



www.welfordvillage.org.uk
 c/o 20 Styles Place Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire, NN6 6LR
 Tel: 07767 976448
clerk@welfordvillage.org.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting

Held on Thursday 25th January 2024 at 19.30 hrs in Welford Village Hall.

Attendees: Dr. M. Gorrod (Chairman), Mr. N Brotherton, Mr. McCullagh, Mr. T Forder, Mr Hughes and Mr Curtis.

Clerk: Mrs Clare E Valentine

Members of Public: 4

Unitary Councillor: Kevin Parker

<i>Business to be Transacted</i>	
24/106	<u>APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE</u>
	Apologies of absence were received and accepted for Councillor Phelan (Personal).
24/107	<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>
	It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7 th December 2023 as a correct record. Correction to 23/97 "solar" removed from 1 x lamp Butchers Close.
24/108	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS ON THE AGENDA</u>
	None
24/109	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u>
	Apologies were noted as received from Unitary Councillors Harris and Irving-Swift. No comments from the public.
24/110	<u>PLANNING</u>
	<p>a) To consider planning applications and those not otherwise on the agenda – None.</p> <p>b) 2023/8011/FULL 42 West End Welford NN6 6HJ. Proposed first floor extension over existing flat roof extension, and 1.2m extension to bring the new gable in line with neighbouring gable. Proposed single storey boot room with flat roof and internal alterations. Proposed Change of Use of existing outbuilding to a residential annexe for the main property including fenestration alterations and proposed dormer windows. Deadline 26.01.24. It was RESOLVED as no Objection.</p> <p>c) 2023/8056/FULL 30 West Street Welford NN6 6HU Replacement 8 windows front elevation. Deadline 26.01.24 It was RESOLVED as no objection.</p> <p>d) It was noted we are awaiting proposed development information regarding Blenheim renewables on the South Kilworth Road.</p> <p>e) Observed new field gate entrance for large vehicle off the High Street – It was noted that West Northants Council Planning Enforcement have advised they are investigating the matter.</p> <p>Planning application search - Planning register Planning register West Northamptonshire Council (planning-register.co.uk) https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk</p>
24/111	<u>MATTERS ARISING AND OUTSTANDING FROM THE MEETING OF THE 7TH DECEMBER 2023</u>
	<p>a) It was confirmed the Parish Council has three vacancies for co-option and welcomes applicants. Contact the Clerk or Councillor for information.</p> <p>b) Trees for Welford (residents feedback from the November event and information) circulated a report to the council prior to the meeting and provided feedback on the report at the meeting. 96 people attended who were thanked for taking time to visit and give feedback. A separate document was provided regarding young people and concerns about climate change and managing worry. A copy of the report is available for public consideration on the village website.</p>



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Helen Dyson the representative also provided feedback on the group's activities: Trees for Welford plan to submit amended plans for the Sports Field. Helen advised it is difficult to get funding on private land, they are still interested but the timeline to report to The Lottery Fund is imminent. The Chairman said he previously asked about the large amount of Ash trees and hedging lost and if this is something that the group could consider. The group have a lack of people to look at all the requests and have been limited on time as volunteers but have spent £ 2088.00, planted between 1500-2000 trees and are pleased with the achievement.

A comment was made that the playing field selected for an avenue of trees is a playing field gifted for children to play.

It was **RESOLVED** that as a next step more engagement between the group and Councillor Brotherton (Parish Council representative for the playing field) and Curtis (Parish Council Tree Warden) following the awaited feasibility study and feedback.

It was suggested that an area they could plant trees is the extension to The Spinney behind the garage near the kissing gate. The group should also contact Highways for advice if they are considering plans to plant on highway verges. Regarding the survey, the PC suggested that the questions appeared slightly leading, and advice could be sought on future surveys. This was noted with thanks, as it was a lot of effort and hard work for a small group who advised they are not experts. Helen was thanked for the update. The Clerk was requested to find out costs spent on village maintenance and to make this available to Trees for Welford.

- c) Land Registry re Spinney Boundary and Wayleave. Councillor Brotherton advised he needs to obtain information from the electricity board.
- d) Proposal request to transfer Pocket Park land to Welford Parish Council – It was noted we await a reply from West Northants Council.
- e) To consider proposal agreement with owners to manage green space WP 4/6 off Newlands Road in accordance with Neighbourhood Plan Policy W4 - Allocation of New Public Spaces. Councillor Brotherton advised work in progress and suggestion of putting a couple of seats on the land proposed. Noted for February Agenda.
- f) To consider the quote for the removal of a tree next to the church doors. It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Hutchinson Arboriculture to carry out the work for £150.00 and leave the stump.
- g) To receive an update for consideration on the 59/60 bus service. Unitary Councillor Parker advised he would check the latest information and send an update to the Clerk. The Clerk advised on the local village Community Minibus service that has been running since 2020 and a flyer that was spotted, and if this is something the village could be involved with although it is outside the Welford Area. There is also a community minibus in a nearby village that could possibly be approached to connect with other villages in this area.
It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to contact providers and feedback.
- h) To receive an update on local feedback regarding the Asset of Community Value application for the Elizabethan Pub. The Chairman advised that he is looking into options with Facebook surveys to measure community engagement. February Agenda.
- i) To note 2commune will no longer be licensing Cuttlefish website software from 31st March 2024. Consider alternative quotes/options for a new Parish Council website and email hosting with compliant .gov.uk address. It was **RESOLVED** to form a committee comprising of the Chairman, Councillors Forder and Hughes with the Clerk to review alternative options. It was **RESOLVED** to not proceed with 2commune invoice for 12 months email hosting (Invoice 4730 website hosting, domain and email £488.40) The Clerk is to request for a revised price until the end of March 2024.
- j) It was noted for information: <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/have-your-say/community-governance-review>. Closes 31.01.24.



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24/112	REPORTS																													
	<p>a) 1.1 Highways - To consider any Highways matters for action. The chairman reported that there was a large amount of breakup on the South Kilworth Road near to the proposed new Solar Park. There is also a road closure notice so will check on FixMyStreet to see if it is reported.</p> <p>1.2 To note blocked drain clearance requested for High Street (Greeny Brook) and Northampton Road has been reported to Highways.</p> <p>1.3 Issues can be reported directly to: www.fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk</p> <p>b) Rights of Way – No issues however there are faded way marker posts, Chairman to look into and report.</p> <p>c) To note Northants CSW (Community Speed Watch) 2024 team have been advise that Welford wishes to participate. (TF) – Noted.</p> <p>d) Streetlights - installation update 1 x lamp Butchers Close, 1 x solar lamp and 1 x mains lamp High Street near to Pocket Park. Replacement of the streetlamp in West Street opposite phone box. Lighting work carried out with the exception to the lamp in Butchers Close. E.On need to return and dig a larger hole for the LV cable.</p> <p>e) Village maintenance report (MA) It was noted that various duties have been attended to and litter picking.</p> <p>f) Playing field. Councillor Bretherton reported that despite the weather the grass cover is good, and the play area is well used in the week and at weekends. No issues spotted with the equipment.</p> <p>g) Welford Youth and Community Centre – It was reported that the committee meeting was cancelled and moved to next month.</p> <p>h) Village Hall</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was noted the Committee meeting update will follow in February (SP) 2. It was noted the village hall are in the process of installing an access ramp. 3. Highways have acknowledged a complaint received on behalf of the Parish Council regarding the A5199 to the south of Welford mud on road incident w/c 27th November 2023. We have been advised that we will have an update on the complaint within 10 working days. A member of the public reported the mud also spread into the village on foot. 																													
24/113	FINANCES																													
	<p>a) It was RESOLVED to approve the Unity Trust Bank balance of £ 22,917.23 current account and saver £33,148.41 as of 17th January 2024. Income received during period: Income Current Account £520.47 WNC Finance 12.12.23; Savings Account 31.12.23 credit interest of £228.19.</p> <p>b) It was RESOLVED to approve the Bank Reconciliation. It was noted that Councillor McCullagh has reviewed the payments and banking for January 2024 which was approved.</p> <p>c) It was RESOLVED to approve the removal of Ian Kelly from Unity Bank and the documents were duly signed.</p> <p>d) It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to enter a 12 month contract at £4.50 per month with Lebara for reimbursement.</p>																													
	<p>e) It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments for January 2024 except for payment 2commune Ltd Invoice 4730 £488.40 as the Parish Council are considering alternative options.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">PAYEE</th> <th style="text-align: left;">REASON</th> <th style="text-align: left;">PAYMENT TYPE</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Amount £</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Staff costs</td> <td>Salaries January 2024 (*£1005.07nett)</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1005.07</td> <td>LGA 1972 (s112)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC TAX</td> <td>January 2024</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: right;">212.00</td> <td>LGA 1972 (S111)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E. On Maintenance</td> <td>Invoice 0121735 PL50 West Street</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: right;">348.00</td> <td>Highways Act 1980, (s301)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2commune Ltd</td> <td>Invoice 4730 website hosting, domain and email</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: right;">488.40</td> <td>LGA 1972 (S142)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					PAYEE	REASON	PAYMENT TYPE	Amount £		Staff costs	Salaries January 2024 (*£1005.07nett)	BACS	1005.07	LGA 1972 (s112)	HMRC TAX	January 2024	BACS	212.00	LGA 1972 (S111)	E. On Maintenance	Invoice 0121735 PL50 West Street	BACS	348.00	Highways Act 1980, (s301)	2commune Ltd	Invoice 4730 website hosting, domain and email	BACS	488.40	LGA 1972 (S142)
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	Welford Village Hall	Invoice 2401 023 Room hire Jan-Mar 24	BACS	42.00	LGA 1972 (s133)
	R & G	Invoice 120411 November Weed spray/control	BACS	63.60	Open Spaces Act 1906
	SSE Energy Solutions	Invoice IV00177568 Nov 24 streetlighting	DD	101.31	Highways Act 1980,
			TOTAL	£1771.98	
24/114	PRECEPT AND BUDGET 2024/25				
	It was RESOLVED to agree the Budget proposal for 2024-25. The Precept is £48,500.00. The Chairman and Clerk signed the PR1 form for submission to West Northants Council.				
24/115	ANY OTHER BUSINESS (NOT FOR DECISION)				
	None				
24/116	NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday 29 th February 2024				
	Meeting Closed at 20:50hrs.				