

# Berwick Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Berwick Parish Council held on the Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7:00pm. This was a virtual meeting held on Zoom.

## 22. Present

Cllrs K Winter (Chairman), B Smith, S Carnie and D Robinson.

County Councillor N Bennett, District Councillor D Watts and Alison Stevens (Clerk) were also present. There were no members of the public in attendance.

## 23. Apologies for absence

Cllr V Burrough sent apologies for her absence which were duly accepted by the Parish Council.

## 24. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interests nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

The meeting was then suspended.

## 25. Report from the County Councillor

County Councillor Bennett said;

- East Sussex continues to have a comparatively low number of Covid-19 cases. The latest figures show a cumulative rate of 308.5 cases per 100,000 of population.
- The NHS Track and Trace app is out today and business premises now need to display QR codes.
- The Scale Up East Sussex pilots were commissioned in 2019 in response to growing evidence that demonstrates the importance of 'scale up' businesses for the economy, and the value in supporting ambitious businesses that have the potential to become high growth 'scale up' businesses.
- ESCC expects to have a £3m deficit this year but will meet the shortfall from its reserves.

## 26. Report from the District Councillor

District Councillor Watts said;

- Officers are working through the Business Grant applications and expect to pay out the last of them by the end of this month.
- The reception desk re-opened but because there have not been many visitors the decision to re-open is being re-evaluated.
- Wealden District Council is continuing to send out regular guidance updates on the work of its Community Hub and he asked the Clerk to send the telephone number of the hub to councillors.
- Infection rates in Wealden have increased but the figures in East Sussex remain generally quite low.

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27. Public Question Time

There were no questions from the public on this occasion.

The meeting was then re-opened.

28. Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 and 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020 (previously distributed).

The Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 and 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020 were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

29. Clerk's Report on Matters Arising from those Minutes

All matters arising were covered elsewhere on the agenda.

30. Planning Applications

There were no applications for consideration at this meeting.

31. Reports from Parish Councillors

i: Berwick Playing Field – There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

ii: Highways and Transport Matters – Traffic and congestion through Berwick has increased substantially since the works at Polegate started. The Clerk will ask contractors to install some speed warning signs and she will ask the police to monitor the area more regularly.

32. Reports from Outside Bodies

- i. Village Hall Committee – The Clerk has sent the Village Hall details of the QR poster they need to display as part of the NHS track and trace system.
- ii. Cuckmere Community Bus – The Cuckmere Community Bus is managing to run most of its services but still needs more drivers. It also hopes to have a new bus in service at the end of the month.
- iii. Tree Warden – Earlier this month the Tree Warden reported that a tree had fallen on the Vanguard Way in the woodland behind the houses which run from Berwick Station to the field in front of the village hall. The tree was blocking the path and there was a lot of low hanging vegetation making it difficult for walkers. The path has now been cleared by Rights of Way.
- iv. Cuckmere Community Flood Forum – The Environment Agency has carried out some shingle work and the river is working again. It is thought it will need to do more in November/December.
- v. South Downs National Park – Councillors discussed the consultation draft from the South Downs National Park Authority headed 'Guidance on Parking for Residential and Non-Residential Development Supplementary Planning Document' and agreed to submit any comments as individuals.

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## 33. Finance

i: Approval of payments and receipts – Councillors approved the following payments;

		£
101169	A Stevens - July Salary	436.45
101170	A Stevens - August Salary	436.25
101171	ESCC - Pension contributions	318.64
101172	HMRC PAYE	327.20
101173	Mass Media - Website	50.40
101174	Mass Media - Website	50.40

ii Councillors resolved to approve the accounts to 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

## 34. Wealden South West Parish Planning Cluster

Berwick Parish Council resolved to formally appoint Councillor Keith Winter as its representative on the South West Parish Planning Cluster.

## 35. Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Smith said the church has submitted a planning application for a car park, to Wealden District Council. The Parish Council will submit its comments, when they are called for, once Wealden has validated the application.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7.35pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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