

would allocate to cover a specified contribution for example food, music etc up to £2000. **It was proposed by Cllr Odin and seconded by Cllr Court** that Cllrs Court, Slade and Goacher would meet with the pub to take the proposal forward and confirm the Parish Council involvement. The Clerk asked that any contribution be invoiced as per normal practice and not a gifted donation.

**Cllrs
Goacher,
Court &
Slade**

Agenda Item 5: County Councillor Report and Questions – Cllr Hunt

Cllr Hunt updated the Council as follows:

Boundary Review - you might or might not be aware that the Government are carrying out a boundary review of parliamentary constituency boundaries. The second round of consultations concluded just before Christmas and the final proposals will be announced in early July next year. As far as West Dean is concerned, there are no proposed changes, you will still be part of the Chichester constituency. However, the most recent proposal is that half of Henry's Goodwood ward, including Singleton, Charlton and East Dean will be transferred to the Arundel and South Downs constituency. The final outcome will be announced sometime in July.

Cost of Living Crises - just a reminder that there is a lot of information on the West Sussex County Council website as to where people can find help on a wide range of topics, such as guidance on finance, food, transport. Energy, employment and wellbeing. The website address is: www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/cost-of-living/ or simply search for WSCC cost of living crises. Alternatively our libraries - which are also open as warm spaces - have lots of information and can help people who are looking for support. Also, our Community Hub is there if you need support - just call them on **033 022 27980** - lines are open 9.00am - 5.00pm 7 days a week, including bank holidays. Over Christmas the County Council once again ran its holiday activity and food programme, offering free holiday club places for children who receive means-tested free school meals. The County Council also provided a £30 supermarket food voucher to these children for the two-week Christmas school holiday, separately to the holiday programme. This supported over 17,500 West Sussex children who receive free school meals (means-tested) and their families with the rising cost of living.

Budget - just to confirm that our budget for 2023/24 was approved by full council on Friday 17th February. Just for your interest, our proposed total spend across all our services in 2023/24 will be just under £1.9bn. However, after deducting grants, including the Dedicated Schools Grant (approx. £780m which we passport straight through to schools), fees and charges and other income, our proposed net revenue budget is just under £709m. That is an increase of approx 9.25%, or £60m in real money, over the current year. Again, the largest part of our budget - just over 55% - is spent on social care (34% on Adults and 21% on Children and Young People).

I referenced it at the last meeting, but just to confirm that the increase in the West Sussex share of your council tax will be 2.99% for core council tax + 2% specifically for Adult Social Care - giving a total increase of 4.99%. For an average Band D taxpayer this equates to £77.76 per year, or £1.49 per week.

Obviously highways are often top of most peoples agenda - especially after the extensive flooding we had in January which, as you well know, has caused a lot of damage to road surfaces. In the last nine months of 2022 we filled over 25,500 potholes, but unfortunately the floods, followed by freezing conditions, undid a lot of that good work. As part of last years budget we allocated an additional £21m capital funding to highways maintenance, spread over 4/5 years. For 2023/24 we have added a further £4.5m for specific highways projects, which means that, across both capital and revenue projects, we will be investing over £80m next year in our highways network across the County.

Southern Water - Following Southern Water's visit to Lavant PC in December, I will be arranging a further meeting with them to include representatives from the parishes in the Lavant Valley. So once I have arranged this I will obviously update you as I trust you will want to send a representative.

Local Issues

Chilgrove Road - well finally the repair work was completed last Friday. I understand that we re-surfaced over 1000sq metres, so the work was pretty extensive. I have also received a very nice email from a Chilgrove resident, thanking me for pressing to get the work done. I realise there are still the grips to be done, but at least these now have a job number, so I will keep chasing it. There is also a job number for clearance of the collection sump at the junction of the B2141 and the A286, but this will need to wait until it dries out.

Community Highway Scheme - speed limit reductions. Now that the new speed limit policy has been adopted I have had confirmation that this scheme will go forward as part of the 23/24 programme, and in all likelihood it will be scheduled for the second half of the year. Obviously once I have any further information around dates I will update you. I know you are keen to see if the scheme proposed by our highways engineers is the same as you requested, so I have been pushing for early sighting of the plans - ahead of the public consultation. Currently the detailed design hasn't been completed, but once it has it will then need to go through the road safety audit process. Once that has been completed the officer overseeing the scheme has agreed to let both myself and the PC have an early sight of the plans.

Fallen bus stop - Farbridge - I have confirmed that this is the responsibility of WS and I have reported it through our members highways reporting system. I have had confirmation that it has been logged and it has been allocated to a highways steward for inspection. I am awaiting an update from the steward.

Operation Watershed - B2141.Crows Hall Farm. AS the work on all the grips along the road is now in our programme I was wondering if you wish to now take a further look at the original scheme which was just around Crows Hall Farm. A point for discussion.

Finally, please don't forget to keep an eye on our website, especially our news and campaigns page where you can keep up to date with all our latest news. <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/news-and-campaigns/>

Also, a reminder that all our public meetings are webcast live and are also archived, so you can always view them later. <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/watch-county-council-and-committee-meetings-online/>

Questions/Comments:

- The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from a resident of Chilgrove Road thanking both Cllr Cochrane and in particular County Cllr Hunt for his continued efforts regarding the Chilgrove Road. It was however noted that it would be helpful if a more proactive maintenance programme could be developed for these roads. While we do realise the budgetary and time restrictions the Council are under at present, we do feel that such a programme would reduce the extent of this problem and would undoubtedly save money in the long run.
- Cllr Odin asked if there were any plans for the Motor Road and Cllr Hunt responded that he would formally bring this up again and report back
- Discussion took place regarding the Operation Watershed proposal which has temporarily been put on hold Cllr Hunt reported that he will reconfirm to the Clerk whether the Council should now resubmit the application. It was confirmed that EJJ is the landowner and is happy to support the proposal for Crows Hall Farm. It was confirmed that the project once agreed is managed by the contractor and does not need a specific lead from the Council.

Agenda Item 6: District Councillor Report and Questions – Cllr Potter

The following report was submitted by District Cllr Potter:

The reviewed District Local Plan was received and accepted at a Meeting of the Council on 31/01. It is now available for a 6 week consultation period after which, with any amendments made arising from this

Cllr Hunt
Clerk

consultation, it will be presented to the Planning Inspectorate for Scrutiny and hopefully adoption possibly in late 2023/24.

The Councils Budget Review for 23/24 will be presented to Full Council on Tuesday's (07/03) Meeting for acceptance. Broadly, the total Budget requirement for the coming year is set at £15,845,400 meaning a modest increase in the Councils Precept of 2.99% which amounts to a rise for a Band D taxpayer of £5.26 per annum bringing that contribution to £181.07.

In contrast, the requirements for WSCC and the Police and Crime Commissioner precept, again for a Band D property, are £1633.41 and £239.91 respectively. The Council has determined in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, that the rise in Council Tax is not excessive, if that's of any comfort to the Taxpayer.

An independent Review of Members Allowance took place during last year and a recommendation to increase this allowance by 5% beginning on 01/04 this year will be debated and ratified at Tuesday's meeting.

Subsequent to the Councils Overview & Scrutiny Committee Virtual Meeting involving Southern Water on 17th January we are still awaiting responses to many questions put to SW representatives. My main question concerned the lack of action to address your concerns regarding the hard standing for the tankers when pumping sewage from Church Lane. I have once, since my initial question, asked for an update / progress report but still nothing from Toby Willison. Disappointed to say the least.

Finally on the subject of the pool 'house', I can't help wondering what has prompted the owner/occupier to apply for a Lawful Development Certificate. Was it possibly the visit (and maybe advice) by the Enforcement Officer during their investigative Enforcement visit?

Maybe our SDNP / CDC Planning Officers response to my query will explain all.

Agenda Item 7: Traffic / Roads Update

a) Speedwatch Update

On behalf of Cllr Court, Cllr Goacher reported that due to the bad weather in January and February it has been quiet recently however it was noted that speeding is particularly bad again. The following statistics were reported:

Period 13/3/22 – 6/3/23

Count Speeders 30mph – 568

Max Speeder 30mph – 66mph

Average Speeder 30mph – 42mph

Count all sessions 30mph – 24

Average speeders per session – 23

Total number of vehicles passing – 6618

Number of sessions with vehicles passing – 24

Average vehicles passing per session – 275

Average % speeders per session – 8%

Session time at roadside – 29 hours

Average offenders per hour 19.6

Vehicles without MOT – 10

Vehicles without tax – 13

Vehicles on SORN – 3

Police Actions taken if known

Invalid record – 97

Awaiting processing – 2

Case closed – 1

Letter sent – 436

RPU intervention – 1

Sold/In trade – 8

<p>Discussion took place regarding an email received from a local resident (and forwarded to the Council) regarding traffic calming measures. The Council fully supported the view of the resident and agreed with the points raised, however it was noted that this has been extensively explored in the past by the Council. The response previously from WSCC Highways was that the road is too narrow for a central island. The Council with the kind support of the EJF suggested that the road was widened using a piece of land that would be donated by EJF for the purpose of widening the road to put in an island. Highways rejected the offer.</p> <p>Cllr Hunt suggested that a community highways scheme could be applied for with the wider support of the community and he would make enquiries and report back on whether this may be feasible.</p> <p>In response to the resident who raised the issue, it was agreed that Cllr Slade would respond to the open letter in the Valley Diary</p>	<p>Cllr Hunt</p> <p>Cllr Slade</p>
<p>b) SID Update</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Graham, the Clerk reported that although WS Highways have been slow in the appointment of a contractor this has now happened. The training is booked and should happen after the installation. An invoice has been received for the SID and is included in the payments for approval.</p> <p>c) Binderton Lane potholes</p> <p>It was confirmed by Cllr de Groot that although some had been filled, a large pothole remains which despite reporting has not been filled. Cllr Hunt asked for the job reference numbers to be sent to him so that he may follow up.</p> <p>It was noted by Cllr Goacher that satnav sends drivers down this route as it is the quickest route but is not a suitable road for the amount of use.</p>	<p>Cllr de Groot</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Renovation of Telephone Box</p> <p>Cllr de Groot reported that the telephone box is in a bad state or repair and needs works done to it. He has sourced someone who is able to do the work however it will cost £700 + materials. The Council noted that in previous discussions the Parish Council had opted not to buy the telephone box because of the upkeep involved as well as the decommissioning of the telephone line. After much discussion it was agreed that as the Parish Council do not own the telephone box permission would be needed from BT before any works could take place. Cllr de Groot offered to contact BT and report the telephone box for maintenance.</p>	<p>Cllr de Groot</p>
<p>Agenda Item 9: To review next steps in Operation Watershed Application (Crows Hall Farm)</p> <p>Covered as above. Cllr Graham asked that it be recorded that the landowner EJF supports the works. Clerk to forward the papers to Cllr Graham to pass onto the relevant person at EJF for signing.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>Agenda Item 10: Planning Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDNP/23/00652/LDE The Pool House Binderton House Binderton Lane Binderton West Dean Existing lawful development certificate for the continuous use of the Pool House as a dwelling for more than 4 years Deadline: 22 March 2023 <p>Cllr Corbett outlined the response received from enforcement that no further action was to be taken. This is in contrary to the now received application above. It was noted that the whole case is highly contradictory and confusing. After much discussion of the background and detail of the case it was agreed that Cllr de</p>	<p>Cllr de Groot</p>

Clerk Salary and ExpensesClerks Salary 1 – 31st January 2023**Net Salary £502.30****PAYE £16.40****Total Net Outlay £518.70**Clerks Salary 1 – 28th February**Net Salary £502.50****PAYE £16.20****Total Net Outlay £518.70****Paid by Standing order on last working day of the month****Clerks Expenses Paid after the meeting**

Date to be paid	Detail	Reason	Cost ex VAT (£)	VAT (£)	Cost inc VAT (£)
9/3/23	Working from home allowance (January)	As per contract	18.00	0	18.00
9/3/23	Working from home allowance (February)	As per contract	18.00	0	18.00
9/3/23	Expenses reimbursement	Purchase of printer paper	4.20	0	4.20
9/3/23	Mileage	Travel to January & March meeting £0.45 per mile (20x2)	36.00	0	36.00
Total			76.20	0	76.20

**WEST DEAN PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCIAL REPORT 1/3/23**

RECEIPTS

FILE NUMBER	DATE	REF	PAYER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
	02/02/2023		HMRC	VAT Reclaim	1781.04

FEBRUARY PAYMENTS

FILE NUMBER	DATE	REF	PAYER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
56	12/01/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Work from Home (Nov/Dec)	36
56	12/01/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Mileage for November Meeting	18
57	31/01/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Clerk Salary January	502.3
58	01/02/2023	dd	Microsoft	Office 365 Subscription	11.28
59	02/02/2023	dd	HMRC	PAYE - January	16.4
60	28/02/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Clerk Salary February	502.5
61	01/03/2023	dd	Microsoft	Office 365 Subscription	11.28
62	01/03/2023	dd	Chi Payroll	Payroll - February	15
63	01/03/2023	dd	HMRC	PAYE - February	16.2
					1128.96

PAYMENTS TO BE PAID IN MARCH

64	09/03/2023	dd	Traffic Technology Ltd	SID Package	4334.4
65	09/03/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Mileage for January & March Meeting	36
65	09/03/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Work from Home (Jan/Feb)	36
65	09/03/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Reimbursement of stationery costs	4.2
66	30/03/2023	dd	Microsoft	Office 365 Subscription	11.28
67	31/03/2023	dd	HL O'Callaghan	Clerk Salary March	502.5
68	31/03/2023	dd	Chi Payroll	Payroll - March	15
69	31/03/2023	dd	HMRC	PAYE - March	16.2
					4955.58

WEST DEAN PARISH COUNCIL		
BANK RECONCILIATION		
01-Mar-23		
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS		
Balance brought forward as at 31/03/2022		£35,887.00
Add Total Receipts		16,516.14
Less Total Payments		(12,826.97)
TOTAL		£39,576.17
BANK		
Barclays as @ 01/03/23		33,368.09
Santander as @ 5/12/23		6,208.08
TOTAL		£39,576.17