

Meeting held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
at 7.50pm in the Committee Room, Wesham Community Centre.

## **Minutes**

**PRESENT: Councillor L Nulty (chair)**  
**Councillors: P Ball, M Rawcliffe, G Dixon, D Nowell, & L Walker.**

**IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk – Angela Hunter**

**APOLOGIES: Cllrs P Desmond & L Bickerstaffe**

### **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

Members are reminded that any direct or indirect pecuniary or other interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Standard declarations of interest by councillors

- Cllr Nulty - an interest in items relating to Planning
- Cllr Nowell - an interest in items relating to Allotments.
- Cllr Bickerstaffe - an interest in items relating to School.

No further declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

Cllr Linda Nulty advised that FBC members had recently re-signed to updated Code of Conduct & Standards. These are based on the Nolan principles code of conduct.

The TC advised that his had not yet been cascaded down to Parish Councils but that she would ask FBC for these for Wesham councillors.

### **22/045 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022:**

Proposer: Cllr G Dixon      Seconder: Cllr D Nowell      Vote: All attendees in favour

### **22/ 046 MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr Ball asked about the new speakers that are in the process of being purchased for use at the forthcoming Remembrance Service. He mentioned that these should be included on Wesham Councils asset register. Also the use of these speakers for other events was noted. Due to historical issues of equipment being missing when needed it some time ago it had been agreed that the speakers are kept by Alan Clayton. Anyone wishing to use the equipment will liaise with Alan regarding dates/set up/usage etc.

**Action:** TC to add the new equipment to Wesham Council Asset register.

Clr Nowell highlighted that Wesham Council website has been populated with minutes of the previous meeting. He advised that there is some historical information on the website that will need to be reviewed & removed. WTC attendees agreed to the removal of the historical info with a note to advise that historical Wesham Town Council information was available via request to the Town Clerk.

## **22/047 POLICING ISSUES**

**Crime Reports** – reports are available on police.co.uk.

The police reports available on the website do not indicate any unusual areas for concern by the Councillors.

**Policing Issues** – No additional policing issues identified at this meeting.

## **22/048 PLANNING -**

**Planning Applications - FBC updating Planning system issues**

### **22/0552 – Camping Pods, Stanley House Farm**

Wesham Council have no comments on this application & will respond to FBC with the caveat that petitions of neighbours should be taken into account when reviewing this application.

### **22/0732 – Extension, 34 Gartstang Road Nth**

Wesham Council have no comments on this application & will respond to FBC with the caveat that petitions of neighbours should be taken into account when reviewing this application.

### **22/0724 – K&W Scout Hut**

Wesham Council are supportive of this application & will respond to FBC with the caveat that petitions of neighbours should be taken into account when reviewing this application.

It was indicated to Wesham Council that this planning application takes into account the new legislation relating to the requirements to be able to stand in Minibuses.

This application will incur likely disruption to Car parking facilities for WCC but WTC acknowledged that Scout Leader NB is an experienced & practical construction manager so any disruption will be minimal.

### **22/0616 – Employment Building @ Mill Farm...Whinfield Commercial Ltd**

## **20/0135 – Car Parking , Mill Farm**

## **21/0984 – North Stand, Mill Farm**

At the September meeting Cllr D Nowell proposed that as this was as significant development & would require a longer time to review that separate dedicated meeting be held to consider this planning application.

Wesham Council are aware that there are outstanding car park issues that remain regarding previous Mill Farm development applications & it would appear that this Commercial unit application impacts on this issue as there is an overlap of the Unit footprint onto the area previously identified for car parking.

Wesham Council are still pursuing the on-going unresolved Car Parking issues at Mill Farm with FBC (Andrew Stell).

It was suggested an information session Mr R Nulty could be held to assist Wesham Councillors regarding their consideration of this application & also one with Mr Andrew Stell of FBC Planning dept. prior to Wesham Councillors responding to this planning application.

This meeting was held in WCC council offices on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and Mr R Nulty has issued a summary of the key aspects of this discussion which has been forwarded to Wesham Councillors.

As the per the September meeting at this October meeting Cllr Nowell once again proposed that as the 20/0135, 21/0984 and 22/0616 that these two additional applications are included in the information session being arranged with Andrew Stell, FBC Planning.

Wesham Councillors understand that each of these applications will be considered individually by FBC Planning section but as there is a combined impact element relating to Wesham Residents on all these applications they have requested the opportunity of extended the intended information discussion to cover all three of these applications before they send the requested responses to FBC Planning. This session has been arranged for 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 @ 7pm.

Proposer: Cllr D Nowell

Seconder: Cllr P Ball

Vote: All attendees in favour

**Actions:**

TC to liaise with Mr Andrew Stell re meeting – on-going

The meeting with Andrew Stell has been arranged for 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 at 7pm in WCC council offices to include discussions on planning applications 20/0135, 21/0984 and 22/0616.

As per previous meetings Andrew Stell has extended the response dates on the notifications re these applications for Wesham council .

**22/049 PLAYING FIELDS and OPEN SPACES**

**Open Spaces Contract** - to discuss any issues raised by Councillors

Review of Grounds Maintenance

Overall it was agreed that Mr R Pickervance was doing a good job with regard to Wesham Grounds maintenance. Grass areas were looking well. Some beds hanging baskets have improved with regular watering.

No further issues/concerns have been received from KJFC regarding the pitches.

At the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022 it was proposed & agreed that the beds be converted to greater shrub content. Some councillors believed that only shrubs should be in the beds.

TC has contacted Matt Giddins for quotation on shrubs for beds.

He has advised that he can supply for Mr R Pickervance to plant or he can both supply & plant.

Michael Cookson has also contacted Wesham council re supply of plants/shrubs going forward. Mr Cookson previously supplied plants via GGT.

Cllr D Nowell advised that he had been to Lytham Hall. He had asked and Greg from Lytham Hall had agreed he'd be interested in advising & supplying plants to Wesham council.

Wesham councillors agreed that this was worth arranging a walkaround to obtain advices & prices for consideration.

**Action:**

TC to arrange with Councillors & Mr R Pickervance for a walkaround with Plant suppliers to obtain advices & quotes re options.

This meeting has been arranged for 22/10/2022

Cllr D Nowell to arrange with Greg, Lytham Hall for a walkaround.

This meeting has been arranged for 26/10/2022

"Deep Treatment" for Bowling Green as per Tom Ascroft quotation

## **Discussion at 7pm in WCC offices prior to the start of the October WTC monthly meeting**

Previously TC advised Wesham Council that Mr Tom Ascroft had made enquiries regarding the deep treatment recommendations that he had proposed for Wesham Bowling Green earlier in the year. TC had advised that Wesham Council had a limited budget for grounds maintenance which had recently increased due to the contingency arrangements that had been implemented following the cessation of the GGT SLA.

Tom Ascroft understood this & offered to meet with Councillors to offer his bowling green expertise & discuss options within Wesham Council Financial constraints.

Wesham Council had invited Mr Tom Ascroft to advise them regarding options for winter work on the Bowling green. After some discussions Wesham Council asked him to provide a quotation based on an agreed budget of approx. £1200. This decision was based on a combination of budget restrictions as well as only limited numbers of Bowling Club members.

During the discussions Tom Ascroft suggested some alternative ways the Bowling green could be used by the Local community.

Tom A proposed increasing the annual fees, accessing grants from Sports councils particularly in relation to Junior bowlers, winter league participation, utilising the green during the winter months – only a one month closure window for winter maintenance could be implemented & the caveat that the green is not used during frost.

WTC will need to propose these to Wesham Bowling Club for consideration.

**Action:** TC to obtain revised quote for winter work from Tom Ascroft

### Pathways – overgrowth in Wesham areas

WTC noted that the pathways around some areas of Wesham are overgrown & do not appear to have been cut back by either LCC or Farmers. The pathway from Wesham Mill Farm roundabout towards the Black Valais is particularly dangerous as pedestrians have been observed walking in the road due to the amount of overgrown hedges/shrubbery.

**Action:** TC to arrange with FBC/LCC for hedge trimming - ongoing.

## **Fleetwood Road Playing Fields**

### **Pavilion and playing surfaces**

The updated SLA between KJFC & WTC for the use of Fleetwood Playing fields has not yet been signed.

KJFC have requested a meeting with Wesham council – to be arranged

KJFC were advised that the Pavilion is on a water meter & at a later date once the bill is received will be advised of the amount for re-imburement to Wesham Council.

Wesham council have tried to read the water meter but it was submerged. This will be reported to United Utilities.

KJFC were asked to provide a list of issues that had been mentioned in relation to the maintenance of the pavilion. KJFC have not provided this list to WTC.

It was noted at this meeting that KJFC have advised of a recent committee change.

**Action:** TC to arrange a meeting with KJFC - ongoing  
KJFC have been asked for optional dates but no response yet

The damage to Fleetwood Road Barrier is going through WTC insurance company. The claim has been acknowledged & estimates for brickwork is awaited which will then be sent to Zurich Claims section along with the quote from Archforge. Cllr L Bickerstaffe expressed concern re the loose bricks in case of horseplay. WTC will ask Neil Barnes to remove these.

**Action:** TC or Cllr Dixon/Ball to ask Neil B to remove the loose bricks - completed

**Signs** — no new information for this meeting - on-going

## **Play areas**

Wesham Council asked for clarification from FBC re frequency of inspections of equipment.

A phone conversation by the TC with MS@FBC advised that inspections are done weekly & reports are issued to the Parish councils twice yearly in spring & autumn. Wesham report was sent out to WTC via e-mail on 20/09/2022.

TC advised Mick Sumner at FBC that Wesham Council had some concerns re the rust on the outdoor gym equipment. No issues were raised in any of the inspection reports to date.

**Action:** TC to send photos to Mick Sumner @ FBC for advice - ongoing

A resident on Sanderling way has submitted a request to WTC to have one of the trees on Fleetwood Road Playing Fields cut back due to the nuisance aspect of leaves in his garden & gutter/drain congestion.

WTC suggested that advices are taken from FBC tree maintenance team.

**Action:** TC to liaise with Mick Sumner @ FBC to obtain tree recommendations - ongoing.

## **Doorstep Green, Derby Road**

Cllr Nulty reminded all attendees that the issue raised by residents re the surface under the play equipment at Doorstep Green remains on-going. She proposed that FBC could advise some specialist contractors for laying Wet Pore underneath the play

equipment. Wesham Councillors will consider this further once quotes for this work have been obtained.

**Action:** Town clerk to liaise with FBC re contractor for play surface - on-going.

### **Allotments -**

Cllr G Dixon advised that he has been approached by a gentleman from St Annes requesting an allotment for veterans who are suffering from PTSD.

Wesham Council have also been asked for an allotment for the resident in the rehabilitation unit on Mowbreck. In spring of 2022 an allotment was offered to the contact but as there was not response the allotment was re-allocated to a local resident.

Wesham Council discussed this request & noted that there is already a waiting list for allotments which should take priority over this request for the veterans. In the meantime Cllr G Dixon/TC will ask Mr Reg Gill if any of the veterans that would benefit from having an allotment are from the Wesham Area.

**Action:** Town clerk to liaise with RG to establish whether any of the veterans benefiting from the allotment are from the Wesham Area.

## **22/050 HIGHWAYS AND RAILWAYS**

### **SPID for Wesham.**

Cllr D Nowell has provided Wesham Council with the latest information regarding the acquisition of a SPID – see e-mail copied below.

Wesham councillors agreed to bid for a SPID along with 4 posts for Wesham.

Proposer: Cllr D Nowell    Seconder: Cllr L Bickerstaffe    Vote: All attendees in favour

**Action:** Town clerk to liaise with FBC re bid application for SPID - on-going.

## **22/051 GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND INSURANCE**

Accounts payable and income report –

Finance reports were recently reviewed at the finance meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022

No further finance issues were raised at this meeting.

Accident and Incident Reporting – **None**

## **22/052 EVENTS**

**Events Sub-committee –**

**Remembrance Service 2022 – 13<sup>th</sup> November**

New speakers purchased by AC on behalf of WTC – refer to Matters arising.  
Cllr L Nulty advised the stickers for updating the service sheet updates for God save Queen to God save King have been collected by AC on behalf of WTC.

### **Christmas Fair 2022 – 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

No significant details discussed at this meeting. Cllr Walker s advised in e-mail of progress so far regarding the Christmas fair. Cllrs L Nulty & L Bickerstaffe have previously advised that they would be happy to assist with Christmas Fair. An events meeting to finalise details & responsibilities will be held for 30mins prior to the November monthly WTC meeting at 7pm on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022.

## **22/053 HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **WCC manager role**

Cllr Dixon advised that she has been offered other jobs & he is unsure whether she will be available for future bar work for WCC bookings.

Cllrs D Nowell & L Walkers advised that the informal chat re an alternative potential WCC Manager had not been successful.

### **Consultant Finance Officer Role**

Cllr D Nowell proposed that JP be asked if she would consider undertaking the Finance officer role on an agreed contract basis.

JP is already undertaking this work on an informal arrangement with WTC so it seems a sensible option to formalise the arrangement.

Proposer: Cllr D Nowell    Seconder: Cllr G Dixon    Vote: All attendees in favour

**Action:** TC/Cllr L Nulty to ask JP about formalising the finance position with WTC.

### **Street Cleaner in Wesham**

WTC discussed the absence of the street cleaner in Wesham. No-one knew whether Dave has retired or is just off work through illness. The TC advised that no information has been received from FBC regarding the street cleaning service situation.

**Action:** TC/ Cllr L Nulty to ask FBC about the street cleaning situation.



## 22/054 WESHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr M Rawcliffe advised that the cleaner has booked some holidays for over the Christmas period..

Lone working arrangements should be reviewed regarding the cleaner in WCC between 6am-8am.

Up to date meter readings have been supplied to the Utility companies for the services that are not on a smart meter system. Once the bills are received some of the costs need to be reallocated to users EG: pavilion to KJFC & water bills from Fleetwood Road to KJFC

Cllr D Nowell is reviewing the Energy suppliers & meter readings will be included in this review.

Previously Cllr L Bickerstaffe arranged for her boss, Steve, to call on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 & he immediately identified the main leak issue that has been on-going & not found by previous plumbing maintenance persons. He has agreed to return at a later date for a more comprehensive review & educate the council.

**Action:** Cllr Liz Bickerstaffe to co-ordinate return visit by Steve - ongoing

Kitchen Radiator valves are not working & cannot be turned off in the summer months. Toilet radiators also remain on.

School usage of the WCC following the return after the summer holidays & of WCC Car Park spaces needs clarification. Cllr G Dixon has been liaising with the School secretary re School usage of WCC.

**Action:** Cllr Liz Bickerstaffe to co-ordinate with the School Secretary – ongoing

Is this action still required as Cllr G Dixon is in contact with School Secretary?

## 22/055 OTHER ITEMS

### Web site

Cllr Doug Nowell confirmed that the Meeting minutes are now being loaded onto the TC Website.

He also advised the council that there had been 70+ hits on the website on the day of the meeting. This was more than expected.

**Action List** – update on any items not covered by agenda

Cllr D Nowell told WTC that he had received some advice re the type/model of Laptop that was needed for use by the TC. One can be obtained from Curry's. The best way of purchasing one is being looked into – this has previously been approved at WTC meeting & was re-approved.

Proposer: Cllr L Nulty    Second: Cllr P Ball    Vote: All attendees in favour

**Additional items to the agenda** -

Bowling Club e-mail was reviewed by WTC regarding the Toilet facilities – these should be reviewed to obtain grants to assist with this request  
Further discussions/advices will need to be considered before WTC will respond.

**There being no other business the meeting ended at 22:25hrs**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

**2022 – Scheduled Monthly Town Council meetings**

15<sup>th</sup> November

20<sup>th</sup> December (reverted to previously identified date as 13<sup>th</sup> Dec not an available date for several councillors)

**WTC & Additional Meetings**

Christmas Party meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> November @7:00pm

WTC monthly meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 @ 7:30pm

Planning info meeting on 22/0616 application @ 7:00pm

KJFC requested meeting – to be arranged.

Inspection of the Allotments - 2022 (to be arranged)

**Angela Hunter**

2022

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> November

**MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

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