

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wolverton Parish Council held on Zoom at 7.30pm on 21 January 2021

Present: Cllr S Easterbrook (Chair); Cllr P Anthony (Vice-Chair); Cllr S Murphy; Cllr T Phillips; Cllr Wynn-Evans;

Parish Clerk: Mrs Jennifer Bendall

Public: Two for part of the meeting

21/01/21/01 Record of members present

Noted.

21/01/21/02 To receive apologies for absence

To receive, and consider for approval, apologies for absence and reasons given.

None.

21/01/21/03 To receive declarations of interests (existence and nature) on Items on the Agenda

Councillors are reminded that under the Code of Practice they are asked to declare personal interests in any item on the agenda, and the nature of the interest, at this point or at any point during the meeting. Should that interest be considered prejudicial to the matter under discussion, they should leave the room and not seek improperly to influence any decision on that matter.

As residents of Wolverton parish, all Councillors declared an interest in item 21/01/21/13 (budget and precept requirement for the financial year 2021/22).

21/01/21/04 Minutes of the last meeting(s)

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 24 November 2020 were taken as read, APPROVED and signed by the Chairman.

21/01/21/05 Matters arising from the meeting held on 24 November 2020 (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

None.

21/01/21/06 To receive an update from the Wolverton Parish Plan Consultation Committee

Cllr Murphy gave an update on the activities of the Consultation Committee and advised that some great work had already been done on the environment and with engagement with the police (see below), and that broadband and communication issues were coming along well. It was agreed that progress reports would be put on the website rather than being printed. It was noted that whilst speeding in the parish is still an issue, there had not been much community support for activities to reduce it, and therefore it was concluded that there were no actions that could be taken forward at this time. Other concerns that had come up were the light pollution at Woolley Park Farm, which the Chairman is pursuing, and the suggestion that public electric car charging points should be installed. There was a discussion about financial support for environmental activities, including the approval of the purchase of litter pickers and hi-vis jackets, and it was noted that there is legislation governing what the Parish Council can do regarding fund raising such as sponsorship and 100 Clubs, etc. A preference was expressed for volunteer groups to fund their works via individual contributions/donations where possible.

There was a brief report on progress with looking into reducing rural crime, and it was noted that the Rural Crime Team website is full of useful information, and that although the Team is small it is very keen to speak with residents to offer advice and support. The Neighbourhood Team works out of Alcester North and can also be contacted if necessary. It was agreed that WPC would put a regular note in the Parish Magazine directing people to interesting items on the Rural Crime Team website.

A representative from Smartwater attended the meeting to explain about Smartwater village schemes which operate, with support from the police, throughout the country under various names. The local scheme is the West Mercia burglary reduction scheme "We Don't Buy Crime". Smartwater schemes operate by providing residents with a pack, which includes a forensic pen which is used to mark their belongings and stickers for display around their properties, and signage which is displayed at prominent village entry and exit points. Those who purchase packs will be added to a national database which is then consulted when stolen property is recovered by the police. It is recommended that 50-70% of residents should sign up for the scheme for maximum benefit which could see an 80% reduction of crime in rural areas. It was noted that travelling criminals are far more likely to move on if they are in a Smartwater area. Ideally these schemes are best rolled out by a parish council, with support from its district council. The parish council would be required to purchase the Smartwater packs which will then be sold onto residents at a discounted rate, along with signs for the village.

There was discussion about who would be interested in a Smartwater scheme, and whether WPC should be collecting money. It was agreed that a Smartwater scheme shouldn't be funded through the Precept. Cllr Murphy to investigate how other parishes have rolled out their Smartwater schemes and also to post a message on the village Whatsapp group to gauge interest in the parish. The Chairman to contact the Norton Lindsey Parish Council Chairman to enquire if Norton Lindsey would be interested in joining a scheme if it goes ahead.

WPC expressed its thanks to the Smartwater representative for joining the meeting.

21/01/21/07 To consider, and resolve to approve if appropriate, appointing the Wolverton Parish Plan Consultation Committee as a Wolverton Parish Council executive committee

Cllr Murphy advised that there had been a couple of meetings of the Wolverton Parish Plan Consultation Committee comprising two parish councillors and three non-councillor members. It was felt that the Committee needed more structure with Terms of Reference, and that there would be a benefit if the Committee was able to make decisions itself rather than having to wait for decisions from WPC, including appointing working parties. The Clerk gave advice regarding the creation of executive committees and working parties, and there was discussion about the remit of the Consultation Committee. It was noted that the Parish Plan had identified some matters that residents were keen to pursue but that did not necessarily need to be managed by the Parish Council. There was also discussion regarding insurance, and it was agreed that the Committee and its working parties would act in an advisory role only and that parishioners would undertake any activities at their own risk. It was agreed in principle that an executive committee would be set up subject to appropriate Terms of Reference being drawn up. Cllrs Anthony and Murphy to draft the Terms of Reference, and Cllr Murphy to seek further advice from WALC. Decision deferred until the next meeting.

21/01/21/08 To consider, and resolve to approve if appropriate, the Wolverton Parish Plan Consultation Committee Terms of Reference

Deferred to the next meeting.

21/01/21/09 To consider, and resolve to approve if appropriate, the WCAG Website Accessibility Statement for Wolverton Parish Council

The Website Accessibility Statement prepared by the Clerk was approved.

21/01/21/10 To consider, and resolve to approve if appropriate, what actions could be taken to improve mobile phone coverage in Wolverton.

It was noted that any activities to determine the limitations of mobile phone coverage in the parish, ie. conducting door to door surveys, were restricted due to the lockdown. In addition, Wolverton Parish Council is still waiting to receive more information from SDC Cllr Richards regarding 5G networks. Therefore, it was agreed to defer a decision on this subject until a future meeting.

21/01/21/11 Report from County Councillor Horner

Received with thanks prior to the meeting. There was discussion regarding SDC bringing in a charge for emptying the green waste bins from April, and it was agreed that a notification would be put out the parish via Whatsapp.

21/01/21/12 Report from District Councillor Richards

Received with thanks prior to the meeting.

21/01/21/13 To consider, and resolve to approve if appropriate, the budget and Precept requirement for the financial year 2021/2022

Following discussion and consideration of budget requirements for the forthcoming financial year, it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Anthony, and unanimously AGREED that the Precept requirement would be raised by £100 to £3,600 to meet WPCs financial obligations for the year 2021/22. The Clerk to submit the precept request to SDC.

21/01/21/14 To consider, and resolve to approve if appropriate, the areas of responsibility within Wolverton Parish Council

The Chairman advised that he has prepared a schedule detailing parish council activities, with each area being assigned a lead and alternative councillor to take responsibility for that activity and associated correspondences, etc. This was agreed in principle with a few amendments suggested. The Chairman to edit the schedule accordingly for approval at the next meeting.

21/01/21/15 Planning Matters

1. To receive an update on the ownership of the Green

The Clerk advised that she has looked into the process of registering land and will make further enquiries.

2. Applications and Decisions

To consider and resolve planning applications received, and to note current status of existing planning applications

Application Number / Address	Applicant	Application Details
20/02423/FUL Land adjacent to Bonnyton, Wolverton	Mr Constantine	Erection of one market dwelling and all associated works
Comment: WPC has supported the application with qualifications. A decision is currently awaited from SDC. NOTED.		

Application Number / Address	Applicant	Application Details
19/01618/OUT Land On Gannaway Farm, Rear Of Brick Kiln Close, Norton Lindsey	Mr John Horner Claverdon Community Land Trust	Outline planning application for the development of 10 no affordable homes (including 4 local market properties), with all matters reserved except for access (amended application)
Comment: It was noted that Norton Lindsey Parish Council had contacted WPC regarding a revised planning statement submitted to SDC by CCLT. NLPC is to write to SDC reiterating its objections to the proposed development and expressing concern that its comments regarding the application have been misrepresented by CCLT. It was also noted that the new planning statement submitted by CCLT does not address the concerns or the objections previously raised by WPC. Therefore, it was agreed that WPC will make a submission to SDC restating its position and referencing the NLPC letter. Cllrs Wynn-Evans and Phillips to draft a response for circulation to all councillors before submission.		
Application Number / Address	Applicant	Application Details
20/03438/FUL Crusoes, Wolverton Fields, Norton Lindsey, Warwick CV35 8JN	Ms Sue Woolley	Proposed 2 bedroomed bungalow to meet locally identified
Comment: WPC has objected to this application. A decision is currently awaited from SDC. NOTED.		

21/01/21/16 Finance

- 1. Account Balances:** NOTED
Appendix 1 attached.

- 2. Payments Received Since Last Meeting:** NOTED

Date	From	Reason	Total
-			

- 3. Payments Made Since Last Meeting:** NOTED

Date	To	Reason	Total
12 November 2020	1&1 Internet	Web provider	£2.39
14 December 2020	Clerk	Salary (Nov/Dec)	£229.68
14 December 2020	Mr M Sagrott	Grasscutting	£135.00
15 December 2020	1&1 Internet	Web provider	£2.39
15 January 2021	Clerk	Salary	£114.84

- 4. Items of Expenditure to be Reviewed and Approved:** APPROVED

Payment To	Reason	Total
S J Easterbrook	Reimbursement of monthly subscription to Zoom (5 months at £14.39 per month)	£71.95
WALC	Invoice Number: INV-20355 Event: Understanding the Planning System, 5 August (Cllr Murphy)	£15.00
WALC	Invoice Number: WALC-0458 Event: eLearning course Introduction to Councils, Cllr Anthony	£12.00

21/01/21/17 Correspondence

Date	From	Details
-		

21/01/21/18 To agree dates for future meetings

Tuesday 23 March 2021

Tuesday 25 May 2021

21/01/21/19 The meeting closed at 9.34pm

Signed:

Wolverton Parish Council Chair

Date:

APPENDIX 1

WOLVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Accounts Year to Date as at 18 November 2020

Reconciled to bank statement dated 18 November 2020

Actual 2019/20		Budget 2020/21	Actual 2020/21
Balances B/F			
£ 2,106.67	Current Account at 1 April	£ 2,394.12	£ 2,394.12
£ -	Uncleared income at 1 April	£ -	£ -
£ 43.20	Unpresented cheques/payments at 1 April	£ -	£ -
£ 2,063.47	TOTAL B/F	£ 2,394.12	£ 2,394.12
INCOME			
£ 2,680.00	Precept	£ 3,500.00	£ 3,500.00
£ 1,000.00	Grants	£ -	£ -
£ -	Interest	£ -	£ -
£ -	VAT	£ -	£ -
£ -	Other	£ -	£ -
£ 3,680.00	TOTAL INCOME	£ 3,500.00	£ 3,500.00
EXPENDITURE			
£ 1,287.78	Clerks Salary	£ 1,400.00	£ 780.78
£ -	HMRC	£ -	£ -
£ 109.66	Admin Expenses (stationery, postage, internet, etc)	£ 150.00	£ 15.92
£ 735.00	Grass cutting	£ 900.00	£ 855.00
£ 250.80	Donations	£ 200.00	£ -
£ -	Parish Maintenance (excluding grass cutting)	£ 100.00	£ -
£ 149.00	Subscriptions (WALC, ICO, etc)	£ 175.00	£ 105.00
£ 297.11	Insurance	£ 300.00	£ 264.98
£ -	Room hire	£ 40.00	£ -
£ 100.00	Election Costs	£ -	£ -
£ -	Training	£ 50.00	£ 44.50
£ 420.00	Other	£ -	£ -
£ -	VAT paid	£ -	£ 21.20
£ 3,349.35	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£3,315.00	£ 2,087.38
Actual Balance of Accounts at 31 March 2020		Forecast Balance of Accounts at 31 March 2021	Actual Balance of Accounts Year to Date
£ 2,394.12	Current Account Balance	£2,579.12	£3,806.74
£ 1,250.00	Ringfenced funds *	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
£ 500.00	Contingencies fund (sum retained for unexpected expenses)	£500.00	£500.00
£ 644.12	TOTAL DISPOSABLE FUNDS	£829.12	£2,056.74

* Ringfenced funds

Donation to PCC agreed in year 2019/20 for new churchyard fencing	£250.00
WCC grant received in year 2019/20 ringfenced for PCC	£1,000.00
	<u>£1,250.00</u>