**MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

Town Council meeting held on Tuesday, 19th November 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Committee Room, Wesham Community Centre

**PRESENT:** Councillor Liz Bickerstaffe (Chair)

Councillors: Linda Nulty, Pete Desmond, Phil Enright, Tim Rackham, Kellyann Moreton (New Councillor)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**  Angela Hunter (Acting Town Clerk)

Ruth Ross (Town Clerk)

PCSO Jake Giddins

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Jordan Ledger

Jean Priestley (Finance Officer)

**CODE OF CONDUCT AND STANDING ORDERS**

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

**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 Bickerstaffe – an interest in items relating to Wesham C of E School (Governor)

Cllr J Ledger – an interest in planning (Fylde BC committee member)

Cllr L Nulty – an interest in issues relating to Mill Farm being a neighbour and an interest in items relating to Kirkham Food Bank (volunteer)

**24/107 APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the Council Meeting held on 15th October 2024

Proposed: T Rackham Seconded: by Phil Enright

**24/108 MATTERS ARISING**

The Defibrillator is flashing red – new servicing or new battery – get Lucy Simpson’s number from L Bickerstaffe. Email has been sent to shaun.sproule@nwas.nhs.uk

**24/109 CO-OPTING OF COUNCILLORS**

Kellyann Moreton. Linda Nulty proposes she is co-opted. Seconded by Pete Desmond

**24/110 POLICING ISSUES**

PCSO Jake Giddins was in attendance at the meeting. There is an issue with parking on Garstang Road North close to Seniors Chippy causing traffic issues at busy times of the day. It was recommended that this be reported online rather than by phone.

Christ Church Tower. Police are aware of the on-going vandalism. Also, it has been reported that car door handles are being tried. It was recommended that we write to Police and Crime Commissioners and express our dissatisfaction with the lack of policing.

Tim Rackham suggested we may be able to have a meeting with the Inspector/Officer based in Kirkham.

**24/111 PLANNING**

No planning applications. Update on Mill Farm – they have removed trees and started constructing the HTMI distribution building.

There is an application to demolish Mill Farm 24/0368

Action: T Rackham to look in this and put together response.

**24/112 PLAYING FIELDS AND OPEN SPACES**

**Open Spaces Contract** - Had a meeting with Robert Pickervance on 12/11/2024. The council commented on how pleased they were with the gardening work done.

Inflation increase on SLA. It was proposed that an extra 5% should be added to R Pickervance invoice on the next payment due from November 2024 onwards.

Fleetwood Road-Crossing Gates land. Had a response from Greenbelt the management company and they say it is not their responsibility. Tim Rackham to do a check for us.

Proposed: Cllr E Bickerstaffe Seconded: T Rackham

**Doorstep Green, Derby Road**

L Nulty mentioned putting in 6 trees on Doorstep Green instead of the 4 first mentioned and repairing the hanging basket stand at Weeton Road roundabout area.

Proposed: Cllr E Bickerstaffe Seconded: Cllr P Enright.

Robert suggested putting in a path on the dog run and a plinth for the new bench.

Doorstep Green – plinth in quote from Pickervance. L Bickerstaffe phoned regarding solar light.

Need signage on children’s play areas as there are very old worn signs no longer very legible saying “dogs not allowed”

**Fleetwood Road Playing Fields**

Additional works discussed and for Robert Pickervance to quote for

Fleetwood Road Pavillion needs maintenance work ie guttering, door etc

Proposed: Cllr E Bickerstaffe Seconded: Cllr L Nulty

A sign is also required for the parking area as cars park there overnight. When people book coach trips with G-Line the customers leave there car. Need a sign to say “No Overnight Parking” and Wesham Council reserve the right to close this car park without prior notice.

Contact Taylor and Pickles for signs and metal post

**Action:** R Ross to make enquiries

**Street cleaning in Wesham**

Contact FBC regarding days the street cleaner is supposed to work and schedule.

**Allotments**

Signs regarding fires have been put up. Both Fleetwood Road and Morland Avenue have a noticeboard but both are deteriorating and may need maintenance/replacement in 2025.

**Wesham Bowling Club**

A meeting took place with the Bowling Club on Thursday, 15th November. They did not bring a plan regarding the toilet facilities and they have not enquired about funding.

D Ogden emailed asking if they could knock through at the back of the building and use the existing children’s toilet. This would not be possible to do as those toilets are still used.

**24/113 HIGHWAYS AND RAILWAYS**

Spoke to Jake about cars parking on Garstang Road North. There is no parking warden. Double white lines need renewing and there are no cats eyes. The double yellow lines on Thomson Street have not been done and the mini roundabout is disintegrating.

**Action:** R Ross to contact Stewart Jones at LCC

Shrubbery on A585 Fleetwood Road close to Mill Farm roundabout is a Road Safety Issue. This has also been recorded on the Lancashire County Council Website

Also the shrubbery on Fleetwood Road aligned to the Crossing Gates estate is also a safety issue. Greenbelt the current management company have been contacted and informed of the area that needs attention- awaiting a response.

Proposed mural at Kirkham and Wesham Railway Station. Email from Peter Woods asking for a contribution towards this from Wesham Council. We are supportive of the idea and may put it on the precept estimates.

**Action:** Linda to speak to Peter Woods for further information and details.

**24/114 GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND INSURANCE**

**Finance**

Meeting is taking place on 28/11/2024 to discuss 2025-2026 precept

Received income and expenditure reports for October

Approved: L Nulty Seconded: P Desmond

Wesham Community Centre Bank Account to be discussed at next meeting

**Accident and Incident Reporting** - none

**24/115 EVENTS**

**Remembrance Sunday Service 10th November 2024**

Cllr Liz Bickerstaffe thanked everyone involved and expressed how well the event was organised. Thank you letters were sent to the Scouts, Neil Barnes, Janis Nowell.

Neil Barnes is looking at getting a band for next year’s Remembrance day. Neil to sponsor.

It was also mentioned about cleaning the cenotaph memorial but it is classed as high risk to clean. The railings also need some maintenance in 2025.

**Christmas Tree light switch on – 29 November 2024**

Schools are singing. Cllr Liz Bickerstaffe getting a booklet together to be printed for given out at the switch on.

**Community Fund Raiser**

Not yet been organised

**24/117 WESHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

The plumber came to fix the radiator at the back left of stage. The leaking pipe is not in the loft at the back of the stage. It is at the back of the stage left hand side up the stairs where there are boxed in pipes – the plumbers need to come back.

Approval of bar bookings. – this was approved by Cllr Liz Bickerstaffe S

Following the Council meeting on 10/12/2024, there will be Christmas drinks and food in the bar. Seconded: Pete Desmond

**Action:** R Ross to send out invitations.

**24/106 OTHER**

Website – Have been quoted for a website and ongoing support through a company in Kirkham – Property World

Look into NetWise V2 recommended by LALC

**Action:** R Ross

A Smart screen is required for the committee room. Would help with bookings going forward and would help promote facilities

Food bank donation – it was agreed that a donation of £1125 would be donated to the food bank to benefit the local community

Proposed: P Desmond Seconded: T Rackham

It was discussed that the Kitchen could do with upgrading and also the toilets.

**Action:** R Ross

DATE OF NEXT WTC MEETING: 10th December 2024

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| Date | Meeting |
|  |  |
| 28th November 2024 | Finance Meeting – 1st Precepts review |
| Autumn 2024 | WCC meeting |
| Autumn 2024/Jan 2025 | SLA Annual Review – KJFC |