

WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
West Ilsley Parish Council (“WIPC”)
held at the West Ilsley Village Hall, West Ilsley
on Monday 15 July 2019 at 7.30pm (the “Meeting”)**

Present: Rollo Duckworth (Chair)
Inna Fauler (Secretary)
Justin Gilbert
Alan Beaumont
Graham Woods
Anna Sugden
Alan Bloor

Apologies: None

In attendance: Three members of the public, including the new District Councillor for Ridgeway Ward, Carolyne Culver.

1 Chair and Apologies

1.1 Rollo Duckworth (“RD”) acted as Chair of the Meeting. Inna Fauler (“IF”) very kindly agreed to act as Secretary and take the minutes. RD thanked everybody for attending the Meeting, and welcomed Carolyne Culver.

2 Changes to Declarations of Interest and Councillors

2.1 No changes to the Declarations of Interest of the Councillors were received, and the two outstanding Acceptances of Office were signed, completing the council line-up, as above.

3 Minutes of the Meetings of the West Ilsley Parish Council held on Monday 13 May and Monday 10 June 2019

3.1 The draft minutes of the Meeting of the Interested Parties to the WIPC (and Annual General Meeting) held on Monday 13 May 2019, together with the draft minutes of the Meeting of the WIPC held on Monday 10 June (together, the “Minutes”), had been circulated prior to the Meeting. The draft Minutes were approved and signed by RD as a true record.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 a) Alan Bloor (“ABI”) informed the Meeting that, generally speaking, everything on the cricket pitch had been cleared and tidied out. Some pieces of groundwork machinery had been left outside, but this was due to a lack of storage. There was simply no storage space to hide some of the equipment, and it was being used all the time for pitch maintenance. Also, some boxes of rubbish (including a skip) from the fete had been left, but they would be removed shortly. RD suggested that maybe a type of screen could be installed to cover the equipment and prevent it from being seen. ABI reconfirmed his opinion that the cricket pitch looked fine now.

b) There was a discussion regarding the malodorous scent of sewage around Church Way and West Ilsley House. Alan Beaumont (“ABe”) volunteered to investigate and raise this issue with Thames Water.

Actions

IF to file the Minutes from the two Meetings in the WIPC archives.

ABe to investigate the odours around Church Way and West Ilsley

c) **ABI** volunteered to apply for ACV status for the pub.

5 Correspondence

5.1 No correspondence recorded.

6 Community Matters

6.1 Finance: IF informed the Meeting that she put the Notice of Interest regarding the annual return report on the Village notice board. This was the obligation of the Parish Council to do. It was also noted that she had submitted the annual audit and accountability return for publication on the Village website.

6.2 Under 5s: It was noted that the Under 5s Group was interested in whether they could get some funds from the Parish Council. The Chairman of the Under 5s Group would be in contact with the WIPC.

6.3 Tennis Club: RD informed the Meeting that Sandy Gore had kindly donated £275 for netball lines to be drawn on the tennis court. He has written to thank her for her generosity.

6.4 Anna Sugden ("**AS**") enquired about public liability for the Tennis Court in terms of the netball players using it, and whether such liability was covered by the existing policies. After discussion, it was agreed that AS would make suitable enquiries of the insurers in this regard.

AS to write to the insurance company regarding public liability matters for the tennis / netball courts.

6.5 Village Hall: ABI informed the Meeting that the Village Hall was in dire need of financial cashflow, which it did not have. The upgrade list was extensive: heating needed to be repaired (and perhaps replaced by electric underfloor heating), the walls need to be insulated, and external works were required. ABI said that the Village Hall had some funds, but that it needed more funds and the Village Hall Committee really hoped that the Parish Council would be willing to help. It was noted that the Village Hall was very interested in trying to secure a grant. It was thought that approximately £20,000 might be needed for all the improvements. Unfortunately it appeared that the Village Hall itself could not apply for a grant as, to be able to do so, it had to have a separate status. Legally, the Village Hall is the part of the West Ilsley Parish Council. However, the Village Hall would be glad to get any donation, even £2,000 would help. RD noted that we have around £6,000 from the developer or the properties near the Harrow Pub for Village needs, which could be used.

7 Environment and Upkeep

7.1 Planning applications: One planning application regarding the Old Chapel had been received and approved.

7.2 Open spaces / Pond: There was a request from one of the residents regarding a leaning tree near his property. The tree was located on public land (in the pond area) and therefore in a conservation area. It was noted that any resident could apply for permission to remove a tree, including this one.

7.3 Footpaths and Bridleways: It was noted that the pathway behind Mr North's house was still closed. WBC still hadn't approved it and said that further work needed to be done on it. Mr North had been told by the WBC that it would repair the damage, but he did not want to remove the interim steps he had put in place in the meantime until he got a firm commitment from WBC for a repair date.

7.4 It was noted that the trimming work needed on the trees adjacent to West Ilsley House (and overhanging the footpath on Main Street) would be completed shortly by WBC.

8 Safety and Services

8.1 Speeding: No updates regarding speeding. It was confirmed that some of the signs will be replaced later.

8.2 Roads and Gritting: It was noted that there was a single white line in front of the entrance to Rowles Farm. It had been approved by WBC. It was also noted that the only salt bin in the Village on the register list was the one in the Maltings. There was nothing recorded for Bury Lane, notwithstanding that WBC had asked for reports on such a salt bin within the Village precincts in previous years (indicating that the WBC was fully aware of it).

9 AOB

9.1 ABe noted that, in the new WBC Winter program, Bury Lane was not included on the gritting schedule. ABe questioned why, considering that Bury Lane was the de facto diversion route in the event of an accident on the A34. Officially, however, WBC and the Highways Authority did not recognize this fact.

9.2 There was a discussion regarding bins specifically for dog faeces. Some of the residents had complained that there were not enough dedicated bins for dog faeces, meaning that there was mess on the streets, or other bins were being used (including the newly purchased bins outside the Cricket Club, for example). It was noted that the WIPC had discussed this issue previously and concluded that such dedicated bins were too expensive to purchase and, subsequently, service (as we had to pay for them to be emptied, and regularly). AS undertook to conduct further research into the matter and revert.

AS to look into dog poo bins.

10 Date of Next Meeting

10.1 The next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Monday 9 September 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

All to attend (although IF would be absent).

10.2 There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chair