

Westfield Parish Clerks Report – For period covering 2nd February to 4th March 2019

East Sussex Highways

- 4th Mar – looked at pot holes by Westfield Down on A28. They have already been marked for repair by Highways.

Cricket Club

- 15th Jan – two copies of signed lease posted to Wellers Hedleys solicitors.
- 25th Jan – sent e-mail to Cllr Horley: 'At the last meeting you mentioned that there were plenty of grants available for funding of the building on the Parish Field. Was this information that you got at the recent RALC meeting? If so do you have further details that I can pass onto Ian Taylor as he is very keen to try and get some more funding in place for the pavilion.'

Tennis Club

- 13th Feb – sent draft lease to Cllr Roger Bowe to proof read
- 14th Feb – sent lease to Secretary of Tennis Club to approve before printing
- 25th Feb - chase Secretary of Tennis Club for approval of lease. Advised that 4 foot tree stump has been intentionally left as wildlife habitat, and advised I would chase Cllr Hills regarding removal of remaining tree debris.
- 4th March – Cllr Hills advised he would return to clear debris and tree stump on the 5th March

Footpath between Tennis Courts and Recreation Ground

- 6th Feb – work started
- 15th Feb – site visit to check work to date. Bottom part of path has been finished. Spoke to contractor and top part of path around barriers will be completed week commencing 18th Feb.
- 25th Feb – site visit to check completed work. Large gaps either side of footpath have been left, which I believe to be a potential trip hazard. Bowls Club have advised that trail of concrete was left on their footpaths when using the Clubs water for concrete mixer. The contractor was aware of this and advised they would return to jet wash the paths, but this has not been done yet. Sent e-mail to contractor to advise accordingly.
- 26th Feb – received an e-mail to say the works have now been completed.
- 28th Feb – further site visit. Some of the gaps on the A28 end of the path have been filled but the bottom section remains unchanged, and I believe it is still hazardous. Jet washing has been done, concrete still evident but it is much better than it was. Sent more photos to contractor showing concerns about footpath.
- 28th Feb – contractor advised will return on Friday to complete the job
- 4th Mar – another site visit to check work. Holes have now been filled.

Litter bin by entrance to Recreation Ground

- 13th Feb – sent e-mail to Tracey Morgan, Administration Officer Waste & Recycling RDC: 'I have received reports over the last couple of months that the bin by the bottom entrance to the Recreation Ground (near the Tennis Courts) in Westfield is still not being emptied regularly. In November I reported a pile of rubbish next to this bin which had built up, and assumed that it was just an isolated incident. However, I have been advised it is regularly being missed when the other bins in the village are emptied. I would be grateful if you could look into this for me.'
- 13th Feb – received the following reply: 'I am sorry to hear this is not being emptied regularly. I have reported this to the contractor and asked my colleague to monitor it.'

War memorial

- 4th Feb – sent e-mail to Toby Walsh who maintains the memorial on the Council's behalf 'I was really sorry to see the post on 'What's on in Westfield' about the damage to the war memorial. Has this been reported to the police yet? If not, I am happy to do so if you could provide me with photos and any details that you have. Although the police may not respond to individual acts of vandalism Council are encouraging everyone to report all incidents so that the police can get a picture of everything that is going on in the village. Please let me know if there is anything that

Council can do to help with the repairs either with manpower and/or cost. I will let Councillors know about the damage at their meeting on Wednesday.'

- 13th Feb – reported damage to Sussex Police on-line Ref: DP-3504-19-4747-00. Advised Toby Walsh of the same.
- 13th Feb – received e-mail from Toby: 'I am not going to rush to replace the chain as I don't want it to be seen as a challenge to those that damaged it in the first place.'
- 15th Feb – received e-mail from Sussex Police: 'Thank you for your email, This has been logged under Crime number 47190025514. The report will be filed at this stage as we have no lines of enquires to follow up.'

Grass & hedge cutting

- 28th Jan – received e-mail from resident to say hedge along the Cottage Lane entrance to the Parish Field has not been cut in the last year and is growing too high. Replied to advise that it was trimmed last spring, but should have been cut again at the end of the season. Advised would contact idVerde and ask them to cut the hedge as soon as possible before nesting season starts.
- 25th Feb – chased date for hedge to be cut back
- 26th Feb – received a reply to state will be done week commencing 4th March
- 28th Feb – received e-mail to say hedge has now been cut
- 4th Mar – site visit. Hedge has not been cut. Some of the hedge by A28 looks as though it has been recently cut so presume they have done the wrong bit. Sent photos to Contract Manager.

ESCC – Land Management

- 9th Feb – received call from Holly Harrison, Principal Planning Officer RDC to ask if Council were still supportive of idea of allotments between Goulds Drive and Greenacres as per the recommendations of the DASA plan. Advised that Council had not changed their position, and advised that County Cllr Carl Maynard had informed Council meeting last night that ESCC would be putting the land on the open market, and if Council wished to purchase the land for allotments it would have to be at market value.
- 12th Feb – replied to e-mail from resident concerned about the land between Goulds Drive and Greenacres.

'the plastic cover has blown off the greenhouse I previously sent pictures to you of, and not only has this been blowing around the field the contents of the greenhouse are beginning to as well. Please could you possibly inform me if East Sussex is actually going to secure this field.'

My reply: 'I did raise your concerns with the Enforcement Team at RDC. I will chase them up again today. I understand from County Cllr Carl Maynard that ESCC are planning on selling the land. I will let you know when I have heard back from RDC.'

Councillor Vacancy

- 11th Feb – created 'Notice of Councillor Vacancy' following the resignation of Patrick Edwards, and e-mailed to Richard Adams, Electoral Services Manager RDC and advised Council. Put notice on village website.
- 12th Feb - put notice on noticeboards.
- 15th Feb – received e-mail from Richard Adams to advise that a different form is required when a causal vacancy occurs within 6 months of an election
- 18th Feb – completed correct form, e-mailed to Richard Adams, uploaded onto website and put on noticeboards.

Election

- 13th Feb – received and read e-mail from RDC about election process and estimated costs for contested and uncontested

Trustees

- 25th Feb – answered e-mail enquiry from neighbour of Parish Field concerned about appropriate safety checks on large oaks around the field.

'My understanding is that the boundaries of Parish Field are to the top of the ditch which runs around it, which does not include any trees. The Trustees are therefore not responsible for the maintenance and checks on any of the trees. Some works have been carried out on behalf of the Trustees in the past to overhanging branches etc. I am aware that in 2012 all the neighbours of the Parish Field were written to by the then Chairman of the Trustees with a report about the boundaries, and the Trustees advised then that they took no responsibility for any of the trees which border the Parish Field.'

- 25th Feb – received a reply to state they have been a resident since 2004 and cannot recall ever having received any report. E-mailed report written by Cllr Woodhead in 2012 and advised would try and look at trees in question in the next couple of days.
- 4th Mar – small shed and bath with several bags of rubbish are on the Parish Field, close to the A28 entrance. Sent photos to Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Trustees

Cottage Lane – litter picking

- 26th Feb – received a call from a resident of Cottage Lane expressing concerns about someone litter picking along the road without a high vis vest, and that traffic had to swerve around her. Explained that she was not acting on behalf of the Parish Council and Council does not have any jurisdiction to stop people from litter picking should they wish to do so.

Community First Responder

- 25th Feb – received an e-mail from Adam Streather: 'We've had 1 person from Westfield drop out so I've decided not to request further funds. The remaining 3 people have completed their applications and are awaiting formal interview. This should be completed within the next few weeks.'
- 26th Feb – e-mailed Adam Streather to ask whether if a CFR steps down does their kit get transferred to another CFR in the village?
- 26th Feb – received the following reply: 'That's always the intention. Any new people would need to go through the recruitment process first of all but if we fall below 2 in the village, I'd make it a priority area for us to recruit in.'

Parish Assembly

- 28th Feb – sent a message to last year's recipient of the Rose Bowl to make arrangements to collect it.

Kate Darbyshire (Parish Clerk)
4th March 2019