

Wolverton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 20 November 2018 at 7.30pm

Held at The Church Rooms, Wolverton

1. Present

Councillor D Stone Chairman
Councillor P Anthony
Councillor S Easterbrook in the Chair
Councillor P Wood
County Councillor J Horner (for part of meeting)
District Councillor – Councillor P Richards (for part of the meeting)
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
1 Member of the Public

In anticipation of succession, Councillor S Easterbrook was in the Chair for the meeting

2. Apologies

None

Reports from Councillor P Richards & Councillor J Horner were brought forward to the beginning of the meeting.

3. Report from District Councillor

Councillor Richards reported that at the start of November, the District Council welcomed its new Executive Director, Isobel Edgar Briançon, who is a direct replacement for Dave Webb a long-standing employee of Stratford District Council who retires at the end of the year.

Isobel has come from Aylesbury Vale DC where she was responsible for various commercial focused transformations within the organisation. SDC has already expressed a desire to change the way it works, and Isobel should be well equipped to assist in that transformation.

Local Housing Company

Earlier this year a report was presented to Council that outlined a strategic business case for the establishment of an arms-length Local Housing Company which would seek / generate an income for the Council whilst influencing the delivery of affordable homes in the district. That report was accepted and approved by the Council.

On the 5th November, the new Council Cabinet was presented with a follow up report as an investment case for a Local Housing Company (LHC). That report was considered, and the Cabinet concluded that there was no longer a financial case for the establishment of an LHC.

The Cabinet went on to resolve that they would re-establish a member working group for affordable housing and seek to reconsider the Council's objectives on affordable housing provision.

The Council are required to prepare a Brownfield Land Register and to submit it to the Government by the end of 2018.

Within this part of the register the Council have included all previously developed brownfield sites and those with planning permission or a strategic allocation. These sites are also included in the calculation for the Council's 5-year housing land supply.

This register is now available to the public and will be updated at least annually. Part 2 of the register is to be completed in the future.

Cllr P Richards left the meeting.

4. Report from County Councillor

Councillor J Horner reported that the month was dominated by the Budget statement. £240m Social Care Funding for 2019/20 had already been announced to reduce bed blocking and HMG will use higher than forecast tax receipts for an additional £410m for both adults and children's social care.

Help for the High Street was provided through business rates relief - bills to be cut by one-third for retail properties with a rateable value below £51,000, with local authorities being fully compensated.

Warwickshire has started on the design of a new road to run from the A46 Stoneleigh junction and the A45 south east of Coventry.

Public Health are advising everyone to get this year's flu vaccine

The gritting routes have been announced and have not changed from last year. Villages of more than 100 homes get one route in and out gritted.

West Mercia Police has recently announced that it will withdraw from the operational alliance with Warwickshire. At the recent Police and Crime Panel meeting, The Police and Crime Commissioner stated that he felt Warwickshire Police now had three options as to how to constitute itself from 9 October 2019.

Cllr J Horner left the meeting.

5. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

6. To confirm & sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 2018 were approved and signed by the Vice- Chairman.

7. Matters Arising

a) Website

The Clerk was requested to ensure that the PC's website address was included in the Parish magazine. The Clerk was also asked to send any accounting correspondence to Cllr Easterbrook for inclusion on the website. Cllr D Stone asked for the Year End Accounts to be included.

b) Emergency Plan

Cllr Easterbrook was drafting a questionnaire for residents to complete, which would be delivered to all households by members of the PC. It was agreed to include the Church Rooms as a resource centre in the event of an emergency.

c) Churchyard Extension

This item was deferred to the next meeting and the Clerk was to pursue the matter.

d) Tree Inspection

The Chairman confirmed that 10 trees on The Green were the responsibility of the PC. A survey and report were required to identify any works necessary for safety reasons and/or to address any legal nuisance issues.

A report by a competent Arboriculturist will provide the Parish Council with evidence to show that it is acting reasonably in managing any liabilities associated with the tree stock. The County Council's Forestry Department has provided a quote of £350 to include plotting and recording the information. Subsequent inspections would be cheaper as the plotting would have been carried out. Given the expenditure of public money, however, Councillors considered that alternative quotes should be sought. It was agreed that the Chairman should seek alternative quotes.

8. Parish Council Vacancy

Mr James Wynn-Evans was present at the meeting and expressed an interest in being co-opted to the PC. Mr Wynn-Evans was asked to submit a brief CV to the Clerk for consideration by Councillors before the next meeting.

9. Parish Plan

- a) Cllr P Anthony asked members to consider making an application to the District Council to include the Church Rooms on the Community Asset Register, which was an outstanding action point from the Parish Plan 2014. It was agreed that Cllr P Anthony should progress the application.
- b) Cllr P Anthony asked members to consider a revision of the Parish Plan which was published in 2014. Members agreed to discuss the matter at the January meeting, with a view to updating the Plan every five years.

10. Grass Cutting Contract

The Clerk was asked to seek tenders for the 2019 grass cutting season and the Chairman agreed to send full details of the current contract to the Clerk for review.

11. Planning Matters

A summary of WPC responses and outcomes is given in the table below for applications received between meetings.

Application Number	Application Details	PC Comment	SDC Comment
18/02603/FUL	Byron, Wolverton Fields To construct a side boot room extension and car port to the side of the existing dwelling Amended Plans 23 October 2018	No representation No representation	Granted
18/02756/FUL	Blacon Cottage, Wolverton Fields Proposed alterations and extensions to existing dwelling and erection of garage	No representation	Permission Granted

12. Finance

a. Bank Balance	£2940.66
b. Income	£1240.00
c. Expenditure	
Clerk's Salary (inc Back pay from April)	£108.10
Clerk's Expenses	£18.87
HMRC	£27.20
Grass Cutting September	£130
1 & 1 Internet	£2.39

13. Correspondence

26 September – SDC Draft Statement of Community Involvement

2 October - Draft Local Industrial and Economic Development Strategy for Stratford-on-Avon District 2018-2023

16 October – SDC Social Media Policy

22 October – WALC Preparing for the Next Elections

28 October – WCC Chairman's Invitation to Festive Open Evening

28 October – VASA Request for funding – Following the request for funding of £500, it was agreed that the request was too high for the Parish Council's budget and the application was declined.

13 November – Councillor J Horner Report

13 November – Police & Crime Meeting Minutes

13 November – SDC Charging of Parish Elections

14. Meeting Dates

22 January 2019

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed.....Designation.....Date.....