

**WELFORD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting of the Parish Council held on**  
**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 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. W. Hughes, , Mr. T. McCullagh, Mrs. S. Phelan

**Clerk:** Mr. I Kelly

**Public:** 4

Minute	Action
<b>23/21 Apologies for Absence:</b>	
None	
<b>23/22 Minutes of the Meeting Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023</b>	
The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2023 were approved	
<b>23/23 To receive an update on outstanding actions and to note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only:</b>	
The Clerk gave the following updates in relation to the action record: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The issue regarding applications from WNC in relation to trees is with the Unitary Councillors</li> <li>• R &amp; G will provide a quote for leaf blowing in the autumn when the scale of the area to be cleared will be better known</li> </ul>	
<b>23/24 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:</b>	
None	
<b>23/25 Public Participation;</b>	
The Chairman opened up this section to those present and outlined the rules for public participation. A member of the public raised his hand and gave his name as Lee Gravestock. His disruptive interaction with the Councillors resulted in the Chairman proposing that the disruptive member of the public be excluded from the meeting, which was approved by the Council. The disruption continued and the meeting was suspended for eleven minutes until the disruptive member of the public left the building. When the meeting continued Cliff Marlow said that the white lines had not been painted in front of the entrance to the Playing Field. Clerk to contact Highways	Clerk
<b>23/26 Agenda</b>	
<b>a) To receive an update regarding the Friends of the Pocket Park</b>	
Cllr. Gorrod referred to the December meeting when Councillors were updated regarding the status of the Friends of the Pocket Park and that the Chairman and Secretary had stood down and as such there was no committee, just a number of willing volunteers. It was agreed that a new MoU should be agreed with the volunteers, a management plan needed to be created for work to be undertaken in the year, and any proposed spending should be made to the Council to approve and reimburse. The volunteers should also inform the Clerk when any work will be undertaken for insurance purposes.	
<b>b) To approve the use of the Pocket Park by Welford Green Group for a Tree event to celebrate World Earth Day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023</b>	
The Clerk said that Green Welford and Trees for Welford are looking at holding a Tree Festival in the Pocket Park on 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2023 to coincide with Earth Day. The event would be free to attend. It would be predominantly a family educational/fun event with bark rubbing, tree identification, bug hunts and the building of a more structured bug hotel than the current loose wood piles. Councillors agreed to the event taking place.	
<b>c) To consider activities in relation to the Coronation of King Charles III</b>	
Cllr. Gorrod said that there had been two applications for the £500 grant funding which had been agreed in February. The first was from the PTA at WSSSES for a grant towards a hog roast, Ceilidh dancing and celebration at the WYCC. The organisers hope to have	

<p>a hog roast, they hope to attract between 80 and 100 people and it is open to all residents. Councillors approved a grant of £300 towards this event.</p> <p>A request had also been received from the WYCC when they will make the centre available for anyone in the village to come along for a village "street" party on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Attendees will need to bring their own food but the WI are proposing to sell hot drinks and cakes. The WYCC are proposing that the centre is open for people to drop in between 12 and 4. A volunteering Fayre will also be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May asking all village organisations which have / use / need volunteers to have a stall / display giving more details and inviting people to volunteer to help them. Councillors agreed to a grant of £100 to WYCC to support the events that are planned.</p> <p>Cllr. Phelan proposed that all the remaining money be allocated at the next Parish Council meeting which was agreed by the Councillors</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>d) To approve the updated 'No idling poster' from Green Welford</b></p>	
<p>The Clerk had circulated details of a poster that Green Welford wished to use to ask drivers to switch off their engines. The A4 posters would replace the posters previously installed by the Council. There would be no cost to the Council. Green Welford also asked to display two A3 posters attached to the railings at the Playing Field using cable ties. Councillors approved the proposed plans from Green Welford</p>	
<p><b>e) To consider items for the Parish Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023</b></p>	
<p>The Clerk said that he would email groups in the village inviting them to attend and give an update on their work. The meeting would start at 7pm and the ordinary business of the Council would be undertaken after the Parish Meeting</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>f) Clerk's update</b></p>	
<p>The Clerk reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wicksteed Leisure have been engaged to undertake the annual safety survey of the play equipment on the Playing Field. The cost will be £240 plus £48 VAT and the survey should be completed by the end of May</li> <li>• Cllr. Kevin Parker is still pursuing the ACV for the Elizabethan with WNC Estates</li> <li>• The PCC have had a tree surgeon reviewing the trees in both the closed church yard and graveyard extension. There were some concerns raised about the trees that overhand Church Lane.</li> <li>• A resident has expressed concern about the two large trees overhanging the footpath at the entrance to the Playing Field from Northampton Road. The Clerk will arrange for the Tree Surgeon to assess the trees and advise the Council as to their safety.</li> <li>• The Clerk advised the Councillors that he would be retiring during the coming year</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>23/27 Planning</b></p>	
<p><b>a) To note updates from previous Planning Applications</b></p>	
<p>The Clerk had previously circulated updates regarding outstanding applications prior to the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>b) WND/2023/0170, Pebble Cottage 49, West Street, Welford. Single storey rear extension</b></p>	
<p>Cllr. Curtis had no observations regarding the application and this was approved by Council</p>	
<p><b>c) WND/2023/0050 Sports Field, Welford. Work to tree subject of Tree Preservation Order DA 490</b></p>	
<p>Councillors were provided with a tree surgeon's report in relation to this tree. They agreed with the work that was to be undertaken and approved the application. The Clerk was asked to thank the tree officer at WNC for his work in securing the report.</p>	
<p><b>d) WND/2023/0148 Land To South West Of A14 Junction At Cold Ashby, Northampton Road, Cold Ashby. Outline application with all matters reserved except means of access for the development of three Use Class B8 units.</b></p>	
<p>This application was deferred to a Planning Meeting to be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. Councillors expressed disappointment that this had not been brought to their attention sooner and were grateful to Cllr. Harris for letting the Council know. Councillors agreed that the Unitary Councillors should be asked to alert</p>	

the Parish Council when issues that could affect Welford Parish occur outside the Parish and to also highlight this requirement to WNC Planning/Highways	<b>Clerk</b>																								
<b>23/28 Reports</b>																									
<b>a) Highways</b>																									
Cllr. Gorrod said that the main issue remains the potholes around the village. There are also some blocked drains that have been reported. There is a new pothole opposite the Pocket Park to be reported.																									
<b>b) Rights of Way</b>																									
Cllr. Gorrod said that there were no new issues																									
<b>c) Playing field</b>																									
Cllr. Brotherton said that the new equipment was bedded in and is in regular use. Cllr. Brotherton said that there was one tree that concerned him in the Spinney, the Clerk was asked to contact the Tree Surgeon to undertake an assessment of the tree.																									
<b>d) Welford Youth and Community Centre</b>																									
Cllr. Gorrod said that other than the grant request there were no updates.																									
<b>e) Village Hall:</b>																									
Cllr. Phelan said that there are two films planned for Welford Cinema, 'Ticket to Paradise' on the 1 <sup>st</sup> April and a further film on May. There will then be a break and the films will recommence in October																									
<b>23/29 Finances</b>																									
a) Councillors noted the following bank working balances at Unity Trust on the 17th February 2023	<b>Clerk</b>																								
i. Current account: £15,991.60																									
ii. Savings account: £20,013.97																									
b) Councillors noted the standing order for street lighting paid to SSE on the 16th March 2023, £92.86																									
c) Councillors approved the following payments																									
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The Clerk advised the Council that an email had been received from Trees for Welford indicating that there was a claim for expenses of £515.76 which had been included in the agenda. The Clerk received the receipts for the spend on Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, and on scrutinising them saw that the spend had been £680.19, most of which had been spent on the Tree Presentation in the Village Hall. The Clerk was asked by the Council to remind Trees for Welford of the purpose of the funding and that any future spends needed to be agreed with the Council before any future spending commitments were made. Insurance had been purchased for the Tree event on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> April which the Council felt would not be needed if it was run by the Trees for Welford project as the Council has insurance for this purpose. Enquiries to be made for a refund on the premium																									
<b>22/20 Date of next meeting: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023</b>																									
<b>The meeting closed at 8.45pm</b>																									

<b>Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record</b>	
Signed by Chairman	Dated

