

Wolverton Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting on Tuesday 14 March 2017 at 7.30pm
Held at Wolverton Church Hall

1. Present

Councillor D Stone – Chairman
Councillor S Easterbrook – Vice Chairman
Councillor Mrs T Rowley
Councillor C Tunbridge
County Councillor J Horner (part of meeting)
District Councillor P Richards (part of meeting)
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
There was one member of the public

2. Apologies

There were no apologies received.

3. Disclosure of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

4. To confirm & sign the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2017

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising (with member's approval item 5c was considered before 5a & 5b)

a. Website

Councillor C Tunbridge confirmed that the website was running smoothly and he had now been able to address the website counter thereby being able to ascertain the number of visitors to the site.

b. Replacement notice boards

Councillor D Stone confirmed that the notice boards would be replaced in the near future.

c. Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk had received an application for the vacancy of Parish Councillor which had been circulated to members of the Parish Council prior to the meeting.

Members agreed that Mr Christopher Paul Anthony was a suitable candidate and it was RESOLVED unanimously that Mr Christopher Paul Anthony be elected to Wolverton Parish Council.

Having signed the Declaration of Office, Councillor Anthony thanked the Parish Council for his election and sat with members of the Parish Council for the remainder of the meeting.

d. Variable Speed Limit Signage

Councillor D Stone confirmed that the posts were in place for the Variable Speed Limit signage, but concern was raised as to the distance between the posts and the road. Councillor J Horner was to consider the matter and let the Parish Council have a date as to when the signs would be installed.

e. Transparency Fund

The Parish Clerk confirmed that WALC had granted £307.50 following the application for funding for the Parish Council's laptop and software.

6. Report from County Councillor J Horner

Councillor J Horner reported that in the Spring Budget the Government announced an additional £2 billion grant funding to local authorities for adult social care. Warwickshire County Council will receive £17.8 million of this money over the next three years. This sum is in addition to the £134 million currently spent by the County on adult social care.

Adult social care is often regarded as just care of the elderly. In fact, nationally more than 40% of the adult social care budget is spent on adults aged between 18-64, with 35% being spent on people with learning disabilities alone.

The County also faces significant cost in caring for vulnerable children and in Warwickshire the fourteen most challenging children cost the County £7 million a year. This is to place the children in specialist homes of no more than two children in order to give them a stable home life and over time to reintroduce them into mainstream education and jobs.

The Home Office is reminding everyone who will be over 18 years on May 4 to make sure they are registered to vote. The deadline for registration is Thursday, April 13 2017.

A new training programme is being offered to small independent retailers and those involved in building town centre partnerships in towns across Warwickshire. The training is free to those who sign up and, in return, businesses are being asked to dedicate time and commitment in order to improve their business and the wider town centre offer. The three packages are: Improve Your Business and Town Centre through Collaborative Working; How to Create Your Own Footfall and; Digital Business Skills for Retailers. The training is being delivered by nationally recognised industry experts in each of these fields. To find out more and to sign up for the training, details can be found at www.eventbrite.com

The Warwickshire Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is now fully operation for both vulnerable adults and for children. If anybody is at all worried about someone they should provide details to Warwickshire MASH by telephoning 01926 414144.

7. Report from District Councillor P Richards

The Transport Strategy that was announced on 9th February is still out for consultation. That consultation period ends on the 23rd of March 2017.

Councillor P Richards encouraged as many people as possible to make their thoughts known as this is a strategy that will shape the future.

The full plan and consultation process can be found at <https://askwarks.wordpress.com/>

Community Infrastructure Levy

SDC were still very much in the hands of the planning inspectorate. The CIL, which will essentially replace s.106 contributions on housing developments, was sent to the Planning Inspector for their final approval at the end of last year. SDC expected a response by the end of February, but that is still outstanding.

Councillor P Richards reported that he was pleased to say that he was appointed to the District Council Cabinet and is now responsible for the Housing and Infrastructure portfolio.

8. Employment Matters

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council was now fully compliant with HRMC and the Pensions Regulator.

9. Planning applications/decisions.

- a) 16/02292/FUL – Appeal Ref; APP/J3720/D/163162302 – Brensham, Norton Lea, Norton Lindsey – Appeal Dismissed
- b) 16/00161DISCN – Waverley discharge of conditions approved by SDC
- c) 16/04014/FUL – Sunnyside demolition of garage and erection of new dwelling and carport. No Representation. SDC decision pending
- d) 17/00059/AMD – Waverley – non-material amendment to first floor dormer approved by SDC

10. Emergency Plan

Councillor S Easterbrook suggested having an Emergency Plan in place in the event of lengthy power cuts or extreme snow fall. WCC guidance on preparing for emergencies had been circulated and it was agreed to add this to the website. On the recommendation of C Councillor Horner, Councillor S Easterbrook would contact Brian Keefe of Langley who had created an exemplary Emergency Plan and progress this matter.

11. Finance

The Items below were noted and expenditure agreed.

- a. The Bank balance at 14 February 2017 was £3252.53.

- b. Donations to Wolverton Churchyard for £125.00 and Norton Lindsey Playground also for £125.00 were agreed. Councillor D Stone was to contact the Norton Lindsey Playground Group for more information regarding their activities.
- c. The Clerk was asked to contact the ICO to ascertain as whether the subscription of £35.00 was necessary.
- d. It was agreed that the Annual Subscription to CPRE for £36.00 be paid.

12. Correspondence

- a) The Chairman reported on the Government consultation on Housing White Paper and invited comments before 2 May.
- b) The Clerk was asked to contact the Forestry Officer to seek advice regarding a tree inspection for the purposes of the insurance policy.

13. Any other Business

Councillor S Easterbrook was to submit photographs and details to WCC regarding the pothole near the Crossroad and a blocked gully near the Green.

The Parish Clerk was requested to contact the Enforcement Officer at SDC regarding a mobile home on land at Woolley Park Farm.

14. Future Meetings

The dates for future meetings were as follows:
23 May 2017 – AGM and Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.