

WELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 26th January 2023 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. T. McCullagh, Mrs. S. Phelan

Clerk: Mr. I Kelly

Public: 5

Minute	Action
23/01 Apologies for Absence:	
Apologies were accepted from Mr. W. Hughes	
23/02 Minutes of the Meeting Thursday 8th December 2022	
The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8 th December 2022 were approved	
23/03 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"> • David Cliffe said that he would provide a quote to tidy the land near to the walkway from The Leys into the Playing Field in the spring when the conditions were more suited to tidying up that area • The Land Registry had replied to the issue around registering the land around the Wayleave as Council land indicating that if the Statutory Declaration of 2006 was defective they were unable to take any action unless a further formal application is made, based on further Statutory Declarations and supporting evidence. Cllr. Brotherton said that he would arrange for a new Statutory Declaration to be drawn up in relation to the land owned by the Parish Council which borders 6a Northampton Road. 	Cllr. Brotherton
23/04 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:	
Cllr. Brotherton declared an interest in item 6d. and would excuse himself from that discussion	
23/05 Public Participation;	
<p>Cliff Marlow said that he was concerned about the number of cars that were parking on the footpath and causing an obstruction, making it difficult for pedestrians, It was agreed that the Clerk would raise this with the Police.</p> <p>A member of the public raised concerns about lorries driving aggressively through The High Street. They had witnessed a lorry forcing a car to drive on the pavement in order to avoid a collision.</p>	Clerk
23/06 Agenda	
a) To approve the Budget and Precept for 2023/24	
The Clerk said that he had taken into account the discussions at the December meeting and increased the budget to £46,500. Cllr. Curtis welcomed this increase and the Councillors approved the budget set at £46,500 for 2023/24. The Councillors also agreed to set a Precept of £46,500 for the year 2023/24	Clerk
b) To discuss the outcome of planning application Husbands Bosworth Quarry, Welford Road, Husbands Bosworth LE17 6JH. Planning Reference 2021/CM/0041/LCC	
The Clerk summarised the decision made by LCC approving the site despite objections from both Welford PC and Husbands Bosworth PC, and a number of residents. Cllr. Gorrod said that LCC are not expecting this to lead to a significant amount of traffic on the A5199. But as the Welford Action Group (WAG) regularly monitor traffic flows and trends, LCC's assertion could be checked. Cllr. Curtis said that there had been no support from the Unitary Councillors or WNC Highways and he felt that the Council should make its feelings known to both groups. Cllr. Brotherton noted that there had also been approval for a bagging plant which would involve the import of materials to the site and the likelihood of traffic through Welford to meet that demand. Cllr. McCullagh said that he had	

spoken to a Police Officer in Northampton Road and he was told that they were monitoring the 20mph area. It was proposed that the Parish Council continues its work with WAG and also to involve Husbands Bosworth PC in monitoring traffic flows and try and determine ways of mitigating any increase. It was also agreed to write to the Unitary Councillors to express the Council's disappointment and dissatisfaction with their lack of support.	Clerk
c) To discuss the future of the bus service, number 59 and 60	
The Clerk said that he had spoken with John Hunt, Chairman at Spratton Parish Council prior to the meeting. The understanding is that WNC has significantly reduced their subsidy for the service and has notified Uno who currently operate the service. The Clerk understands that Uno are currently looking at the passenger numbers. The current subsidy from WNC and the Parishes along the route runs until the end of March, and as yet there is no decision as to the service beyond then. Cllr. Gorrod said that one of the Unitary Councillors is looking into this and keeping the Council informed. Cliff Marlow said that there were a number of users for the bus service in the morning and evening going to and from Guilsborough School and it was asked what would happen to them. Cllr. Gorrod said that contact would be made with Guilsborough Academy to enquire what information they might have about the service. Cllr. Gorrod said that contact would also be made with the Unitary Councillors to express our concern should the service be lost. The Parish Council will also continue to work with John Hunt on trying to retain the service.	Clerk
d) To consider and approve the quote from Joseph Hutchinson, Arboriculturist, in relation to the trees on the Playing Field at the rear of the houses on The Leys	
Cllr, Curtis said that there were a number of trees showing distress in the area subject to the quote, and that no work had been undertaken on these trees for some time. He recommended that the Council accepted the quote from Joseph Hutchinson. Councillors agreed to accept the quote of £1,170 plus £130 VAT.	
e) To consider and approve the quote from R & G in relation to turfing an area of Roundhouse Close	
Cllr. Gorrod said that the proposal to turf the green in Roundhouse Close would increase the area available for children to play and make it more amenable. Councillors agreed to accept the quote of £320 plus VAT from R & G.	
f) To note and approve the second KidsFest event to be held on June 10th 2023	
Cllr. Gorrod said that the proposed Kidsfest fell under the Council policy to allow events to take place on the Playing Field that benefit the Community, is non-commercial and/or fundraising for a village society/charity. Councillors agreed to allow the Kidsfest event to take place on the Playing Field.	
g) To consider and approve the quote to install a replacement defibrillator cabinet in the phone kiosk, West Street	
The Clerk said that JAW Maintenance had been unable to fulfil their offer to instal the replacement defibrillator cabinet. He had received a verbal quote from Barry Jones who had previously undertaken the installation for a fee of £80 to £100 for the work. Councillors agreed for a spend of up to £150 for the installation of the replacement defibrillator cabinet by Barry Jones.	
h) Clerks update	
The Clerk said that work in the Play area to replace two pieces of equipment would take place in the w/c 6th February. A skip will be placed on the hardstanding near to the WYCC for the old equipment, and materials which will be carried from this location to the playa area to avoid the ground being churned by vehicles. The replacement items will be fenced off for safety and the fencing removed once the equipment has been signed off as safe to use. WYCC has been informed of the work. The Clerk had been told that Highgate House, Creaton had been stood down by the Government as a centre to house up to 400 migrants. The Clerk understood that Highgate remained an option for the Government to use in the future. Cllr. Brotherton said that it was a conference centre and therefore might not be available for use as a hotel/ without an application for change of use.	
23/07 Planning	
a) To note updates from previous Planning Applications	

The Clerk had previously circulated updates regarding outstanding applications prior to the meeting.																
b) To consider WND/2022/1085 8, Roundhouse Close, Welford, Northamptonshire, NN6 6NN Removal of tree subject of tree preservation order DA490																
Cllr. Curtis said that the application was lacking an expert report/arboriculturist as required when undertaking any work on a tree subject to a TPO and a requirement of the application.. The Councillors agreed that as there was insufficient information within the application they could not make a decision in support of or objecting to the proposal as it was an incomplete application and therefore not valid. Councillors agreed that the incomplete report that had been sent out should be brought to the attention of the Unitary Councillors.	Clerk															
23/08 Reports																
a) Highways																
Cllr. Gorrod that there were a number of potholes along Newlands Road, as well as in other parts of the village.																
b) Rights of Way																
Cllr. Gorrod said that no work had been undertaken on obstructed right of way at The Hemploe. However some work was underway at the rear of the farm which might impact on the Right of Way. Cllr. Gorrod said that a new way marker had been installed on Hall Lane to replace a removed way marker post.																
c) Playing field																
Cllr. Brotherton said that some of the equipment had been used recently. Cllr Brotherton also aid that the tree for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee was now in place.																
d) Welford Youth and Community Centre																
Cllr. Gorrod said that no meeting had been held recently.																
e) Village Hall:																
Cllr. Phelan said that the cinema club had over 30 people to watch Mrs. Harris goes to Paris. There are showings planned for February of ‘Lost King’ and in March of ‘Top Gun Maverick’.																
23/09 Finances																
a) Councillors noted the following bank working balances at Unity Trust on the 20th January 2023																
i. Current account: £34,163.94																
ii. Savings account: £20,013.97																
b) Councillors noted the standing order for street lighting paid to SSE:																
i. 16th December 2022, £98.11																
ii. 18th January 2023, £106.26																
c) Councillors noted the following payments made as previously agreed:																
i. Tom Hughes on 8th December 2022 re tree trim, £185.00																
ii. Nigel Brotherton on the 8th January 2023 re Queen’s Green canopy tree £49.23																
d) Councillors approved the following payments																
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>PAYEE</th> <th>REASON</th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Staff costs</td> <td>Salaries</td> <td>1167.53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ian Kelly</td> <td>Padlocks and keys for Playing Field</td> <td>38.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R & G</td> <td>Weed maintenance</td> <td>11.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Village Hall</td> <td>Hire of meeting room January – March 2023</td> <td>34.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	PAYEE	REASON	£	Staff costs	Salaries	1167.53	Ian Kelly	Padlocks and keys for Playing Field	38.99	R & G	Weed maintenance	11.20	Village Hall	Hire of meeting room January – March 2023	34.00	
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22/10 Date of next meeting: Thursday 23rd February 2023 The meeting closed at 8.49pm																

Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record	
Signed by Chairman	Dated