

# **MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

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Meeting held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
at 7.38pm in the Committee Room, Wesham Community Centre.

## **Minutes**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT AND STANDING ORDERS**

Members are reminded of the standard of conduct they must adhere to during Town Council meetings.

New councillors are advised that a copy of this will be forwarded to them by the Town Clerk

### **PRESENT: Councillor D Nowell (chair)**

**Councillors: L Nulty, P Desmond & L Bickerstaffe.**

**New Councillors: N Rowley & J Tansley**

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

**2 Observers (HF & HR)**

**2 Residents from Sanderling Way (BS)**

### **APOLOGIES: none**

**Cllr D Nowell welcomed the observers & Residents.**

**He reminded them of the rules of observation only unless asked by the WTC to comment at which point the meeting would be suspended several minutes for the Residents to be able to speak re their concerns.**

### **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 - 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

### **23/066 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD**

**20<sup>th</sup> June 2023 :**

After a review of the final version minutes for 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023 meeting were approved.

Proposer: Cllr L Nulty

Seconder: Cllr P Desmond

Vote: All attendees in favour

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## **23/067 MATTERS ARISING** – any item not covered by agenda or action list

### **a) Co-option of Wesham Councillors – interviews 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Cllr D Nowell welcomed 2 new councillors to Wesham Parish Council.

Mr John Tansley & Mr Neil Rowley

Both new Councillors completed the necessary council forms with the Town Clerk.

Cllr D Nowell advised that he would create the necessary Cllr e-mail accounts etc

**Action:** Cllr DN to set up New Councillors & tidy up Cllr info on Wesham council

Website

### **b) Resignation of Cllr L Walker – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Wesham Council accepted the June resignation of Cllr L Walker.

Wesham Council thank Louise for all her efforts on behalf of Wesham Council & wish her well in her future endeavours.

**Action:** TC to send a formal letter of thanks for Cllr LW service

### **c) Acknowledgement of recently retired councillors**

Wesham Council considered options for Retired Councillors.

It was advised that historically a bunch of flowers or similar has been purchased.

One of the suggestions was a "Wall of Fame" for previous councillors.

Some time ago it was discussed that a memorial bench would be an acknowledgement for some previous councillors (Alan Clayton' Wife – Marion & Geoff Dixon's wife – Joan).

The option of a couple of memorial benches for Wesham Town was the preferred option of the councillors. Further discussions re potential locations & supplier/type of bench etc will be taken at a future meeting in Autumn 2023.

**Action:** TC to send formal letters of thanks to Retired Councillors – SH/PB/MR/GD

## **23/068 POLICING ISSUES** - *none noted to review since 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023*

**a) Crime Reports** – police.org.uk website > area > PR4 3DR (WCC postcode)

**b) Policing Issues** – to discuss any items raised by Councillors

Town Clerk advised that as yet no further information has been received regarding the incident at Fleetwood Road Playing Fields.

Town clerk advised that recent e-mail requests for additional Police support have resulted in e-mail responses indicating that the previous PCSO officers are no longer allocated to Wesham.

Cllr L Nulty expressed disappointment in the time taken for Fylde Police to acknowledge & act on Wesham Council issues.

N Rowley advised that any incident should be reported via the 101 phone system which will create a log number – without this log number very little is likely to happen as this is now how the Police system works.

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## 23/069 PLANNING -

### a) Planning Applications -

#### [23/0256 – Bobsleigh, 6 Mowbreck Lane, Wesham](#)

<b>Application No:</b>	23/0443
<b>Location:</b>	BOBSLEY 6 MOWBRECK LANE MEDLAR WITH WESHAM LANCASHIRE PR4 3HA
<b>Proposal</b>	APPLICATION TO VARY CONDITION 2 (APPROVED PLANS) OF PLANNING PERMISSION 22/0597 TO: 1) INCREASE RIDGE HEIGHT OF DWELLING BY 175 MM; 2) OMIT GLAZED BAY/ROOFLIGHTS TO GROUND FLOOR LEVEL AND EXTEND WIDTH OF SLIDING DOORS ON REAR ELEVATION; AND 3) INCREASE DEPTH OF REAR DORMERS BY 300 MM
<b>Case Officer:</b>	Alan Pinder
<b>Parish</b>	Medlar with Wesham

Wesham Council are aware that neighbours have commented on previous planning applications on this property.

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.

Proposed: Cllr D Nowell    Seconded: Cllr L Bickerstaffe

All other attendees in favour

#### [23/0442 – 22 West View, Wesham](#)

<b>Application No:</b>	23/0479
<b>Location:</b>	22 WEST VIEW MEDLAR WITH WESHAM PRESTON PR4 3DA
<b>Proposal</b>	REMOVAL OF CONDITION 4 ON APPLICATION 22/0812 FOR EXTENSIONS TO PROPERTY TO ALLOW GARAGE DOOR TO BE FITTED TO CAR PORT ELEMENT OF SCHEME
<b>Case Officer:</b>	Alan Pinder
<b>Parish</b>	Medlar with Wesham

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.

Proposed: Cllr D Nowell    Seconded: Cllr L Bickerstaffe

All other attendees in favour

### b) Planning Consultation - E-mail 28/06/2023

NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION - Draft Supplementary Planning Documents <span>Inbox x</span>  	
 <b>Sally Thompson</b> <a href="mailto:sally.thompson@fylde.gov.uk">sally.thompson@fylde.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:via_fyldegovuk.onmicrosoft.com">via_fyldegovuk.onmicrosoft.com</a>	Wed, 28 Jun, 14:26 (10 days ago)   
<b>Public Consultation</b>	
Town and Country Planning Act (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 Regulation 12 (a) & (b) & 13.	
Draft Provision of Parking on New Developments Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Draft Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	
We are emailing to advise you that the Council is consulting on the above draft supplementary planning documents for four weeks from 29 <sup>th</sup> June to 27 <sup>th</sup> July 2023.	

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Cllr L Nulty advised Wesham Council colleagues that although the review date on this document is due to close during the summer holidays that Wesham Council will still have time to comment on this as there is a time delay of usually 2/3 months prior to a review.

Cllr Nulty outlined several key elements within this consultation document for council colleagues to review & consider as part of Wesham Council comments.

- New developments- properties are being built on lower levels.  
Now these need to be on a level or developers need to take this into account.
- Ground water levels are rising in the Fylde – 75% increase re ground flood risk
- Exceedance conditions
- Playing Fields – developers need to ensure proper drainage around fields

Cllr L Nulty advised that Sanderling way development in Wesham has not yet been signed off & adopted so it is yet unknown if all specifications have been met.

Cllr L Nulty advised that this FBC consultation document would be following National guidelines

**Action:** WTC team to read this document & forward any comments to TC for compilation into a summary response for WTC to forward to FBC.

## **FLOODING**

### • **Road Drainage**

Various reports from Wesham Residents that not all the gullies in the Town have been flushed since 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Any reported to the council have been put on the LCC lovecleanstreets reporting system.

Post office @ Wesham has suffered flooding but Nick advised that it wasn't too bad & that the carpet gets wet regularly during the winter months.

Resident JG from Garstang Rd Sth has try to report the drains outside her property but was unsuccessful with the LCC clean streets website. Cllr D Nowell has reported this on her behalf.

MS from Belgrave Ave also had flooding issue which was reported on the LCC clean street website.

LCC councillor S Jones has advised that LCC are returning to Wesham to attend to the gully cleaning during this week (17-21 July).

Cllr L Bickerstaffe observed the LCC drain team attending to the drain that has been flooding outside Wesham fire Station on the morning of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The LCC team advised that they use both a vacuum & flush system depending on what is required but also admitted that this technique may not solve all the problems.

Cllr L Bickerstaffe advised that LCC drain team had not yet attended Derby Road but it was still early in the week & Wesham Council assume that they have not yet finished in Wesham this week.

Resident DO advised that the drain cleaning team had removed 3 lumps of concrete from the drains in the Douglas Ave/Crossing Gates estate.

Wesham council were advised that there are now only 2 LCC vans for the whole of the Fylde area – all others have been sold.

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- **Crossing Gates**

As advised by FBC legal section Wesham Council are requesting the support of FBC Technical services along with LCC & UU for a report into the causes of the flooding in the Crossing Gates Estate.

An initial date of 27<sup>th</sup> July @09:30am was proposed for this meeting with these Technical Experts for FBC+LCC+UU.

Once Wesham Council have received the Technical Report they will review & act on the recommendations.

- **Sanderling Way**

Wesham Council have obtained a copy of the 2018 KJFC Drainage report for Fleetwood Playing Fields. They have been given permission to share this with appropriate bodies. Eg: WTC Insurance company

## **08:34pm - Meeting Suspended**

Proposer: Cllr D Nowell      Seconder: Cllr L Nulty

Wesham Residents from Sanderling Way were invited to speak to Wesham Council.

BS advised that the sewers on Sanderling Way have only just been adopted by United Utilities and that LCC are in the process of reviewing the Estate for future adoption of the roads.

He advised that the sewers on Sanderling Way were backed up. Also the drainage ditch was full of soil & grass.

Rowland Homes have hired HML who are intending to maintain this drainage ditch with checks every 2 weeks.

Tenant farmers for the land all around the Rowland Homes Estate undertake Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDS). There is a drainage/termination pond that should be the size of 2 football pitches and 2 smaller ponds have been built since.

BS advised that there are 2 pumping stations on Sanderling Way. The gully for these was checked & is clear but the drainage ditch is almost filled up & requires maintenance.

## **08:44pm – Meeting Resumed**

### **23/070 PLAYING FIELDS and OPEN SPACES**

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

Robert & James Pickervance have put some proposals to Wesham Council at a Grounds maintenance review at 7pm this evening.

- **Stone Troughs**

RP suggested that as the wooden retaining stakes at Fleetwood Playing Fields are rotten & one of the beds struggles as it is competing for light & water with the silver birch trees planted alongside that a couple of the large stone trough used by farmers would make a nice feature if purchased & planted up. WTC agreed to this suggestion with a budget limit of £500 for both the purchase of the troughs & for compost & plants to fill them.

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Proposer: Cllr L Nulty    Seconded by: Cllr P Desmond  
All other attendee councillors in favour

- Half barrels

Robert & James advised that some of the half barrels within Wesham are not in the best location.

One outside the Co-op was pinched & Robert has replaced it but some of them are being mistreated (litter left in them) Robert has proposed moving some of them to alternative locations where this mistreatment may not occur. Wesham Council approved this re-location of some of the half barrels.

The shrub in one of the half barrels outside the WCC door has died. Wesham Council asked Robert to replace this.

- Wooden Planters @ WCC

The wooden planters outside the WCC were part of the re-furbishment of the front of the WCC by LCC & FBC. These planters have never been maintained & are now being used as an impromptu doggie poop bag bins. The one directly outside the entrance door is being used as a stepping aide to youths accessing Wesham Bowling Green during closed hours. Robert has suggested re-locating these but also to cut them down to half the depth so that they are more manageable as planters.

Wesham Council approved this suggestion.

Since this meeting occurred Wesham Bowling Club have taken one of the square planters to use as a composting bin for the grass cutting so there are now 2 left for re-purposing/re-siting by Robert.

Wild Flower planting on areas on Fleetwood Playing fields - Wesham Council approved this suggestion.

Wesham Council acknowledged that some of these suggestions will incur additional costs. Approval was given for additional funding upto a further £500.

Wesham Council thanked Robert for his suggestions & also thanked him for his enthusiasm & passion regarding trying to improve Wesham community through his Grounds Maintenance efforts which Wesham Council appreciate.

Robert & James asked about the other side of the By-pass that is currently not in the SLA with Wesham council but is cut by LCC. As they do not cut the verge as frequently as Robert & James it gives an unbalanced look which most of the public would think is due to Wesham council & their Grounds Maintenance contractor. Robert & James have asked if they could do this work instead of LCC.

**Action:** TC to look into the LCC/WTC/FBC arrangement regarding this grass verge to see if this change of maintenance to Robert & James could be arranged

## b) Fleetwood Road Playing Fields

### Mole Issue

Robert Pickervance advised that there is still a mole problem on Fleetwood Rd playing fields with a couple of mole hills appearing in the middle of the football pitches.

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As previously advised Cllr D Nowell mentioned that the Mole removal process is done by specialists via a liquid which gases the moles.

**Action:** Cllr D Nowell /TC to try to obtain a quote for a local specialist form the BPCA website for Wesham council.

Robert Pickervance proposed a couple of Wild meadow areas on Fleetwood Road Playing Fields. Wesham council agreed that this was a good idea along with signage on these areas for information for users of the park.

Wesham Council noted that no invoice has yet been received for the summer bedding plants. These are looking good in the beds & in the barrels & hanging baskets

## KJFC Rent for 2023

A recent meeting with new KJFC representative went well. KJFC have provided most of the information requested and are in the process of collating the rest of the required information for Wesham Council.

Wesham Council advised KJFC at the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 that the 10 year lease was based on refurbishment of pavilion that has never actually occurred therefore the lease would be renewed on an annual basis only with a rental of £1500 for 2023-24 Season.

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

**Action:** TC to revise the SLA, arrange for invoice & signatures.

## c) Doorstep Green, Derby Road

- Trees maintenance on Derby Road – NHS hospital estates area

Cllr L Bickertaffe advised that no progress has occurred with the overgrown trees. Also the nettles that were cut back are coming back.

Cllr L Bickerstaffe advised that she continues to liaise with NHS representative. The option of putting this onto the LCC highways reporting system was considered if there is no progress with the NHS Estates.

Cllr L Bickerstaffe advised that the Dog Walking area on Doorstep Green has seen more than usual usage due to the issues with the Kirkham on.

Cllr N Rowley advised the walkers shelter has been vandalised & requires refurbishment or replacement. Wesham Council will review this at an autumn meeting.

## d) Street Cleaning in Wesham - *nothing for July 2023 mtg*

Cllr L Nulty advised that bins near Sanderling Way have some old Deck chairs etc left next to them. The bins will be emptied by FBC but items such as this are considered to be Fly tipping & will need to be reported separately.

## e) Allotments

### Moreland Ave Allotment Tenant request

- Waiting list – Re-advertise as post in 2017. Suggest an “open-day” to invite people to the allotments and meet current holders.

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- Drainage problems – Recent flooding to allotments and gardens (Douglas Avenue). Riparian ditch is not functioning – highlighted on aerial map below.
- Additional tap – Near Plot 32 as shown on map below.
- Neglected plots – As mentioned before we would like to help people take these plots on – highlighted red.
- Composting toilet
- Mowing central path
- Skip to clear neglected plots
- Woodland area next to Plot 31 – Is this land part of the allotments and can I/we clear low lying vegetation and rubbish to use as a social space? Circled red on map.

Town Clerk advised that there is a waiting list of approx. 20 persons who have requested an allotment so there is currently no need to re - advertise.

Wesham Town council have requested advise from FBC/UU & LCC regarding drainage issues for a joining Estates. Until these advises received WCC will wait to make a decision on the drainage & woodland area request.

Neglected plots to be issued with letter from TC advising that at the end of the summer a further inspection will occur & if no progress/improvement allotment tenancy could be terminated.

Mowing of paths at Fleetwood Road is done by allotment holders so should be done by Moreland Ave allotment holders.

Several allotment holders have advised that they are happy to assist with new tenants & have proposed a Moreland Ave allotment committee. Wesham Council acknowledged that there used to be a committee & have no objections to another one. TC to ask each tenant if they are happy to share details so that they can discuss forming an allotment committee.

Wesham Council have assisted clearance of allotments previously with the supply of skips. Wesham Council are prepared to consider skip assistance but need to ensure that the skips are used solely for allotment rubbish & not for "fly tipping". They will discuss this further with Allotment representatives from the Allotment committee.

## **f) Wesham Bowling Club –**

Bowling Green Land is owned by Wesham Council. A peppercorn rent of £1 was agreed for 2023.

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

Cllr D Nowell advised that he has put WBC Social Secretary in touch with a contact from South Shore Bowling Club – networking & idea sharing opportunities for WBC.

## **g) Dog PSPO extension    Alcohol PSPO extension – consultation now ended**

Cllr Linda Nulty advised Wesham Councillors that although the closing date for consultation on these documents has passed that as they will not be reviewed for some weeks yet that Wesham Councillors should read these documents & as a council comment as appropriate.



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## **23/071 HIGHWAYS AND RAILWAYS -**

No new issues discussed at this meeting

Cllr L Bickerstaffe continues to monitor the traffic on Derby Road.

## **23/072 GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND INSURANCE**

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

- Finance reports up to June 2023 reviewed – no comments

Cllr D Nowell proposed that the WCC accounts will be reviewed at the WCC meeting scheduled for 20th July 2023.

Wesham Council are to review the signatories on the Bank Accounts as some authorising signatories are no longer active members of this council.

Wesham Council noted that Finance officer wishes to retire during 2024.

As WTC has encountered difficulties over a number of recent purchases without having a bank card it was proposed that WTC explore the option of opening two new accounts which have bank/credit card capabilities into which a smaller amount of money can be placed for use by WTC & WCC for minor repairs & purchases.

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

Cllr L Nulty advised that N Gillett & Sons have been asked for a quote for Noticeboards for WTC. This is an option for Cllr L Nulty left over mayoral allowance for 2022-23.

Cllr S Harrison to be asked if he has a preferred charity for left over Mayoral allowance from 2021-22. In previous meetings Cllr S Harrison proposed a defib unit for Fleetwood Playing Fields.

### **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**

Cllr D Nowell advised that he now has phone & computer for the TC but that a contract for the WCC & WTC phone cannot be sorted with the present WTC banking arrangements.

## **23/073 EVENTS**

### **a) Community Club Day Field Event**

Cllr L Walker advised via email that the Fund Day had gone well.

A summary of accounts for this event will be provided by Mr S Harrison.

Cllr S Harrison & Cllr L Walker to be consulted re the Field Day accounts in particular with regard to the profits & proposal for what should happen to these – a charity of their choice?



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## **23/074 HUMAN RESOURCES**

- **HR sub Committee – update**

No meeting have occurred since the last update from HR sub-committee.  
Contracts of employment are drafted for WTC staff but need a final check before issue.

- **WCC Manager role –**

It was noted that LM will be completing her 3 month probationary period around the end of July.

## **23/075 WESHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

- a) **Heating system repairs WCC – Updates**

- b) **Bollard repairs**

These items to be discussed at the WCC meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July

Cllr D Nowell advised that a replacement lock has been fitted on the front door so councillors with keys need to obtain a new key – several have been cut.

## **23/076 OTHER ITEMS**

- d) **Web site -**

Cllr D Nowell advised that he has updated the website with the flooding information which was agreed at the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 meeting following the co-option interviews.

Cllr D Nowell advised that he would update the website with the new councillors details & provide them with a WTC e-mail address.

- e) **Action List – updated prior to meeting no further comments**

**There being no other business the meeting ended at 22:52hrs**

**DATE OF NEXT WTC Monthly MEETINGS: 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023 & 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023**

Cllr D Nowell advised that he is not available for the 19<sup>th</sup> Sept WTC monthly meeting – this meeting has been re-scheduled to 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023

*Angela Hunter*

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023

## **WTC Additional Meetings**

Date	meeting
11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2023	Co-option New councillor interviews
14 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2023	WTC Monthly Meeting
TBA	Mill Farm Planning applications
TBA	FBC/UU/LCC flood meeting
TBA	Allotment Meeting (Moreland Ave)
TBA	Residents Feedback – Flooding investigation