

Westham Parish Council

Newsletter Winter 2011



Westham Parish Council
Stone Cross School, Adur Drive
Pevensey BN24 5EF
Office Phone 01323 461299
Email westhampc@aol.com.

Website www.westhamparishcouncil.co.uk

Office opens to the public 10.00am – 12.00pm
Tuesday and Thursday only
Office closed Wednesday

Please try and phone to make an appointment to see the Clerk

Your Councillors

John Blaker	461299	moosehunter@inbox.com
Theresa Bruce	461299	theresadbruce@hotmail.com
Terry Comerford	461299	terrycomerford@tiscali.co.uk
Bev Garner	461299	westhampc@thegarner.plus.com
Peter Marshall	07857 695654	westhampc@aol.com
Barbara Molog (Chair)	483470	barbaramolog@hotmail.com
Michael Nash	760496	Michael.Nash@nash4.demon.co.uk
Gill Parsons (Vice Chair)	767615	gillparsons1@hotmail.co.uk
Roger Perrin	461299	perrinra@gmail.com
Ken Saxby	461299	klpjwillcott@aol.com
Keith Sutherland	460269	rms.saxonia@googlemail.com
Clifford Smith	461299	westhampc@aol.com
Bill Tooley	07770 812911	btooley@waitrose.com

County Councillors

Tony Freebody 769591

District Councillors

Dianne Dear 740917
Lin McKeever 768530
Bill Tooley 07770 812911

Local Policing Team

The new **Non-Emergency** number for contacting the **Police** is now **101**.
Calls cost **15p** regardless of the duration.

PCSO Jamie Harwood 0845 60 70 999 ext 22135
Jamie.harwood@sussex.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Ali Shadbolt 0845 60 70 999
alison.shadbolt@sussex.pnn.police.uk

WPC Baldwin Charles 0845 60 70 999 ext 12554
jacqueline.baldwin-charles@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Sgt Ruth Hammerton 0845 60 70 999
Ruth.hammerton@sussex.pnn.police.uk

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Editor: Councillor John Blaker

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the Full Council Meeting in September Councillors resolved:

To adopt the Second Risk Assessment Report on Foxes Hollow Wall and agreed to get prices to repair the wall as per the Report.

To formally adopt the principles in the Pond Report, look into what can be done, get costings and report back to the Full Council.

To purchase three new open concrete bins for Stone Cross at a total cost of £1006.

To Celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a Picnic in the Park, the logistics of which will be delegated to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

To support Red Dyke Residents' Association with its request to house bags of grit in weather and help where it can.

To set up a Sub-Committee from the Parks and Open Spaces Committee to look at facilities in Adur Park.

To make upgrading the play parks a priority when spare money is available.

At the Full Council Meeting in October Councillors resolved:

To retain the name Westham Parish Council

The Youth Shelter remains in its current position in Adur Park and is reviewed Sept 2012.

At the Planning Committee Meeting attended by many residents in November, Councillors **unanimously objected** to the planning application for the proposed **Shepham Lane Wind Farm** for the following reasons;

Proximity to residential housing/schools, Health, Safety and Economy, to protect the Natural Environment and flawed Data.

The Council also stated in their response to Wealden Planning Authority:

We are deeply concerned that Councillors on the Planning Committee (Wealden) should not see this application as a 'one off' local problem but should see the implications for the whole of Wealden and East Sussex.

We trust that Wealden will seek further technical and scientific expertise as this is an application outside the normal remits received in Planning Applications.

The residents who have written opposing the proposals speak from a wide fund of personal knowledge whilst we at Westham Parish Council have taken full cognisance of a range of professional advice and expertise.

This planning application is due to be heard by Wealden Council Planning Committee in January 2012.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Congratulations to the Speed Watch team who have completed their training in all weathers



Finally, after many months, Community Speed Watch is now operating in Westham village.

This is a group of volunteers working in partnership with Sussex Police who provide the equipment & training necessary. They also approve the sites to be used as these must adhere to strict criteria.

Although those drivers exceeding the speed limit will have their details recorded and forwarded to the police, primarily the aims of Community Speed Watch are to reduce the number of drivers who exceed the speed limits through the village.

Police statistics have proved that speed is a contributory factor in many accidents and Community Speed Watch is playing its part to help make our roads safer for all.

PCSO Ali Shadbolt, Diane Parris and Bev Garner, on duty in Westham

Bev Garner CSW Co-ordinator



STONE CROSS WINDMILL



Just in case residents are puzzled by the sad appearance of Stone Cross Windmill – it is covered in plastic ready for cleaning following major repairs.

Every project needs money before it can be undertaken and Grants for maintenance and improvements to the Mill are very hard to find.

We therefore rely on the assistance of the "Friends of the Mill" and our visitors to whom we are extremely grateful.

If you would like to help in some small way please contact the Secretary.

Tel. 05601 603298 Email: scwindmill@btinternet.com

**RED DYKE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
FOXES HOLLOW RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION**

Red Dyke Residents Association.

The association has been busy since autumn, improving the appearance of the estate and preparing for the winter months. During October we have planted around 1,000 daffodil bulbs in the area of Arun and Tillingham way, which we hope to increase next autumn.

To combat bad weather during November we have distributed 60 bags of road salt to members in roads not covered by the parish or county council road gritting program, to assist them if we encounter heavy snow fall.

We have also attended all the parish council monthly meeting, with what we hope is constructive input, and are represented on the Adur Park subcommittee.

David Gay Chairman at davidgay49@hotmail .com.

Foxes Hollow Residents' Association

We would first like to express our sorrow at the loss of Richard Bunyard, who served enthusiastically as our Chairman from 2003 to 2008. Our condolences have been passed on to his wife Jean and the family. He was a likeable and engaging character to all who knew him and he passed away November 2011. He achieved many things during those years including the Foxes Hollow granite entrance plates installed by the Association at the front of the estate.

We have our Christmas Carols planned again this year. We invite residents, their families and friends to join us for Christmas Carols and hot mince pies on Sunday 18th December. This year we will have a Christmas Carol procession finishing at the Glessing Road green. This has been very popular in previous years and monies donated have been given to local and national charities.

Final details will be circulated around the estate once times are finalised. Other plans for winter concern ensuring we have enough grit and rock salt to keep the roads clear should we get any cold snaps like last year. In addition to the Parish council grit bins at 2 key points on the estate we also have around 8 volunteers holding our own 600Kg stores of rock salt to cover other parts of the estate. We thank the Parish council for arranging the supply of the bins but by limiting them to only 2 fills per year we hope supplies will last.

Our last main focus is to have the front entrance wall repaired before the worst of the winter weather sets in and we hope the Parish Council can finalise the work to be scheduled at their next Council meeting which unfortunately does not take place until January 2012.

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Further information from Alf Lovell, Chairman on 760 452 or Stuart McMillan, treasurer, 764 350

Winter Advice



Should we get a repeat of last winter's severe weather, residents and businesses can clear snow and ice from pavements, pathways and public spaces without fear of being sued.

Last year many people were put off taking action to clear the area around their properties because they feared they might be sued if passers-by slipped over.

The Government has published guidelines clearly stating there is no law preventing you from doing this; it is very unlikely you would face legal liability as long as you are careful and use common sense.

The following extract from a Ministry of Justice letter may be of interest to anyone who is concerned about their legal position.

'The prospect of a person who volunteers to clear snow from a pavement being successfully sued for damages by a person who subsequently slips on the cleared area and is injured is very small.'

'A snow-clearer does have a duty to anyone who passes along the pavement to do the clearing with reasonable care so as not to create a new and worse risk, but the only person who is at risk of being sued is a person who clears the snow so badly that things are worse than before and that common sense would indicate this was so. A job done very badly indeed which makes the pavement clearly more dangerous than before might give rise to a risk if a person who would not have slipped otherwise slips and is injured as a direct result of that more dangerous state of affairs.'

Winter Advice

Self help

Householders and Businesses in East Sussex are encouraged to clear snow and ice from public areas near their properties during periods of severe winter weather.

They are also encouraged to assist neighbours who may not be able to clear snow themselves.

Practical Advice

- Start early: it is much easier to remove fresh, loose snow compared to compacted ice that has been compressed by people walking on it.
- Do not use hot water. This will melt the snow, but may replace it with black ice, increasing the risk of injury.
- Be a good neighbour: some people may be unable to clear snow and ice on paths leading to their property or indeed the footpath fronting their property. Snowfall and cold weather pose particular difficulties gaining access to and from their property or walking to the shops.
- If shovelling snow, consider where you are going to put it, so that it does not block people's paths, or block drainage channels. This could shift the problem elsewhere.
- Make a pathway down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on. Then you can shovel the snow from the centre to the sides.
- Spreading some salt on the area you have cleared will help to prevent any ice forming. Table salt or dishwasher salt will work, but avoid spreading on plants or grass as they may be damaged by it. A few grams (a tablespoon) for each square metre you clear should work.
- Use the sun to your advantage. Removing the top layer of snow will allow the sun to melt any ice beneath; however, you will need to cover any ice with salt to stop it refreezing overnight.

The Rock Salt found in Grit Bins will be needed for keeping roads clear.



GRIT BIN INSPECTION TIME

Councillors Peter Marshall and Keith Sutherland volunteered to check all the Grit Bins around the Parish to ensure that they are ready for use in any bad weather.

They carefully loosened the grit in all 10 bins around the Parish, so that they can be used if we experience any bad weather. Let's hope they are not required!



Councillor Peter Marshall digging out the bins



COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND VENUE

Full Council Meetings <small>3rd Monday of the Month</small>	Westham Village Hall	Stone Cross Amenity Hall
January	-	16th
February	20th	-
March	-	19th
April	16th	
May	-	21st Annual General Meeting to elect the Chair, Vice Chair for the next year
June	-	18th

Committee Meetings <small>2nd Monday of the Month</small>	Westham Village Hall	Stone Cross Amenity Hall
January	-	-
February	-	13th
March	-	12th
April	-	-
May	-	14th Annual Parish Meeting [a meeting for the Parish but is not a Council Meeting]
June	-	11th

**CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR GIVING BUT
CRIMINALS JUST WANT TO TAKE**

People in East Sussex who donate clothing to charities are being warned to check the charity first.

As the yuletide period approaches residents across the County may want to give to good causes using charitable collections to donate clothing. However, East Sussex County Council is asking people to be careful who they give to and double check that the charity isn't just one big scam.

Council Trading Standards Officers say that not all the collections are for legitimate charities.

Councillor Carl Maynard, Lead Member for Economy, Transport & Environment said: "Unless you are giving to a recognised charity, the profits from your donation could end up in the pockets of criminals. This is not the most complicated scam in the world but the Association of Charity Shops estimates that between £2.5m and £3m is lost to these scams each year. This is money that could have gone to bona fide charities.

"Our advice would be to be wary of vague statements on packaging with examples including 'donations for work creation' or 'donations to help poor children'. Always check the charity first before you decide to donate."

Trading Standards say that when checking if a charitable collection is legitimate, consider the following:

- Does the bag or leaflet have the number of a registered charity? If so, is there a registered charity number? You can use the Charity Commission website or contact them directly for an up-to-date list of registered charities.
- Check that the registered charity does have a collection service and that it's not some pop-up company claiming it collects for a registered charity.
- Does the leaflet or sack provide contact details? If not this is generally a sign that the collector doesn't want to be contacted because they are not a genuine charity.



Do you want superfast Broadband in our Parish to help keep up to date with the new technology and support our local businesses?

Yes I agree that Westham Parish needs **superfast Broadband**

No I do not agree that Westham Parish needs **superfast Broadband**

Please tick the appropriate box

Name

Address.....

Email your response to westhampc@aol.com. Or return this slip to the parish office

EMERGENCY PLAN - ADVICE TO RESIDENTS

Remember that in a power cut mobile phones may not work, but phones that do not have to be plugged into an electric socket will probably still work.

FOR WIDESPREAD FAILURE OF WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS OR PHONE SERVICES, SEVERE WEATHER, FLOODING, PUBLIC HEALTH, DROUGHT OR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE -

FOLLOW THE ADVICE GIVEN IN THE GOVERNMENT BOOKLET 'PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES' THAT WAS DELIVERED TO ALL HOUSEHOLDS IN THE COUNTRY:



GO IN

To the nearest safe building (if you are not already at home)

STAY IN

The emergency services will expect to collect you from there if any evacuation is needed

TUNE IN

To TV or radio stations for news (use a battery radio or a car radio)

TUNE YOUR BATTERY RADIO TO ONE OF THE LOCAL RADIO STATIONS AND LISTEN TO THE INFORMATION THEY WILL BE GIVING OUT:

Sovereign Radio – 107.5 on FM

BBC Southern Counties Radio – 104.5 on FM

BBC Radio 4 – 93.5 on FM

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

MAKE YOURSELF AND THE MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD AS SAFE AS YOU CAN, AND THEN LOOK OUT FOR OTHERS (VULNERABLE PEOPLE) NEARBY WHO COULD DO WITH YOUR HELP.

MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD MAY BE AT SCHOOL OR AT WORK. They will be looked after there.

Avoid jamming up the phone networks by making desperate attempts to contact them, and don't cause chaos on the roads by driving off to try to find them! You will hear on the radio when it is safe for you to collect children from school.

WHAT IF IT'S NOT SAFE FOR YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD TO STAY PUT, OR IF YOU HEAR ON THE TV OR RADIO THAT YOUR PART OF THE AREA IS TO BE EVACUATED?

Westham Parish Council is pleased to acknowledge that the logo on the top of the page and other information in this leaflet come from HM Government document PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW, which is subject to Crown copyright. For further information you can visit www.preparingforemergencies.gov.uk and Westham Parish Council website



Westham Parish Council Emergency Coordinator

Can We Help?

....Do You have MOBILITY or SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS?

Please let us know, then in the event of abnormal circumstances such as a major incident or a natural disaster, a real emergency situation, we can try to help you.

ALL DETAILS COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL.

Name	Address & Contact Details	Mobility, Medical or other Special needs

The Community Emergency Resources Register

Can You Help?

.....Do You have SPECIAL SKILLS, MACHINERY OR EQUIPMENT?

E.g. Tractor, 4Wheel Drive Vehicle, Chain Saw, Generator, First Aid Certificate, Building heated by solid fuel.....

Name	Address & Contact	Skills, Equipment offered for emergency situations

For help with these forms or further explanation, Telephone the Parish Office (01323) 461299 or Email Michael.Nash@nash4.demon.co.uk

Please sign and date to agree these details be in the Westham Parish Emergency Plan and send them to Westham and Stone Cross Community Council, Stone Cross School or to westhamstonexcc@aol.com;

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

If you replied to our earlier request, you don't need to reply again.

Westham Parish Council undertakes not to use these details for any purpose other than for help in (the unlikely event of) a major incident or a natural disaster a real emergency situation.

USEFUL NUMBERS

Schools

Hankham County Primary School

Headteacher: Mr P Round, Hankham St
Hankham, Pevensey BN24 5AY
Tel: 763265
Email: office@hankham.e-sussex.sch.uk
Web: www.hankham.e-sussex.sch.uk

Pevensey & Westham School

Headteacher: Mrs J Gott, 86 High Street,
Westham, East Sussex
Tel: 762269
Email: admin@pevensey-westham.e-sussex.sch.uk
Web: www.pevensey-westham.e-sussex.sch.uk

Stone Cross School

Headteacher: Mrs A Allison, Adur Drive, Stone Cross,
Pevensey, BN24 5EF
Tel: 461002
Email: office@stonecross.e-sussex.sch.uk
Web: www.stonecross.e-sussex.sch.uk

Churches

St Mary's Church, Westham

Services:
Sundays 9.45 am Family Worship
11.00 am Morning Prayer.
6.30 pm Evening Worship.

St. Luke's Church, Stone Cross

Priest: Father J Vine
Tel: 767020
Times usually
8.00 am Sunday; 7.30 am Monday;
7.30 pm Tuesday; 10.30 am Wednesday;
7.30 pm Friday and 10.30 am on Saturday

Medical Centres

Stone Cross Medical Centre

Mimram Road, Stone Cross
Tel: 761461

Westham Medical Centre

Church Bailey, Montague Way,
Westham,
Tel: 465120

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive, Eastbourne, BN21 2UD

Main switchboard Tel: 01323 417400
Accident & Emergency Tel: 01323 414944

Wealden District Council

Council Offices, Pine Grove,
Crowborough, TN6 1DH
Tel: 01892 653311
Email: wealden@wealden.gov.uk

Refuse Collection

Council Offices, Vicarage Lane,
Hailsham, BN27 2AX
Tel: 442666
Email: env.health@wealden.gov.uk

East Sussex County Council Highways Tel: 01424 220022

Energywatch 0845 906 0708

Transco (in case of gas leak) 0800 111 999

Consumer Direct 08454 040506

Buy With Confidence 01323418215

Doorstopper's hotline 01323 418228
General line 01323418200

East Sussex Fire Brigade 01323 736555
Emergency dial 999

Sussex Police 0845 607 0999
Emergency dial 999
Non-Emergency dial 101

Westham Evening Women's Institute

Meetings 7.30pm
4th Thursday each month
Westham Village Hall.
Contact Mary Unsworth, Tel 01323 740034.

Westham Sequence Dance Club

Fridays 7.30pm - 10.00pm,
Westham Village Hall
Contact, Jack and Pip, Tel 01323 484917

Westham and Pevensey Local Transport Partnership

Information about the bus services and
volunteering see www.wpltp.co.uk
or phone
Joyce Richards 01323 763344 or
Michael Nash 01323 760496.