

Wistanstow Parish Council

Clerk C E Williams 2 Jockeyfields Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1PU (01584 874661)

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The Minutes of the Parish Meeting Council meeting held on Thursday 14th January 2016 at Wistanstow Village Hall Annex Room commencing at 7.00pm

Present:

Mr D Bytheway Mrs J Woodroffe
Mr R Brown Ms A Minton Beddoes
Mr J Morris Mr B Metcalf
Mr M Flanagan
Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

Members of the Public were present

1. Apologies:

Mr P Jones and Mr P Powell

2. Members of the Public:

a) A member of the public raised the provision of a street light at the junction of Roman Road/Bushmoor for safety purposes. The Clerk reported that he had received an estimate from Npower for the supply and installation of a new street light which would involve an underground supply of a service cable by Western Power which would cost in excess of £6,825.

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had no statutory duty to provide street lighting.

b) A member of the public raised concerns about the condition of the Church footpath which borders the Closed Churchyard and runs from the gateway to the entrance of the Church. The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Secretary of the PCC concerning this matter.

3. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Interest - Mrs J Woodroffe, Mr R Brown and Mr M Flanagan – Closed Churchyard

Personal Interest – Mr R Brown – Planning Application 15/05469/RM

4. Minutes

The Parish Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th November 2016 which were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes:

The Clerk reported that Shropshire Council will not extend the current gritting programme to include the section of road running from the rail bridge to the A49 Grove Bank but had provided a Grit Bin to enable users of the roadway to grit the surface when required.

6. Chairman's Communications:

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from the National Association of Local Councils concerning HM Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations where it is suggested that local communities light a beacon on the 21st April 2016 and perhaps celebrate that evening with a community event. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the Village Hall Committee for consideration.

7. Planning Items:

Planning application 15/05469/RM – Reserved Matters erection of dwelling land adjacent the Larches Watling Street Craven Arms – No Objection.

8. Highway Items/Amenity Items:

a) The unlit streetlight opposite The Gables Wistanstow had been repaired

b) The Clerk had obtained a survey of the trees situated in the Closed Churchyard of the Holy Trinity Church Wistanstow which had been categorised as 'Low Risk' but should be inspected at regular intervals and subject to a biennial arboriculture review cycle. It was suggested that some of the trees may benefit from an organic mulch mat laid at their base.

c) The three-year contract for the cutting of the grass etc. at the Closed Cemetery at St Pauls Church Wistanstow had now ended the Clerk will seek quotations for the next three years.

Any local contractor interested in submitting a quote should contact the Clerk for an appropriate section which should be returned by the 1st March 2016.

d) The Parish Council considered the request for the provision of a street light at the junction of Roman Road/Bushmoor Wistanstow. It was proposed by Mr J Morris and seconded by Ms A Minton Beddoes and agreed by the Parish Council by a vote 5 for and 2 against that the Parish Council do not supply a street light at the Roman Road/Bushmoor.

e) The Parish Council considered the improvements to the closed churchyard footpath the work of which was originally going to be undertaken by volunteers. It was agreed that the PCC should obtain quotes for the resurface of the footpath in accordance with the specification that had previously been agreed and that a quote also be obtained for the edging of the grass bordering the footpath. The quotes will be considered by the next meeting of the Parish Council.

9. Reports from Outside Organisations

No reports

10. Financial Items:

b) The Parish Council approved the following accounts for payment:

C E Williams – Stationary - £63.76

IP&E – Survey of Trees - £300

Bridgnorth and South Shropshire Crucial Crew – Grant for children of Wistanstow School to attend Safety Awareness Course - £42

c) The Clerk had produced a financial statement for the consideration of the Precept 2016/17, the Clerk reported that the Parish Council received an annual grant of £1,450 for Environmental/Highway work however this was subject to review and may be reduced or withdrawn

Although the Parish Council had reserves of approximately £12,000 these were required for specific purposes, Repairs to Church Wall, Election Costs, Street Lighting Repairs and Recreation Reserve.

An increase of the Parish Precept by £1,000 would result in an annual increase of £3.05 to the average Band D Council Tax Payer.

It was proposed by Mr B Metcalf and seconded by Mr M Flanagan and agreed by the Parish Council that the Precept for 2016/17 be increased by £2,000 to £8,247.

11. Next Meeting:

Wednesday 23rd March 2016 and Wednesday 18th May 2016 (Annual Public and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council).

Chairman