

WELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 24th March 2022 commencing at 7:30pm
in the Village Hall, West Street, Welford**

Present

Councillors: Dr. M Gorrod (Chairman), Mr. N Brotherton, , Mr. T. Forder,

Clerk: Mr. I Kelly

Unitary Councillor: Mr. K. Parker

Public: 7

Minute	Action
22/21 Apologies for Absence:	
Mr. A. Curtis, Mr. T McCullagh, Mrs. S. Phelan	
22/22 Minutes of the Meeting Thursday 24th February 2022	
The minutes of the meeting held on February 24 th 2022 were approved	
22/23 To receive an update on outstanding actions and to note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only:	
<p>The Clerk gave the following updates in relation to the action record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EV charge point work would commence on the 4th May • The trees have been trimmed in the Pocket Park • The Cone Climber for the children's play area will be delayed by two weeks owing to a covid outbreak at the manufacturer's facility • The litter bin for the children's play area will be installed by the weekend • The Marquee for the Jubilee event would not be insured if it was erected incorrectly and, being a movable object, if damage caused by wind, rain, hail, sleet, snow flood or dust. The event organisers would need insurance for the event • Both Building Control and Highways had been informed that there were no lights on the scaffold outside the Old Talbot house. No reply had been received and the scaffold remains unlit. • AWA contacted re leak at West Street/High Street, waiting for an update 	
22/24 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:	
None	
22/25 Public Participation;	
<p>Cliff Marlow asked who was responsible for the white lines outside the playing field in West Street? Cllr. Gorrod informed Mr. Marlow that it was a Highways matter and it has been previously reported.</p> <p>Alice George said that the school, Guides and Scouting groups were looking to make a mosaic commemorating the Jubilee and asked if it could be mounted on the wall next to the WYCC nearest West Street. The tiles would be made of glass and cover an area of 4feet by 4 feet. Cllr. Brotherton said that he believed the wall did not belong to the Parish Council. Clerk to make enquiries as to ownership of the wall and any possible alternative location.</p>	Clerk
22/26 Agenda	
a) Highways:	
i) To discuss the proposal submitted by Oliver Tann in relation to traffic calming on the A5199	
ii) To consider correspondence re marker signs on southern A5199 approach to Welford	
<p>i) Oliver Tann said that he had taken note of previous comments from the Council and had updated his paper. Mr. Tann said that he had discussed his proposal with WAG, Cllr. Irving-Swift and the Police and had their support to the proposal.</p> <p>ii) The Clerk said that he had received correspondence from a motorist who had been caught by the Police Safety Camera Van. He had suggested 300/200/100 yard marker signs on the southern approach to the village on the A5199. The Clerk said</p>	

<p>that there were similar signs on the northern approach to the village. Cllr. Gorrod said those signs were in Leicestershire and therefore managed by their Highways team. Councillors agreed to support both proposals and asked the Clerk to forward both to WNC Highways.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>b) To review the presentation from Iain Downer of Class Q Developers regarding land on Newlands Road and consider the following questions:</p>	
<p>The Councillors considered the following questions raised at the February meeting:</p> <p>a) <i>What would be considered an appropriate scale of development.</i> Cllr. Brotherton said he believed the site could accommodate 10 units and this was consistent with the Parish Council's view on a previous planning application for the site. The Councillors agreed on this assessment.</p> <p>b) <i>In relation to access, he would like to see this being via the Sports Field access and would look to upgrade the road to be adopted.</i> Cllr Gorrod said that this was not something the Council could decide on and is for the Sportsfield Association and the Council agreed that they would support the Sportsfield Association in this matter.</p> <p>c) <i>In delivering more than 5 units, does the parish have a requirement for affordable housing and, if so, how many units would they like to see delivered? If there is no requirement for affordable housing, then it may be possible for us to make a financial contribution in lieu of an on-site provision.</i> Cllr Gorrod said that in order to have affordable housing, the village needed to be sustainable and have an adequate bus service. Ellen Worrell from Green Welford asked that the houses be insulated to the highest standard. The Clerk said that WNC had a policy in relation to social housing to house people with a local connection if they were on their list. The nomination would then be sent to the responsible housing provider to follow up. The Councillors agreed that there should be an element of social housing and that they should be insulated to the highest standards.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>c) To consider and respond to the Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation in relation to 'Responsible ownership of dogs and prohibition of smoking in certain places'</p>	
<p>The Clerk said that a consultation was underway to identify areas where Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) were required as they merged the three previous District Council orders. There are currently PSPOs requiring dogs to be on leads in church yards and the cemetery and no dogs were allowed inside the Children's play area on the Playing Field. The Clerk asked Councillors if they wanted to extend the PSPO to the rest of the Playing Field other than the public footpath linking The Leys to Northampton Road. Cllr. Gorrod said that as the Playing Field was Parish Council owned the Parish Council would have to take any civil action if the Parish Council banned dogs. With a PSPO WNC would take the action and the potential fine would be greater. Councillors agreed to support a PSPO banning dogs from the Playing Field (excluding the public right of way) and if that was not granted, to ask that dogs be on a lead within the Playing Field.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>d) To review the highlights/feedback of the village lighting survey and that lighting is part of the Village/Neighbourhood Plan</p>	
<p>Cllr. Forder asked for this item to be withdrawn and discussed at the next meeting when more Councillors were present</p>	
<p>e) To consider and make any comments in relation to the licencing application with regards to the Elizabethan Public House</p>	
<p>The Councillors had no observations to make</p>	
<p>f) To receive an update and consider options in relation to the defibrillators</p>	
<p>The Clerk said that the defibrillator batteries still had sufficient charge for a number of shocks. New batteries are expected in April. However if they are not forthcoming, the Clerk will add this item to the May agenda for the Council to consider purchasing a new defibrillator. Cllr. Gorrod asked Councillors to endorse the previous decision which only ran to this meeting for the Clerk to make an emergency purchase of a defibrillator if it was required. Councillors agreed for the Clerk to purchase a defibrillator if the need arose before the May meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>g) To receive an update in relation to the bus service</p>	

<p>The Clerk said that WNC had subsidised the bus service to the end of August and that if the bus service ceased at that point the contribution from WPC until that date would be half of the proposed sum in the budget for the bus service. WNC are confident that more money will become available and they are also looking at Government grants. A member of the public asked why there were no bus services on a Saturday. Cllr. Gorrod said that the village had provided feedback previously about the bus service which had been reduced over the last three years and Welford is just one of many parishes along the route. Cllr. Parker said that there will be a full review of the bus service in the next three to four months.</p>	
<p>h) To consider any items for the Parish Meeting to be held at 7pm on April 28th 2022</p>	
<p>The Clerk said that he will be inviting various groups from the village to attend the Parish Meeting and giving them an opportunity to talk about their work. It will be open to everyone in the Parish to attend and also to hear about the work of the Parish Council. Cllr. Gorrod said that he had invited Chris Heaton-Harris to attend the meeting and it is currently in his diary.</p>	
<p>i) Clerk's update</p>	
<p>The Clerk said that for the Jubilee event, the marquee company were very busy in the run up to that weekend and asked if they could erect the marquee on the 27th or 28th May. Councillors considered there would be a long lead time with the grass covered and could damage the surface, especially if there was a dance floor. Councillors asked that the marquee be in place for less than one week in total.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>22/27 Planning</p>	
<p>a) <i>To support the Sportsfield Association in their future application for the extension to the Pavilion as Guardian Trustees and for pre-planning purposes</i> Cllr. Gorrod said the Chairman of the Sportsfield Association has sent the Parish Council a copy of a plan to extend the pavilion which was approved by the Sportsfield Committee at their AGM. The Parish Councillors agreed to support the proposal and as guardian trustees agreed for the planning application to be submitted in the Parish Council's name. The Parish Council has no objections to the design but will have to consider it again when it becomes a formal planning application.</p> <p>b) <i>To consider pre-planning consultation in relation to a micro wind turbine at Oak Lodge, Welford</i> Cllr. Gorrod said that he had received a written submission from Cllr. Curtis who fully supports the concept but disagrees with the location of the wind turbine. Cllr. Curtis indicated that it was not very green to have 200m of copper wire running from the wind turbine to the property. Cllr. Brotherton said that he had received three phone calls from people concerned about the location of the wind turbine being near to the A5199. Ellen Worrell of Green Welford said that if it was a horizontal fan, that would be less distracting but also less efficient than a vertical fan as shown in the design. Councillors agreed that if it was located close to the A5199 it would be a distraction to motorists, it was not green due to the amount of copper wire used and should be located nearer to the applicant's property. If it was built close to the road it should be a horizontal turbine.</p>	
<p>22/28 Reports</p>	
<p>a) Highways</p>	
<p>Cllr. Gorrod said that the light was out on the 30mph sign on the High Street and the drain was blocked opposite Naseby Road. Pot holes continue to be reported and also noted that the scaffolding at Talbot House was unlit.</p>	
<p>b) Rights of Way</p>	
<p>Cllr. Gorrod said that there were no new issues</p>	
<p>c) Playing field</p>	
<p>Cllr. Brotherton said the Playing Field had been cut this week and the new bin was being installed by Nigel Wilson. There were no issues with the play equipment.</p>	
<p>d) Speed Indicator Device (SID) report</p>	
<p>No report had been received. Clerk to contact SID group</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>e) Welford Youth and Community Centre</p>	
<p>No meetings to report</p>	

f) Village Hall:		
No reports		
22/29 Finances		
a) Councillors noted the bank working balance at Unity Trust on the 17th March 2022 £39,750.46. The Clerk said that the end of year balance would be £38,355.69 which includes a grant of £2,088 for a tree survey coordinated by Helen Dyson. A VAT reclaim of £4,881.62 would be made for the year 2021/22		
b) Councillors noted the standing order for street lighting paid to SSE on the 16th March 2022 £153.06		
c) The following payments were approved		
PAYEE	REASON	£
Staff costs	Salaries	678.30
Ian Kelly	Office expenses	85.77
Barbara Osborne	Payroll services	67.50
R & G	Roundhouse Close weed spraying	13.20
Fisher German	Allotments rent (September & March)	550.00
22/30 Date of next meeting: Thursday 28th April 2022. The main meeting closed at 8.32pm		
22/31 Confidential business held in accordance with Standing Order 2d, Public and Press to be excluded from this section		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discuss pay scales for staff 		
Councillors discussed the NALC pay award for 2021/22 which they accepted, and to backdate increases to April 2021. Councillors also discussed the increase in the National Minimum Wage which will be increased from 1st April 2022, Councillors agreed to adopt the National Minimum Wage payments for staff where applicable. The Councillors also agreed to review pay scales for staff at the April meeting		
The meeting closed at 8.45pm		

Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record

Signed by Chairman	Dated