**MEDLAR-with-WESHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

Town Council meeting held on Tuesday, 21st May 2025 at 7.30 pm in the Committee Room, Wesham Community Centre

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Elizabeth Bickerstaffe (Chair) Linda Nulty, Tim Rackham, Kellyann Moreton,

Phil Enright, Ian Nicols Hogg, Andrei Short, Angela Hunter

**IN ATTENDANCE:**  Ruth Ross (Town Clerk)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Pete Desmond

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

**25/52 APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the Council Meeting held on 29th April 2025

Proposed: Cllr T Rackham. Seconded: Cllr L Nulty

**25/53 MATTERS ARISING**

Any item not covered by agenda or action list – non

**25/54 POLICING ISSUES**

No policing reports available. Councillor Bickerstaffe commented on garages broken into to. Be aware of fires being started. Obtain crime report.

**25/55 PLANNING – 25/0284 Pasture Barn for a manure store**

Council actively support this - contact planning and mail the councils’ response.

Proposed Housing off Weeton Road – pre planning submission. Technically it is not allowable site to build on being countryside and not in the local plan. Invite the building company to council meeting on

17th June – 7 pm start. Email plan to new councillors.

**25/56 PLAYING FIELDS AND OPEN SPACES**

**a)Open Spaces Contract** -

Discuss with contractor to put in SLA that if weather is unseasonably dry that plants must be watered as many have died off due to the dry weather.

Contract states that cutting off grass from roundabout to the side of bypass by Weeton road can be done at an additional cost as stated on the quotation from the contractors. All council in favour of this being done.

Hedge cutting as discussed – blindspot from the Welcome to Wesham sign and tidy up next to fire station up to roundabout Fleetwood Road.

**b)Fleetwood Playing Fields** –

**Signage** – Sample of a sign to be placed near bollards on the edge of the car park stating ‘Dogs to be kept on leads at all times’ and no overnight parking etc – make amendments and discuss in next meeting.

**Bollards and fencing**. – looking for replacements – awaiting quote for replacements and labour costs

**Guttering on the pavilion –** waiting for a quote for the replacement guttering and labour costs. Cllr E Bickerstaffe to obtain this.

**Kirkham Junior Football Club** – Meeting held with representative from Kirkham Juniors regarding the SLA 2025-26. They are proposing putting in locked in goal posts that are locked in with sockets and fixed in with concrete. They currently use the playing field for 5 a side and 7 a side and are suggesting putting in another pitch which Wesham Council are fully supportive of. It is also agreed that Kirkham Juniors can use the playing fields on Saturdays and Sundays. Look into costs of mowing and general maintenance ie works to be done on Pavillion and also the monthly water charge is included - awaiting written quotes. Council will agree the 2025-26 fee at the next council meeting on 17th June. ASK FOR COPY OF PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE AND DBS CHECK REGISTER. ASK FOR FIXTURES LIST.

**c)Doorstep Green, Derby Road –** solar lighting update. E Bickerstaffe to chase original company. Received a quote from a local firm – check the warranty on the light fittings.

A further dead tree has been reported. Check with Open Spaces contractor for replacement.

**d) Street Cleaning in Wesham** – no update

**25/57 Allotments –**  They are limited vacancies now and a waiting list has been put together for Wesham residents.

Land adjacent to Bowling Green – allotment. The council went to look at the allotment to discuss plans for it going forward. Add to the agenda for the next council meeting. Look into starting up the Community Prided Trust again. An ex-councillor is chair of the committee. Look into setting up a sub committee.

**25/58 HIGHWAYS AND RAILWAYS**

Kirkham Station – The town clerk at Kirkham has been contacted to ask that if meetings are held with regards to the train station that Wesham Council are involved too as it affects residents of both Kirkham and Wesham

Received a complaint regarding the slope at the railway station being used as a toilet. The email has been forwarded to Kirkham Council as it is a Kirkham Council issue.

**25/59 HUMAN RESOURCES**

NEST Pension for the Town Clerk – Councillor E Bickerstaffe has details

Employment contract template forwarded to Cllr P Desmond - update

**25/60 WESHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Awaiting removal of the remainder of the seating in the bar area and then skirting to be done and electrical work to be carried out. Radiator pipes need boxing in and the radiators need to be checked that they are still working at the back of the bar. Decorating and carpeting to follow.

Advert gone out for new cleaner for the Community Centre and ad hoc bar staff

**25/61 PATHWAY BY SCOUT HUT AND BACK OF GARDENS AT CHURCH WALK –**

Three residents from Church Walk attended the meeting with their concerns about disturbance from the pathway at the rear of their properties and have requested that the path be relocated. The pathway is situated between the back gardens of the houses on Church Walk and the scout hut and leads to the school. The path is used by children and parents arriving and leaving school and also during the day to get to the C of E school. The complaints are about two issues. Daytime when children are on the playground and in the evenings when other people are using the pathway. The council recommended that the residents contact the police in the evenings if there is a disturbance. Council will have to look into the historical facts about the origin of the pathway. The school will need to be contacted regarding the original planning permission.

**25/62 WEBSITE** – Councillors to bring devices i.e. phones, laptops, ipads etc along to the Council Meeting in June to be updated for the new email addresses .gov.uk

**25/63 MAYORAL CHAIN AND REGALIA**

A photo of the mayoral chain needs to be sent to Fattorini prior to adding in the new links requested – find out if we need to send the chain to them by courier and the cost. Also ordering further pendants and bars

**25/64 CIVIC SUNDAY**

6th July - procession to start at Derby Road around Wesham Road closures have been arranged. Order of service to be done by church - confirm. Back to Community Centre for refreshments after the service .

**DATE OF NEXT WTC MEETING: Tuesday, 17th June 2025 at 7 pm**