

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



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WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of proceedings for the monthly meeting of Washington Parish Council held on Monday 6th June 2024 in the Washington Village Hall (Doré Room) School Lane, Washington RH20 4AP

PRESENT: Cllr S. Buddell (Chairman), Cllr B. Hanvey, Cllr P. Heeley, Cllr G. Lockerbie, Cllr J. Luckin, Cllr A. Perkins and Cllr J. Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr P. Marshall (WSCC), Cllr J. Grech (HDC) and Cllr E. Beard (HDC). Apologies were noted from Cllr C. Fisher.

ALSO: Clerk to the Council, Ms Z Savill

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 1

ABSENT: 2

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19:34 hours

FC/24/5/1 To Accept Apologies for absence
The Council **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** apologies from Cllr T. Keech and Cllr A. Lisher (Vice-Chairman).

FC/24/5/2 To Record Declarations of Interest from Members in any item to be discussed
None declared. Members were reminded that previous declarations still stand, as defined under the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct,

FC/24/5/3 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
The Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the [Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 13th May 2024](#) which were duly signed by the Chairman.

FC/24/5/4 Storrington & Sullington and Washington Neighbourhood Plan
The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Minutes of the last two Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meetings on [19th September 2023](#) and [2nd April 2024](#).

Cllr Heeley (Vice-Chairman of the Steering Group/SG) reported that the SG was seeking a remote meeting with HDC's Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer before it can start the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) review process. Members would be attending an NP review training session with Neighbourhood Plan Developer Maureen Chaffe, of Process Matters 2, at Sullington Village Hall on Tuesday 25h June 6pm at a cost of £80.

The Council **NOTED** the report and **RESOLVED** to agree that Cllr Luckin and Cllr Hanvey join the training if there are places. Clerk to confirm.

FC/24/5/5 Public Speaking
There was no public speaking.

S.J.B.

FC/24/5/6 Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Beard (HDC) reported on the following:

- **Village pub retaining wall and landscaping scheme** HDC's Senior Planning Compliance Officer would respond to the Parish Council's questions raised at the last meeting.
- **Progress after Kia garage site meeting:** The garage parking site plan and land ownership information would be forwarded to the Council. Cllr Beard had not seen any notices identifying Kia vehicles parked off site agreed at the site meeting; she would continue to push for details of their change of use proposals on land to relocate the Triumph bikes business, to enable further discussions on the issues of parking their vehicles around the village.

Progress on care home application at Old Clayton Kennels and application for kennels in Rock Road property: A Member asked what was happening with these applications. The Clerk confirmed she had received a revised application for the care home development earlier in the day. Cllr Grech agreed to make enquiries and update the Council.

Cllr Marshall (WSCC) reported on the following:

Suggested measures at the Sussex Road Safety Partnership meeting to address speeding concerns in the village: He would support the suggested TRO application to be made by the Parish Council to reduce the national speed limit on the Bostal section to 40mph. The Clerk confirmed that the Planning & Transport Committee would be discussing this and the suggested Community Speedwatch, at its next meeting on 17th June. Cllr Marshall agreed to follow up with police on the 'Slow Down' signage agreed at the partnership meeting.

Resident's TRO application for 40mph on The Pike, A283: Cllr Marshall would enquire if the application can be progressed under the Highways Authority's (HA) wider Road Safety project review of A-roads requiring a speed reduction. It was noted that a similar proposal at the same time for a 30mph restriction along The Hollow nearby, did not meet the HA's speed limit policy.

Request for WSCC to fund the re-location of the SID in Rock Road: Cllr Marshall would support this. It was noted that the Council had not yet received a response to the request from the Area Highways Manager on 21st May 2024.

Cllr Marshall left the meeting after his reports.

FC/24/5/7 To Report on actions and matters arising from the last meeting

The Council noted the actions list. A Member expressed disappointment with HDC's slow response to confirm what building materials had been agreed for the village pub's retaining wall.

FC/24/6/8 Planning: To Consider making comments on significant applications affecting the parish; to report on decisions and appeals on significant applications; to report HDC updates on any compliance matters.

[SDNP2401755TCA- South Cottage School Lane Washington RH20 4AP](#)

Fell x5 Ash, x3 Hazel Coppice, x2 Elms. Surgery x3 Sycamore, x1 Conifer, x1 Ash (works to trees in conservation area).

The Council commented on the inadequate supporting information. Cllr Luckin reported that she knew the property and that the work was necessary to make the trees safe on the boundary with School Lane, and to fell those with ash die-back.

Following a discussion it was **RESOLVED** with one abstention to support the application with a proviso that similar applications have better supporting information.

FC/24/6/9 To Agree action on any urgent maintenance of council property

Deferred to agenda item FC/24/6/13.

FC/24/6/10 Delegated Decisions

The Council **RESOLVED to RATIFY APPROVAL** of the delegated decision after the last meeting to engage StarTech on resolving the Council's email server issue at a cost of £50.

FC/24/6/11 Rampion 2: To Report updates on the DCO application examination and Consider making any further representations

The Council noted and thanked Steve Tilbury Planning Consultancy for their representation made on its behalf at the Open Floor Hearing 13th May 2024. A full copy of the presentation was previously circulated, together with a link to the latest updates on the examination website for Councillors to read and monitor.

Cllr Grech agreed to find out the SDNPA's reaction to RED's responses to the Park's concerns about the impact of the cable route on the parish, as this would also help inform the Parish Council's discussions for the next deadline of representations.

FC/24/6/12 Draft Green Spaces Strategy Consultation

To Consider an invitation to comment on Horsham District Council's Draft [Green Space Strategy](#)

The Council commended the usefulness of the document and made the following points:

- To recognise Milford Grange Country Park as an important local green space with an intrinsic link to the local network identified in the Strategy.
- To ask why the plan for Sandgate Park will take three years to complete and if it can be made available much sooner? The Strategy is a good opportunity to link the Park with the local network of green spaces.

Cllr Beard and Cllr Grech agreed to share the points with HDC for the consultation.

FC/24/6/13 To Approve [Schedule of Payments](#) and any additional invoices presented at the meeting

The Council **RESOLVED to APPROVE:**

- The Schedule of payments totalling £4,851.50
- Two payments presented at the meeting totalling £320. This is subject to the suppliers correcting the invoice address which was shown for WSCC instead of the Parish Council
- Switch to the Standard website hosting package if this better meets the Council's needs, and if the supplier refunds the cost difference at the next renewal.

FC/24/6/14 To Receive [bank reconciliations for May 2024](#)

The Council **NOTED** the bank reconciliation of £48,414.91 on the Treasurer's Account and £85,000 on the Business Savings Account.

FC/24/6/15 To Report the current [budget position 2024.25](#)

The Council discussed and noted the report. Cllr Hanvey reiterated the need for a balanced budget in which expenditure was covered by receipts, and to recognise the requirement to ensure future precepts are appropriate to anticipated expenditure. It was agreed that these points would be included in the forthcoming budget review by the Finance Committee.

FC/24/6/16 To Consider quotations for repairs to the benches on the Recreation Ground

It was noted that the quotation to refurbish the benches had not been received in time and would be

deferred to the next OSRA Committee meeting.

The Council **RESOLVED** to delegate approval of costs to repair the bench nearest the Play Area within the adopted maintenance budget.

FC/24/6/17 Correspondence

The Council noted correspondence and agreed that an invitation to join APCAG (Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group) is considered by the Planning & Transport Committee.

Clerk's Report

The Council noted the new Model Financial Regulations 2024 to be reviewed at the Finance Committee's forthcoming meeting, and noted NALC's pre-election guidance for councils.

FC/24/6/15 Items for the next Agenda and Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reminded members to put proposals in writing for the next meeting to the Clerk and clarify objectives. There were no announcements.

Cllr Hanvey requested that the council's discusses appropriate action to be taken on addressing the standard of road cleaning outside Hampers Lane/Millford Grange/Kennels by the nearby quarry operator.

FC/24/6/16 Date and time of the next meetings

The Council noted the following meeting dates:

Planning & Transport Committee: **Monday 17th June 2024, 7pm.**

OSRA Committee: **Monday 17th June 2024, 7:45pm**

Finance Committee: **Monday 15th July 2024, 7pm**

Personnel Committee: **Monday 15th July 2024, 7:45pm**

Full Council Meeting: **Monday 1st July 2024, 7:30pm**

FC/24/6/17 Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Public and Press from the next confidential item discussing legally privileged advice and commercially sensitive information.

FC/24/6/18 Rampion 2: The Council as Trustee of the Washington Recreation Ground Charity to discuss next steps on negotiating terms for access of the proposed inshore cable route on the Recreation Ground.

A confidential report was previously circulated. It was noted that Rampion Expansion Development Ltd (RED) had not yet confirmed it will meet the costs estimated by the Council's agent to advise on the developer's terms for cable route access on the Recreation Ground. RED had been advised by its agent that additional fees may be incurred by the Council in dealing with Charities Act 2011 compliance matters because of its Trustee obligations.

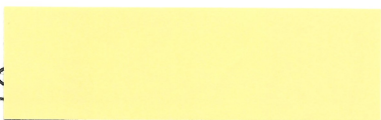
Following a discussion, the Council reiterated its intent to enter negotiations with the developer without prejudice to its opposition to the cable route. But it was imperative that parishioners did not foot the bill for a project which was being imposed upon them. These points had been made clear in the Council's written and spoken representations in the examination of the Rampion 2 DCO application currently in progress.

The Council **RESOLVED** to:

- Write to the Examiner of the Rampion 2 DCO application, reiterating the Parish Council's points made in a letter to RED and their agent on 24th February 2024 on professional fees. Copy in RED and their Agent.
- The Chairman, Cllr Hanvey and Cllr Lockerbie to liaise with the Council's Agent once the Parish Council is in a position to negotiate terms with RED and their Agent..

The meeting was closed at: 9:14pm.

Signed...



Dated...1st July 2024.....