

MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting held on Tuesday, 9th May 2023
at 7.32pm in the Committee Room, Wesham Community Centre.

Minutes

PRESENT: Councillor L Nulty(chair)

Councillors: D Nowell, L Walker, P Desmond & L Bickerstaffe.

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk – Angela Hunter

APOLOGIES: None

4th May 2023 Parish Council Elections

At the start of this meeting Council declarations were signed by councillors D Nowell, L Walker, P Desmond & L Nulty.

All Wesham Parish Councillor forms had been taken to FBC by the deadline for Wesham Councillors. Unfortunately due to an admin error although hand delivered to FBC by the Town Clerk FBC omitted to include Cllr L Bickerstaffe on the list of councillors.

Wesham council challenged the omission but FBC could not find Cllr L Bickerstaffe's forms. Wesham Council believes that they have been misplaced at FBC.

Wesham Council asked for advice from FBC Elections office & were advised via the Legal section that Wesham Council could co-opt Cllr L Bickerstaffe back onto the council at the next meeting, the earliest date for a meeting would be 9th May 2023.

Cllr L Nulty double checked with Ian Curtis, Fylde Borough Council, Legal dept following some additional queries regarding clarification around some of the e-mail wording.

Ian Curtis re-confirmed earlier advices regarding this particular co-option situation relating to Cllr L Bickerstaffe

- No statutory requirement for an advert/competition for co-option but this is desirable for normal circumstances
- In the particular circumstances of this case, it would be in order to co-opt L Bickerstaffe at a special meeting (not Annual meeting) for her to serve as a councillor with immediate effect.
- Other vacancies should be dealt with under NALC advice in due course.

Wesham Council agreed to co-opt L Bickerstaffe with immediate effect.

Proposer: Cllr D Nowell Seconded by: Cllr L Walker All other attendee councillors in favour

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 Nowell & Walker - 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.

Code of conduct

Councillors were reminded of the Code of Conduct for meetings

MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

23/045 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD

18th April 2023:

After a review of the final version minutes for 21st March 2023 meeting were approved.

Proposer: Cllr L Walker Seconded: Cllr L Nulty Vote: All attendees in favour

23/046 MATTERS ARISING – any item not covered by agenda or action list

Cllr L Nulty advised that Cllr M Rawcliffe has resigned from the council.

a) Parish Town Council Elections Spring 2023

All Wesham Parish Councillor forms had been taken to FBC by the deadline for Wesham Councillors. Unfortunately due to an admin error although hand delivered to FBC by the Town Clerk FBC omitted to include Cllr L Bickerstaffe on the list of councillors.

Wesham council challenged the omission but FBC could not find Cllr L Bickerstaffe's forms.

Wesham Council believes that they have been misplaced at FBC.

Wesham Council asked for advice from FBC Elections office & were advised via the Legal section that Wesham Council could co-opt Cllr L Bickerstaffe back onto the council at the next meeting, the earliest date for a meeting would be 9th May 2023.

Cllr L Nulty double checked with Ian Curtis, Fylde Borough Council, Legal dept following some additional queries regarding clarification around some of the e-mail wording.

Ian Curtis re-confirmed earlier advices regarding this particular co-option situation relating to Cllr L Bickerstaffe

- No statutory requirement for an advert/competition for co-option but this is desirable for normal circumstances
- In the particular circumstances of this case, it would be in order to co-opt L Bickerstaffe at a special meeting (not Annual meeting) for her to serve as a councillor with immediate effect.
- Other vacancies should be dealt with under NALC advice in due course.

Wesham Council agreed to co-opt L Bickerstaffe with immediate effect.

Proposer: Cllr D Nowell Seconded by: Cllr L Walker All other attendee councillors in favour

Wesham council confirmed that an advert needed to be placed for persons interested in becoming councillors as there are 4 vacancies on the WTC following the recent elections.

Councillors were hopeful that some of the individuals that were standing as candidates for Wesham places on FBC will be interested in joining WTC.

Town Clerk to arrange to for an advert similar to previous ones to be included in the Kirkham & Wesham Advertiser. Also the advert will be posted on noticeboard as well as Wesham Council social media account & website.

Action: TC to arrange for advert & co-ordinate with administrators of website & social media to run the advert as well.

b) Mayor for 2023–24

After some discussions between the Councillors regarding the Mayoral duties Cllr D Nowell re-confirmed that he would be Mayor of Wesham for 2023-24 as per the April WTC Minutes.

MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Extract from April WTC minutes

Proposal :- Cllr D Nowell for Wesham Mayor for 2023-2024 as the next in seniority on the list of councillors.

Proposer: Cllr L Walker

Seconder: Cllr L Nulty

Vote in favour: Cllr L Bickerstaffe

Votes against Cllr G Dixon & P Ball.

Cllr L Bickerstaffe confirmed that she will be Deputy Mayor of Wesham for 2023-24

Proposer: Cllr L Walker

Seconder: Cllr L Nulty

All councillor attendees in favour

Action: TC to assist Cllr D Nowell with invitations to 13th June Mayor Making & Civic Sunday on 18th June 2023 and to co-ordinate with WCC manager re use of WCC for these occasions.

List of Civic dates & meetings for 2023–24

Action: TC to update list updated to reflect changed dates to June Mayor Making, May & December meetings.

23/046 POLICING ISSUES

There was a discussion amongst the councillors re the parking issues in Wesham.

Following a meeting at the Church in anticiptin of K&W Club Day it was noted that parents are parking all the way up Garstang Road nth to the chippy when collecting children from the school. Church Road is also full of parked cars for collection of children.

Similar parking issues are observed on a Tuesday evening when Rainbows finishes.

These cars take no notice of the line markings identifying where it is illegal to park.

It was noted that PC T Stirling seems to have sorted out the White Van parking issue at the top end of Garstang Road Nth. However no speed/radar guns have been seen as was requested by Cllr L Walker

Cllr L Bickerstaffe advised the other Councillors of the response she has received form CClr S Jones from LCC re the traffic issues in the Derby Road vicinity

23/047 PLANNING – none for this meeting

23/0291 – Shop to Flat, 34 Station Road, Wesham

Application No:	23/0291
Location:	34 STATION ROAD MEDLAR WITH WESHAM PRESTON LANCASHIRE PR4 3AD
Proposal	CHANGE OF USE OF GROUND FLOOR SHOP (USE CLASS E) TO A TWO-BED FLAT (USE CLASS C3) INCLUDING ASSOCIATED EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS TO GROUND FLOOR WINDOW AND DOOR OPENINGS ON FRONT AND SIDE ELEVATIONS OF BUILDING
Case Officer:	Alan Pinder
Parish	Medlar with Wesham

Wesham Council regret the loss of another Retail premises in Wesham but but have no objections to this application with the caveat that petitions of neighbours should be taken into account when reviewing this application.

Proposed: Cllr L Bickerstaffe Seconded: Cllr L Nulty All other attendee councillors in favour

Cllr L Nulty advised that FBC planning officer, Andrew Stell has indicated that there may be another revised submission by Mill Farm regarding Traffic lights & reduction in speed limit on Fleetwood Road. She advised that all previous attempts to reduce the speed limit on Fleetwood

MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Road had been unsuccessful as this is the main access route to the motorway.

23/048 PLAYING FIELDS and OPEN SPACES

a) Open Spaces Contract - to discuss any issues raised by Councillors

Grounds Maintenance & Bowling Green

Robert Pickervance has ordered bedding plants & shrubs from Matt Giddins for the summer season.

He has advised WTC that due to the amount of dog poo not being picked up in the Dog Area at Doorstep Green that he is altering the way that he mows this area to prevent damage to his mower.

b) Fleetwood Road Playing Fields

Archforge submitted a design re the revised barrier for the Main Entrance to Fleetwood Road. The design was approved by the counillors at the price of £2860.

Proposed Cllr D Nowell Seconded by Cllr P Desmond All attendee councillors in favour.

KJFC have reported the pavilion has no water. TC to obtain the plumber number from Neil Barnes & arrange to fix the water feed.

Action: TC to obtain the plumber number from Neil Barnes & arrange to fix the water feed.

Cllr P Ball has put a repair on the damaged meter cupboard at the rear of the pavilion. He has also sent through to the TC information to purchase a replacement cover at a cost of approx. £85.00. Councillors asked TC to find out if a replacement cover can be obtained form the electicity suppliers free of charge prior to agreeing to buy one. In the meantime the temporary repair by Cllr P Ball is secure.

Action: TC to find out if a replacement cover can be obtained from the electicity company free of charge prior to agreeing to buy one.

Doorstep Green, Derby Road

Robert Pickervance has advised WTC that due to the amount of dog poo not being picked up in the Dog Area at Doorstep Green that he is altering the way that he mows this area to prevent damage to his mower.

The quotation for Wet Pore under the play equipment has not yet been obtained due to diary commitments by the Wet Pore contractor & Wesham TC.

A previous council meeting had discussed the position of the goal posts on Doorstep Green. Cllr D Nowell advised that on return from his holidays he would have a chat with the footballers to see if there were any issues with position of them & if there was any maintenance required eg: Grass seeding

Action: Cllr D Nowell to chat to footballers re Doorstep green post positions & grass maintenance to establish if any issues.

Cllr D Nowell had observed & advised the TC that a restraining chain of the swing seat has worked loose.

Action: TC to contact Mick Sumner at FBC to get this restraining chain on the swing seat repaired.

MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Cllr L Bickerstaffe advised that the footpaths along Derby road were becoming difficult to use due to the overgrown nettles which are on the NHS property area.

Action: TC to contact NHS Estates dept to request urgent maintenance on this overgrowth on Derby Road.

c) Street Cleaning in Wesham

WTC council have once again been contacted with regard to a property on Garstand Rd Nth leaving rubbish & toys outside. This is a known issue & the EH officers from FBC are dealing with this property occupiers & have given them a warning. Other agencies are also involved with this ongoing situation.

d) Allotments March 2023

Town Clerk is in the process of chasing the late payers and also the Allotment owners identified in the walk around. Some of the waiting list have been contacted & are interested in taking on the vacant allotments. This remains an ongoing process.

The leaking tap has been repaired by one of the allotment holders who has DIY/Plumbing skills.

23/049 HIGHWAYS AND RAILWAYS

Traffic issues are captured in the Police section - refer to 23/046 section of these minutes.

WTC have been advised that there is a large pothole in Mowbreck Lane which needs to be filled in.

Action: TC to raise the a ticket on the LCC highways system..

23/050 GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND INSURANCE

a. **Accounts payable and income received report –**

Finance reports up to April 2023 reviewed – no comments

Cllr P Desmond volunteered to replace Cllr P Ball as an authorised signatory on the WTC account.

Action: TC to arrange with the Finance officer for this transfer of authorised signatures on the WTC bank account.

b. **Freckleton Marsh Chq –**

decision on how to use the cheque for £300 deferred to a later meeting

c. **Accident and Incident Reporting – none**

d. **WTC/WCC equipment – purchasing methods**

Although Lisa has started as WCC manager due to Cllr D Nowell holidays it will be a few weeks before this equipment can be progressed.

23/041 EVENTS

a) Community Club Day Field Event

Cllr L Walker advised that arrangements for the Field day were going well.

MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

23/052 HUMAN RESOURCES

- **HR sub Committee – update**

No update re the HR sub-committee for this WTC meeting.

- **WCC Manager role –**

LM has been informed by the Town Clerk of her appointment as WCC Manager. She still need a contract of employment. TC to advise that this will be forthcoming & that the WTC HR sub-committee are just finalising a contract of employment.

Also the DBS check needs to be raised.

Action: TC to let LM know re her Contract of Employment for the WCC role.

- **Review of payrates – HR Sub-Committee recommendations ?**

Town Clerk reminded the councillors that a review of WTC/WCC pay rates had been sent for consideration by the Finance officer. It was agreed that the pay rates would be reviewed by the HR sub-committee & the WTC would be informed of their recommendations & that any pay increases would be backdated to 1st April 2023.

23/053 WESHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

a) **New Tills**

Cllr L Bickerstaffe that the till is still with North West Tills for re-programming.

b) **Ratification of heating system repairs**

No further updates on the heating system at this meeting. Cllr L Bickerstaff proposed asking her contact Steve to re-visit the WCC for an inspection & advices for the WTC.

Action: Cllr L Bickerstaffe to co-ordinate another visit to WCC by Steve

23/054 OTHER ITEMS

c) **Web site -**

Cllr D Nowell advised that Lisa WCC manager was very proficient with Website skills which will be a bonus to WTC for future updates.

d) **Action List - reviewed**

There being no other business the meeting ended at 22:15hrs

DATE OF NEXT WTC Monthly MEETINGS:

**13th June 2023 ? (Mayor Making)
20th June 2023**

Angela Hurter

Date: 11th June 2023

WTC Additional Meetings

Date	meeting
13 th June 2023	Wesham Mayor Making ?
20 th June 2023	WTC Monthly Meeting
TBA	KJFC SLA 2 nd meeting