



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

Thursday 25th July 2024 at 19.30 hrs in Welford Village Hall.

Attendees: Mr W Hughes (Chairman), Mr. N Brotherton, Dr. M. Gorrod, Mr. McCullagh, Mr Curtis and Mrs Phelan.

Clerk: Mrs Clare E Valentine

Members of Public: 9 including Unitary Councillor Irving-Swift

24/193	<u>TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE</u>		
	None		
24/194	<u>TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS FOR CO-OPTION AS A COUNCILLOR</u>		
	Application received from Sandra Lane. New co-opted members to complete relevant forms and Declaration of Acceptance of Office. It was RESOLVED to co-opt Sandra Lane. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office, Registerable Interests and relevant forms were duly signed.		
24/195	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS ON THE AGENDA</u>		
	Councillor Curtis requested a dispensation in advance of the meeting for item 24/198 b) 2024/3013/Full. Interest in property directly opposite the proposal. It was RESOLVED to approve the dispensation. Non-pecuniary interests were declared M. Gorrod and S Lane -members of the Tennis Club item 24/200 a)		
24/196	<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>		
	It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 27 th June 2024 as a correct record with the amendment to item 24/187 (h) to add to start... "It was RESOLVED ...".		
24/197	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u>		
	A member of the public reported spotting petrol vehicles parking in the electric charging point spaces. Unitary Councillor Irving-Swift suggested taking photos and reporting the matter to WNC Parking Services. The area has a new Conservative MP Stuart Andrew and is helpful and approachable for matters.		
24/198	<u>PLANNING</u>		
a)	To consider planning applications and those not otherwise on the agenda – No new received.		
b)	<u>NEW APPLICATIONS</u>		
	<u>2024/3171/TPO</u>	1 Browns Meadow Welford NN6 6NR	Prune 1 x Acer Platanoides (TPO: DA 503 - G5) New Deadline 25/07/24
	<u>2024/3013/FULL</u>	Welford House 1 West End Welford NN6 6HJ	Construction of two storey link extension incorporating garage, upgraded access, new driveway and parking area requiring minor demolition. Window replacement, insertion of new rooflights and rear dormer. New Deadline 05/08/24
	<p><u>2024/3171/TPO</u> – It was RESOLVED to support the application and request the branches are sensitively cut back.</p> <p><u>2024/3013/FULL</u> - It was RESOLVED to support the application. However, a construction management plan is requested to manage traffic and operation times. There was concern the gates did not appear in keeping due to height 8ft and prominence with the brick pillars. There was concern the gates are contrary to policy W2 development outside the village confines.</p> <p>To view an comment on a planning application go to: https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/planning-applications-and-enforcement/view-and-comment-planning-application</p>		



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24/199	WORKING WITH LOCAL GROUPS, ORGANISATIONS AND NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS
	<p>There are several groups and organisations in Welford.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on recruitment of Councillors and contacting local organisations. – Noted as in progress Chairman and Clerk. 2. Roles and responsibilities – new councillors. It was RESOLVED Sandra Lane to take on the responsibility of Highways.
24/200	MATTERS ARISING AND OUTSTANDING FROM THE MEETING OF THE 27th of June 2024
	<p>a) To receive an update on the request from Welford Tennis Club - funding/support and consider the same constitution document. Three representatives from the Tennis Club attended the meeting, and the example draft constitution was circulated for consideration. The club was requested to find out how they can change from a private organisation into a charity which the PC indicated support. The Sole Trustee status the PC felt needs looking into more for further discussion at the next meeting. It was also suggested that the Tennis Club could look at joining the Tennis Association and linking in with the school to support grant funding should they change their status. £26K funds required raising to resurface the court.</p> <p>b) Trees in the spinney over hanging The Leys – update on progress. Members of the public will be recommended to contact West Northants Planning (Trees) for permission to attend to the trees, seek quotes and are responsible for anything overhanging. Should there be anything dangerous the PC would fund, but not aesthetic. An Arborist has been contacted to do a general tidy up quote for The Spinney Trees overhanging The Leys for autumn.</p> <p>c) The development at Lutterworth East.19/00250/OUT Updates for consideration regarding Welford Action Group and Husbands Bosworth Parish Council LGV and HGV routes through the villages. Sandra Lane has offered to find out the latest update and it was RESOLVED to approve the body of the letter outside the meeting as and when we receive it.</p> <p>d) Solar Farm Community Fund and MoU – update on the Chairman meeting with Blenheim Renewables. To discuss and agree next steps. The Chairman reported to have attended an online meeting with Blenheim Renewables the previous week and there should be an update for the September meeting. We are awaiting a draft of the agreement, and it has been verbally indicated that they will pay for the solicitor’s fees. It is still to be decided how the funds are administered and where they will go. The Clerk suggest a grant process for the community. Councillor Brotherton suggested the funds go into an on-going investment fund which puts in 5% each year.</p> <p>e) Playing Field. New/parking access proposal ideas to solve the ongoing parking problem. Feedback from the WNC Conservation Officer contacted by the Clerk. The Conservation Officer has suggested from the ideas for off road parking presented at the June meeting (agenda) at the playing area, that pre-app planning advice would be useful, and we are in the queue for this. Clerk suggested this may help before seeking quotes. An alternative suggestion was to park in the field next to the cemetery as used previously for the carnival, but the PC are aware that the field is in use with livestock and is being rented out at present. It was suggested to try this line of enquiry for the next meeting. A Councillor expressed great concern over the safety of children in allowing parking inside the playing field on the left of the entrance. It was RESOLVED that public opinion and organisations who use the facilities/field should be consulted and invited to next meeting to ask them about the parking.</p> <p>f) Installation of key safe at Playing Field and registering of details with East Midlands Ambulance Service The Chairman has obtained a key box and installed it at the Playing Field. The Chairman and Councillor Brotherton will confirm a key code for the Chairman to register with East Midland Ambulance.</p>



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	<p>g) To update on the Solicitor quote matter (Wartnaby Hefford) regarding Land Registry re Spinney Boundary and substation. Wartnaby Hefford has been contacted but needs more information. Councillor Brotherton has a land registry plan from the garage to use as a basis for the changes and needs to add in the two other areas in question for the Solicitor.</p> <p>h) West Northants Council Transfer of the Pocket Park land to Welford Parish Council. The Parish Liaison at WNC and Unitary Councillor Parker are chasing this matter up. Unitary Councillor Irving-Swift offered to flag with up with Councillor Parker.</p> <p>i) Update on the 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 reported he has been chasing up the matter and possibly more news for the September meeting.</p> <p>j) Village Gateways – refurbish/repair/upgrade Highways response. It is understood the gateways are the ownership of West Northamptonshire Council. The Clerk has been in contact with WNC Regulations Team, and it is possible to apply for a licence to upgrade/improve the entrance gateways and have the information they need to start. As confirmed by Unitary Councillor Irving-Swift at the meeting, Parish Councils do project manage and improve this area. Sandra Lane to contact a couple of Parishioners who maybe interested in forming a volunteer group to look at proposals.</p>
24/201	REPORTS
	<p>a) Highways - To consider any Highways matters for action. Councillor Gorrod reported that the right of way stile behind Abbey Way has been replaced.</p> <p>b) The Clerk and Unitary Councillor Parker meeting with Highways in August to discuss road calming safety measures/crossings. Meeting confirmed Sandra Lane to attend and possibly the Chairman.</p> <p>To note issues can be reported directly to www.fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk</p> <p>c) Streetlights</p> <p>1. The additional solar LED by the Bridge on order – E. On need to meet to confirm exact installation spot.</p> <p>2. Street Light PL19 The Leys requires replacement following an incident – consider quote – insurance notified. It was RESOLVED to sign the DAC Beachcroft to letter of authority regarding proceeding with the claim.</p> <p>d) Playing field and annual Inspection- report completed. Consider quotes. Several local contractors have been contacted for quotes but only one has come back and is considering the work. It was RESOLVED to also contact Wicksteed for a quote and consider the quotes in September, there is also a seat inside the children’s play area requiring a specialist bolt to add to the list.</p> <p>e) Village maintenance for 2024/2025 – Free general weed spray around the village offered from member of the public. The Parish Council would like to extend it thanks to the member of public who has volunteered to complete a village weed spray. Noted that the Village Maintenance Rep has completed helpful weeding and litter picking tasks around the village.</p> <p>f) Reinstatement of Highways verge on Northampton Road near bus stop. It was noted WNC Highways have advised the next visit to the site is 8th August.</p> <p>g) Defibrillator cabinet update The Chairman advised the phone box defib is set up and the Chairman is registered on The Circuit. Clerk to order the new cabinet for delivery to the Chairman.</p> <p>h) Village hall updates for consideration. Councillor Phelan has confirmed they would like some Age UK brochures in the village hall and will request a couple of copies directly. The Clerk has added the electronic version to the website.</p>



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24/202	<u>FINANCES</u>																									
	<p>a) It was RESOLVED to approve the Unity Trust Bank balance at 18.07.24 Instant Access Account £33,604.51 & Current Account £27,339.27</p> <p>b) Bank Reconciliation for approval and Councillor McCullagh to confirm review of accounts. Councillor McCullagh reviewed the accounts and signed the Bank Reconciliation as a correct record.</p> <p>c) To Consider payroll provider options. – Clerk reported we are awaiting 3rd quote.</p> <p>d) To update Unity Banking Signatories. It was RESOLVED to add Sandra Lane and Will Hughes to Unity Bank and remove Nigel Brotherton. Martin Gorrod offered to remain as back up and Sue Phelan remains as a signatory.</p>																									
	<p>e) It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments for July 2024. To note payroll not received at time of publishing agenda.</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: left;">Amount £</th> <th style="text-align: left;"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Staff costs</td> <td>Salaries June 2024</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>LGA 1972 (s112)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC TAX</td> <td>June 2024</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>LGA 1972 (S112)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C Valentine</td> <td>mobile</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4.50</td> <td>LGA 1972 (S111)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R & G</td> <td>June Mowing inv 120934</td> <td>BACS</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1406.40</td> <td>Open Spaces Act 1908 s9,10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>f) It was RESOLVED to approve payments during August where the Council would not ordinarily meet.</p>	PAYEE	REASON	PAYMENT TYPE	Amount £		Staff costs	Salaries June 2024	BACS	-	LGA 1972 (s112)	HMRC TAX	June 2024	BACS	-	LGA 1972 (S112)	C Valentine	mobile	BACS	4.50	LGA 1972 (S111)	R & G	June Mowing inv 120934	BACS	1406.40	Open Spaces Act 1908 s9,10
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24/203	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>																									
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are several consultations for comment. Open consultations can be found via link: West Northants Consultation Hub https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/ - Noted • Kier Tree Donations – Tree planting project draw update: 4 councils chosen, not Welford PC. - Noted 																									
24/204	<u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS (NOT FOR DECISION)</u>																									
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Lane offered to attend the Church Service to welcome the New Rector on behalf of the PC. • Noted Foxton Hound Ultra running event 17th August – 19th August additional road signage for the event. 																									
24/205	<u>NEXT MEETING DATE:</u> Thursday 26th September 2024 19:30																									
	Meeting closed at 21:30hrs																									