

Withington Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 8th March 2023
at 7.30pm in the Parish Room

Minutes

74/2022 Present: Councillors: Martin Timmis (Chair), Neil Maxwell, Lesley Stone, Alan Williams, Tern Councillor Lezley Picton, Denise Roscoe (Clerk) and 7 members of the public

75/2022 Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone

76/2022 Apologies: Cllr Phil Heath

77/2022 Declaration of Interest: None

78/2022 Approval of the Minutes for 4th January
The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman

79/2022 Report from Cllr Lezley Picton
The budgets for 2023/24 have been approved. This means that the Council faces the most substantial spending reduction programme ever.

There is going to be a consultation into Shropshire's draft first 10-year Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which sets out new cycling and walking routes, crossings and bridges.

80/2022 Public Forum
Cllr Williams complimented the swift actions of Shropshire Council in removing items that were fly tipped. Cllr Williams also mentioned how helpful and efficient Derek Furlong (Shropshire Council) was with dealing with the road and path sweeping in Sunnyfields and Woodlands Close

Cllr Lezley Picton left the meeting.

A request was made for Caernarvon Lane, just past the old cottage, to be swept as it is muddy.
Action Clerk: to ask Shropshire Council to sweep Caernarvon Lane and Walcot Road

Cllr Stone reported there were several potholes on the road past Villa Farm. **Action Clerk:** to report the potholes.

Jon Scutt reported that the Parish Room had been awarded a defibrillator and asked if the Parish Council would consider donating towards the purchase of a defibrillator cabinet priced at £495.00 +VAT. Discussions took place around the future of the defibrillators in the village and who would be responsible for them as well as fund raising. **Action Cllr Maxwell:** to find out the life expectancy of defibrillators and report back at the July meeting.

- 81/2022 Updates from Previous Meetings:**
- Speeding: Withington proposed to be included in 20mph pilot scheme. The urban areas taking part in the scheme have been announced. The rural areas have yet to be announced.
 - Ownership of Village Green Hedges/Replace hedge by Blandings: Land registry maps have been obtained. The new hedge has been planted. More free hedge whips have been requested to fill gaps.

Minutes confirmed as correct _____ 10th May 2023 _____

Chairman

- Sunnyfields – Willow Tree: Work completed.
- Misspelled Rodington Sign: Sign replaced.
- Flooding of Road (just past Church Farm entrance): Highways are investigating.
- Purchase of New Mower for Village Green: The new mower has been purchased. Cllr Williams thanked Andrew Lewis for the work he put into purchasing the mower and Tony Marchant for security advice on storage. He also expressed gratitude to the Friends of the Green whose donations over the years enabled the purchase.
- Road Sweeping Sunnyfields: The roads and paths have been swept.

82/2022 Finance Report

Approval of Accounts to date for the Parish Council and the Village Green

**WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
8th March 2023**

<u>Parish Council (Incl Defibrillator Funds)</u>	<u>Village Green</u>
Brought Forward from 04/01/23	£1,912.05
Receipts since 04/01/23	£0.00
Payments Approved - 04/01/23	£24.00
Hire of Hall (Nov 22)	£12.00
Hire of Hall (Jan 23)	£12.00
Payments made since 04/01/23 for approval	£36.00
CPRE Membership	£36.00
Balance Carried Forward to 07/03/23	£1,852.05
Payments for approval - 08/03/23	
Hire of Hall (March 23)	£12.00
Clerks Salary (Mar 23)	£433.44
HMRC PAYE (Mar 23)	£108.40
Authorisation to pay the following if within budget amount:	
CPRE Membership	£36.00
Tree Stake/Guard	£8.48
Mower Storage Security	£327.53
New Mower	£7,999.00
Mower Insurance	£205.22
Brought Forward from 04/01/23	£8,528.81
Receipts since 04/01/23	£421.72
Friends of the Green (2022/23)	£179.00
HMRC Gift Aid	242.72
Payments Approved - 04/01/23	£18.50
Christmas Tree Batteries	£18.50
Payments made since 04/01/23 for approval	£8,540.23
Tree Stake/Guard	£8.48
Mower Storage Security	£327.53
New Mower	£7,999.00
Mower Insurance	£205.22
Balance Carried Forward to 07/03/23	£391.80
Payments for approval - 08/03/23	
None	
Authorisation to pay the following if within budget amount:	
Lawn Mower Maintenance	
Hedge Cutting	

Payments approved:

Payments made since 04/01/23

£36.00 CPRE Membership
£8.48 Tree Stake/Guard
£327.53 Mower Storage Security
£7,999.00 New Mower
£205.22 Mower Insurance

Payments for approval 08/03/23

£12.00 Hire of Hall (March 23)
£433.44 Clerks Salary (Mar 23)
£108.40 HMRC PAYE (Mar 23)

Clerks Appraisal and National Pay Award 2022/23:

It was resolved to increase the Clerks salary in line with the National Pay Award starting from 1st April 2023. The Clerks appraisal has been carried out.

Minutes confirmed as correct 10th May 2023

Chairman

83/2022 Planning

Church Farm Solar Farm 22/03486/FUL: EEB66 Ltd (Elgin Energy) have sent a “Voluntary Unilateral Undertaking” for the Community Benefit Fund that requires signing. We are approaching Solicitors to review the document on behalf of the Parish Council. EEB66 have agreed to pay up to £1,000 towards the cost of the Solicitors.

Barkers House 23/0057/CPL: an application has been submitted for a Lawful Development Certificate.

84/2022 Health and Wellbeing Board: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

The Health and Wellbeing Board (discharged by Local authorities and CCGs) have a legal Statutory Duty to undertake the JSNA. The JSNA seeks to identify current and future health and wellbeing needs in the local population and identifies strategic priorities to inform commissioning of services based on those needs. To ensure the needs assessments reflect local priorities and what local people think, we gather the views of local residents and professionals working within the JSNA areas by completion of online surveys, on ground face to face engagement and community meetings. **Action Clerk:** To email the village with the link to the online survey.

85/2022 National Association of Local Councils (NALC) – Civility and Respect Project

NALC is inviting all councils to sign up for their Civility and Respect Pledge which has been introduced because there is no place for bullying, harassment, and intimidation within Councils. A number of local council's have already signed up. The Councillors resolved to investigate where the pledge sits with regard to the Code of Conduct, obtain further information, the training involved and whether Withington should also sign up to the principle. **Action All Councillors**

86/2022 Policing Community Charter: Withington's Priorities for Next Quarter

It was resolved that the 3 priorities for the next quarter will be:

1. Speeding
2. Investigation of Fly Tipping on Private Land
3. Wildlife Crime

Consideration will be given to including the actions of cyclists on the roads in the future.

Action Clerk: The Clerk was asked to email the village asking for details of any speeders e.g., car registration numbers etc. With a view to passing details to the Police.

87/2022 King's Coronation Celebration:

Cllr Stone reported that a group had been formed to arrange the celebrations in the village; they met last month and are arranging to organise an evening bonfire and BBQ along with a funday involving music, entertainment and games etc. The group is meeting again on 16 March.

The Church is insuring the event and it was agreed that the Parish Council would do the banking.

Unfortunately, there is no budget for the event so there is a need to raise one through donations. Donations of raffle prizes are also needed. **Action Clerk:** to email village regarding donations.

88/2022 Village Green Committee Report

The Chairman of the Village Green Committee wished to thank Andrew Lewis, Ron Lucas and Cllr Williams for their hard work in purchasing the mower and ensuring that it is stored safely.

A new oak tree from the free Shropshire Council Tree Scheme has been planted and a Queens Jubilee 2022 plaque has been purchased.

89/2022 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

Annual Village Meeting – Wednesday 10th May 2023 – 7.00pm
Annual Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 10th May 2023 – 7.30pm
followed by the Village Green Committee Annual General Meeting

Minutes confirmed as correct 10th May 2023

Chairman