Vidler, Clerk

No members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.

2. **Declarations of interest:** None.

3. **Public questions:** None.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025:**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the previous meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 were agreed as an accurate record of the meetings and were signed by the Chairman.

5. **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:**

**RESOLVED:** To agree the adoption of Version 6 of the Standing Orders. The adoption of the Financial Regulations was deferred to the next meeting, pending members' decision on the introduction of online banking.

6. **Financial matters:**

(a) **RESOLVED:** To approve payment of invoices.

Payee	Reason	Amount
Cathy Mills	Church Corner maintenance – May and June 2025	£70.00
Mulberry Local Authority Services Limited	Internal audit	£234.00
Business Services at CAS Ltd	Annual insurance renewal additional premium	£0.73
Paul Vidler	Clerk's pay April to June 2025	£973.60
HMRC	PAYE	£243.20
Paul Vidler	Clerk's expenses April to June 2025	£7.65

(b) **Nat West bank account:**

**RESOLVED:** To agree to the introduction of online banking, to be used for urgent payments between council meetings by the Clerk upon the agreement of all members. Other payments would continue to be approved at Council meetings and paid by cheque.

7. **Planning:**

(a) **Development opposite Westmeston Place, east of Lewes Road and Blackdog Farm east of Lewes Road:**

**NOTED:** There were no updates on the land opposite Westmeston Place or Blackdog Farm.

(b) **Planning application:**

**SDNP/25/02053/HOUS – Weston, Underhill Lane**

**Installation of partially above ground sewage treatment digester and 45 metres of below ground pipework.**

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to comment as follows:

Westmeston Parish Council requests that if planning permission is granted, to reduce the visual impact of the above ground sewage treatment digester, a condition is attached requiring the planting of screening (a suitable fast-growing mixture is suggested) within a suitable timescale, to the north and south of the digester.

- (c) Planning application LW/24/0820 Land South of Green Road, Wivelsfield Green: Outline application for the erection of up to 150 dwellings, with associated works, parking, landscaping, publicly accessible open space, land for education or community use, with access from Green Road and Eastern Road: To receive update.**

**NOTED:** The Lewes District Council planning officer has indicated that the application is likely to be considered by the LDC Planning Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> August or 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025, or under delegated powers if recommended for refusal.

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

Councillor Vincent Tickner reported there had been no recent meeting of the Working Group. He will continue to monitor these issues.

**8. Ditchling Parish Council Traffic Committee:**

**NOTED:** Members noted the next meeting of the Traffic Committee will be on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025. Councillor Cathy Mills will report to the meeting the views of the Parish Council on the installation and funding of white gates at the commencement of speed restrictions and other locations in Westmeston and Ditchling, as agreed at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Councillor Cathy Mills has also written to residents about these measures.

**9. Information for noting:**

- (a) Public meeting with James MacCleary MP 4<sup>th</sup> August 2025:**

**NOTED:** Members noted the meeting with James MacCleary MP for residents of the parish on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

- (b) Underhill Lane residents meeting:**

**NOTED:** Members noted that Councillor Cathy Mills had attended a meeting of the Underhill Lane Residents Association to explain the Parish Council's views on the installation of white gates, referred to in Item 8 above.

**10. Date of next meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 6.30pm.**

Meeting closed at 7.12pm.