

**WELFORD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting of the Parish Council held on**  
**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022 commencing at 7:30pm**  
**in the Village Hall, West Street, Welford**

**Present**

**Councillors:** Dr. M Gorrod (Chairman), Mr. N Brotherton, Mr. A. Curtis, Mr. T. Forder, Mr. W Hughes, Mr. T. McCullagh, Mrs. S. Phelan

**Clerk:** Mr. I Kelly

**Public:** 3 plus Cllr. J. Harris

Minute	Action
<b>22/65 Apologies for Absence:</b>	
None	
<b>22/66 Minutes of the Meeting Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022</b>	
The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022 were approved	
<b>22/67 To receive an update on outstanding actions and to note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only:</b>	
<p>The Clerk gave the following updates in relation to the action record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been no update on the lease for the Pocket Park. WNC is working on an asset transfer policy which might be worth considering as a means to transfer the Pocket Park to the Parish Council at minimal cost, once it is finalised</li> <li>• Highways have passed the leak on West Street junction to Anglian Water Authority (AWA). Clerk to contact Highways and inform them that the Parish Council believe this is a spring and not a water pipe burst which could result in a sink hole similar to one seen recently by the school on West Street.</li> <li>• A reply had been received from Husbands Bosworth Surgery indicating that they were having discussions with colleagues from the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board to consider the options from the survey and the process that needs to be followed</li> <li>• The issue with the large stones on the verge in Northampton Road has been passed to the Highways enforcement team.</li> <li>• A quote of £185.00 had been received from the tree surgeon to deal with the tree that could damage nearby property on The Leys. The Clerk advised that this work would normally be approved by consultation with the Chairman., however the Councillors agreed for the work to proceed</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>22/68 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:</b>	
None	
<b>22/69 Public Participation;</b>	
<p>Cliff Marlow said that the survey regarding the surgery was a poor survey and that a lot of people did not know about it. Cllr. Gorrod said that as it was not a village wide survey the Council is not able to respond to any outcome and the surgery should be contacted to ask them to make this a village wide survey.</p> <p>Cliff Marlow asked whose responsibility it was if parts of land was sold and items such as liquid tanks were left in the ground. He was advised that this was for the landowner to manage.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>22/70 Agenda</b>	
<b>a) To an update from Helen Dyson on the tree project and wildlife survey</b>	
Helen Dyson said that she will be taking the Wildlife survey diaries to the Kidsfest in October. The data from the diaries is still being analysed and the results will be made available to the Parish Council, and could be posted onto the Parish Council website. The previously planned bio-blitz which was cancelled during lockdown will be revisited in the future. Ms. Dyson is looking to galvanise as many volunteers as possible to undertake a tree survey across the Parish. It is also hoped that land owners will be involved especially as the volunteers might not be able to access	

private land. The survey will be a rolling programme while trees are in leaf and easier to identify. The Councillors agreed for an email address to be created for the project and other ecology work <a href="mailto:trees@welfordvillage.org.uk">trees@welfordvillage.org.uk</a> for £35 plus £7.20 VAT.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>b) To receive an update regarding the replacement of play equipment on the Playing Field</b>	
The Clerk advised the Council that quotes were still being arranged with providers. It was anticipated that these should be in place for the next meeting and a survey as planned will also have been undertaken.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>c) To consider further improvements as highlighted in the Neighbourhood Plan</b>	
Cllr. Forder said that he had identified four categories that had several topics within them from which Councillors can decide on which to focus on: Enhance Recreation, Education & Community Facilities - Topics 7 Improvements in traffic and road safety - Topics 10 Land, Landscape Character and Biodiversity - Topics 14 Preserve Character of Parish - Topics 15 Cllr. Forder said that he would send out the details to the Councillors and also highlight the achievements to date.	<b>Cllr. Forder</b>
<b>d) To receive an update regarding The Spinney boundary</b>	
The Clerk said that he had undertaken an initial survey in The Spinney and to the rear of properties in The Leys. There appeared to be a number of gardens which had been extended into The Spinney. The Clerk had been allowed to copy a letter held by a resident from 1995 sent to residents in relation to use of The Spinney land at the rear of their property which allowed them limited use of the land and for the Council to reclaim it with 6 months notice. The Councillors agreed to a budget of £50 for the Clerk to undertake further research with Land Registry in order to determine the legally recorded property boundaries.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>e) To approve the following requests from Green Welford</b>	
<b>i) To install an A2 notice board in the bus shelter</b>	
<b>ii) To plant bulbs on the Playing Field as part of Kids Fest</b>	
i) The Clerk said that he had received a letter from Christine and John O'Reilly giving permission for a noticeboard to be installed on the wall inside the bus shelter which is part of the Manor House boundary. Cllr. Gorrod said the board should be installed on the rear wall to the right near to where the recycling bins are to be kept when the book shelves are relocated. Ellen Worrell from Green Welford said that the notice board would carry information in relation to Green Welford, Rita the Refill van and funding awards received. The Councillors approved the locating of the notice board in the bus shelter provided it was lockable and only used by Green Welford ii) Ms. Worrell said that the Kids Fest week is being funded by the organisers of the Big Green Week and they would like the children of the village to plant bulbs in the Playing Field as part of the event. Councillors agreed that the bulbs should be planted around the area where the Platinum Jubilee tree is to be planted on the Playing Field.	
<b>f) To consider and approve the purchase of replacement book shelves for the bus shelter</b>	
The Clerk gave an update on the shelving available to replace the book cases. He recommended a 5 Tier Boltless Shelving Unit, size: 150 X 75 X 30 cm at a cost of £29.99 plus £5.00 VAT. The Clerk said that the upright posts on these shelves were in two sections of 75cm and could therefore create two units at 75cm tall, with the addition of another shelf for £13.33 plus £2.66 VAT, a total cost of £43.32 plus £7.66 VAT. Councillors approved the purchase of the shelf unit and additional shelf for £43.32 plus £7.66 VAT	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>g) To review the purchase of a replacement battery for the defibrillator and consider buying a new iPad defibrillator £895 plus £10 delivery and £181 VAT</b>	
The Clerk said that there was still a shortage of supplies for the old defibrillators and that the Defib Store was able to provide an iPad semi-automatic defibrillator for £895.00, £10 delivery and £181.00 VAT. They will credit this purchase with the £102 on account for the batteries and pads for the old unit, the total balance being £984.00. Councillors approved the purchase of the iPad defibrillator.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>h) To consider additional plants along the fence bordering the green in Roundhouse Close</b>	

<p>The Clerk said that he had received a request from the resident of 5 Roundhouse Close to plant laurel bushes along the fence adjacent to the play area to reduce the nuisance of balls hitting his fence. The Clerk said that Crick Garden Centre was selling 18 inch high bushes at 2 for £6.00 and this area would need up to 6 bushes. Councillors approved the purchase of 6 laurel bushes for £18.00.</p>	
<p><b>i) To discuss publicity for the Electric Vehicle charge point</b></p>	
<p>Cllr. Gorrod said that WNC had provided him with a draft press release and he had circulated a draft quote from the Parish Council to all Councillors for consideration. Cllr. Brotherton said that the quote should include a welcome to all visiting EV drivers. It was agreed that the Council would work closely with Green Welford to promote the charge point especially as Welford is the only village in the area with a charge point.</p>	
<p><b>j) To consider how to respond to and advise residents in relation to noxious smells</b></p>	
<p>The Clerk said that he had placed an entry on the website advising residents as to how they could report their concerns to the Environmental Health team at WNC. Cllr. Gorrod said that he had also updated the Welford Facebook group with a similar message. Cllr. Brotherton said that he believed it was a liquid product that had recently been delivered and he had been assured by the pig farm that the smell did not emanate from their premises.</p>	
<p><b>k) To consider the proposal from NCALC to sign up to the NALC/OVW/SLCC Civility and Respect Project</b></p>	
<p>Cllr. Gorrod said that most of the issues raised in the proposal are covered in the Code of Conduct. It was agreed that the Council support this national proposal and would sign up to the proposal.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>l) Clerks update</b></p>	
<p>The Clerk that the Old Talbot house scaffolding license is all in order and in place to the end of July. Lights should also be installed on the scaffold as a result of an email from Highways on the 20th July 2022. The Clerk had also been advised by WNC Planning that works to repair / make safe the gable are the responsibility of the owner and are not something they are involved in as a planning authority. This is separate to the permissions to convert and renovate the building. The Clerk also advised Councillors that the Village Hall committee has raised fees by £2 per session as of 1st September 2022</p>	
<p><b>22/71 Planning</b></p>	
<p>a) WND/2022/0518 School House 3, West Street, Welford, Replacement of boundary fence (retrospective) Cllr. Curtis, as chair of the planning committee said that planning was required as this was in a conservation area and which is also a sensitive area and was also There is also now a much higher fence facing onto a highway. Cllr. Curtis advised that he had no issues with regards to the changes to the fence to the side of the property adjoining the school as there was a valid justification supported by the school for the modified fence to have been put in place. Cllr. Gorrod said that the property is a listed building and the fence is about 30% higher than the fence it replaced. Councillors agreed that they did not object to the fence at the side, however they did object to the fence to the front of the property which should be the same height as the previous fence and made of the same materials</p> <p>b) WND/2022/0552 Land at Oak Lodge, Northampton Road, Welford, NN6 6JD, Installation of 1no Britwind R900 Micro Wind turbine with an overall maximum height of 17.75 metres to the tip of the blade Cllr. Curtis said that the Parish Council was consulted by the owner's agent prior to the application being made. The Council responded that it was close to the road but built to service a property some distance from the turbine. Councillors agreed that the turbine should be sited nearer to the applicants property as there is no justification as to why it should be sited midway between the road and the property. By locating the turbine nearer to the property there would be less copper wire used to take the feed to the property which would also be greener in terms of less cable being used.</p> <p>c) WND/2022/0553 Sports Field, Pavilion, Newlands Road, Welford, Works to a tree subject to TPO DA490</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>

Councillors strongly objected to this work as the application did not specify what is being requested to be undertaken by the applicant. There were unsubstantiated claims not supported by an arboricultural report. There was a previous application WND/2021/0117 which the Council asked the Clerk to enquire if that work had been undertaken. The clerk was asked to clarify the process with WNC to determine if applications are sent to the Parish Council prior to them being validated as complete or valid by the Tree Officer at WNC

**22/72 Reports**

**a) Highways**

Cllr. Gorrod said that there continued to be issues with pot holes and roads breaking up. Cllr. Harris said that he was arranging a meeting in Welford with the WNC Director of Place and the Clerk and members of WAG would be invited to this meeting.

**b) Rights of Way**

Cllr. Gorrod said that there were issues with overgrowth on Rights of Ways which is typical at this time of year. Any issues would however be reported to the Rights of Way team via FixMyStreet.

**c) Playing field**

Cllr. Brotherton said that there were Ash trees around the Spinney which are tall and need to be monitored. The Council will need to work with WNC as the trees are subject to a TPO. Cllr Brotherton also raised a concern by the garage that children are cycling off the playing field onto the garage forecourt and onto Northampton Road. This issue to be raised as part of the next Parish Council update in the Bugle.

**d) Speed Indicator Device (SID) report**

SID reports have been received, circulated to Councillors and placed on the website

**e) Welford Youth and Community Centre**

Cllr. Gorrod said that the centre was trying to promote the use of the WYCC and to increase the number of bookings

**f) Village Hall:**

Cllr. Phelan reported that there had been a lot of discussion about the increase in charges for use of the Hall. The Committee is still worried about the continued use of the Doctor's surgery and are planning to write to the senior partner at Husbands Bosworth surgery.

**22/73 Finances**

a) Cllr. McCullagh verified the bank reconciliation undertaken on the 19th July 2022

b) Councillors noted the bank working balance at Unity Trust on the 22nd July 2022, £47,173.40

c) Councillors noted standing order for street lighting paid to SSE on the 18th July 2022 £162.67

d) The following payments were approved

PAYEE	REASON	£
Staff costs	Salaries - July	734.13
Staff costs	Salaries - August	734.13
R & G	Grass cutting June and Church wall weeding	1,774.18
NCALC	Subscription and Internal Audit Service fee	807.85
Village Hall	Billiard Room 28th June for Planning C'ttee	7.00
NCALC	Will Hughes training	45.60

**22/74 Date of next meeting: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022.  
The main meeting closed at 9.17pm**

**Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record**

**Signed by Chairman** **Dated**

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