

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 6.30 PM**

**All Parish Council meetings will be held virtually via Zoom until further notice, in accordance with Government Regulations.**

**PRESENT** Cllr T Harvey-Smith (Chair), Cllr G Fewkes (Vice-Chair), Cllr Miss T Ball, Cllr D Cross, Cllr Miss S Dobinson, Cllr R Grainger, Cllr J Milne, Cllr A Parker, Cllr L Wright, and Mrs M Meede (Clerk).

Plus: Cty Cllr Mrs Timms, Borough Cllrs A Bearn and Mrs S Bragg, Mrs C Malyon (NDP) and 3 members of the public.

After members of the public and Councillors had been given the opportunity to raise any issues, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and the Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.15pm.

**178. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The apologies of Cllr Mrs M White for health reasons were approved. The apologies of Borough Cllr Poole were noted.

**179. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (existence and nature) for items on the Agenda**

No declarations of interest for any item on the agenda were made. The Chairman advised that Councillors could declare an interest later in the meeting should this become apparent for any agenda item.

**180. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

All Councillors had been given the opportunity to review the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 prior to the Parish Council meeting.

Following a brief discussion Cllr Parker proposed approving the minutes which was seconded by Cllr Milne and the motion was passed.

**RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021, having been approved for adoption by those who had been present at the meeting, be signed by the Chairman. The Zoom recording for this meeting will now be deleted.**

**181. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)**

Mrs C Malyon from the NDP was invited to speak on this agenda item by the Chair, and all Councillors were in approval. Mrs Malyon explained that the NDP had found a volunteer who was willing to undertake the duty of taking minutes at NDP meetings following the resignation of the NDP Secretary, and they are now looking at the best way to fulfil the other secretarial duties. The Co-ordination Group and Steering Group propose to amalgamate, and part of this change means that Mrs Malyon will be the future liaison link between the PC and NDP. The Chairman stated he was looking forward to seeing Mrs Malyon at meetings and welcomed her, all other Councillors agreed.

The NDP group are awaiting feedback from the Planning Consultant who is currently carrying out a 'health check' on the document. During a question-and-answer session it was confirmed that the referendum is unlikely to take place in July as originally hoped, and the NDP are now aiming for September – but this may be dependent on the Covid-19 situation at the time. It was also confirmed that, to date, no conflicts of interest had been raised or highlighted within the NDP, and it is hoped that the document will be returned to the NDP within the next couple of weeks. It was noted that NDP Highlight report mentioned that the pin-map exercise may have to wait until after lockdown but following a brief discussion Councillors were pleased to hear that the NDP were looking at alternative ways of carrying this out.

Finally, the various process and stages the NDP has to go through until it is a formal part of the RBC Local Plan was explained. The latest highlight report is available for viewing on the village NDP website ([www.wolstoneighbourhoodplan.co.uk](http://www.wolstoneighbourhoodplan.co.uk)) or from the Parish Council Clerk. Thanks were given to Mrs Malyon and all NDP volunteers for their time and dedication to the plan, and all Councillors agreed again that thanks should be recorded and passed onto the NDP Working Group members.

**182. ALLOTMENT LAND**

Cllr Miss Dobinson explained that the applicants were making a legal challenge about the decision made by RBC Planning Committee with regard to planning application R19/1411. The appeal will be in relation to whether RBC made a legal and sound decision (not whether they made the correct decision). The appeal will not be about the merits or otherwise of the proposed development, and the applicant will put their case to the Planning Inspector and RBC will do the same. As it is now a legal dispute Councillors felt that the dispute is

between the applicant and RBC and does not involve the Parish Council. It was confirmed that the appeal is not 'live' yet, and the Planning Inspectorate have a long backlog of appeals. However, if and when the appeal is confirmed and the consultation process is started, residents will then have the opportunity to comment alongside the Parish Council and Allotments Association, should they wish.

Councillors agreed that as they had confirmed an interest with the Planning Inspectorate, there were no other actions to take at this current time. Once the appeal is 'live' there are a number of options the Parish Council could take, and a discussion took place, where Councillors agreed they did not wish to become a 'Rule 6' party to the appeal. Other options discussed included:

1. Do nothing.
2. Write to the Inspector saying the Parish Council does not wish to be party to the appeal, but the decision taken by the Parish Council with regard to the original application and the response to RBC still stands.
3. Write to the Inspector saying we have additional or new information for consideration.
4. Do nothing unless called to attend the hearing by the Inspector, in which case we then say the original decision of the Parish Council still stands and there is nothing more to add.

Cllr Miss Dobinson said that the Allotment Working Group recommended the second option, and therefore she proposed that, if and when the appeal consultation is open, the Parish Council write to the Inspector to confirm the Parish Council does not wish to be party to the appeal, but the original decisions regarding the consultation response to RBC still stands. This was seconded by the Chairman and agreed unanimously.

**RESOLVED: For the Parish Council to write to the Planning Inspector (if and when the appeal goes 'live') to confirm that Wolston Parish Council does not wish to be party to the appeal, but the original decision taken by the Parish Council in relation to the appeal and the response to RBC still stands.**

It was noted that the Parish Council can share any new information or findings they have with the Planning Officer and/or applicant once the consultation is open. Cllr Miss Dobinson also advised that the Allotment Working Group were liaising with Moule and Co. in relation to negotiations about purchasing the allotment land along with the rent and lease.

Cllr Miss Ball then suggested that Brandon and Bretford Parish Council be advised of the appeal. Following a discussion a vote was taken and the majority of Councillors felt that Brandon and Bretford Parish Council would be notified by RBC as part of the consultation process, and Cllr Mrs Timms (who is a Parish Councillor for Brandon and Bretford) is aware of the application and will be notified of any consultation, as she responded to the initial application.

### 183. FINANCE

Councillors reviewed and discussed the accounts for payment and considered payments received.

#### a) *To approve accounts for payment in January 2021.*

Expenditure				
Date Issued	To whom payable	For what purpose	Cheque number	Gross Amount
04/01/2021	Water Plus Ltd	Water Supply Pavilion	106047	£24.26
04/01/2021	EON	Repairs to Streetlight 6 Willowbrook	106048	£34.80
04/01/2021	Mrs M Meede	Zoom Subscription and Land Registry	106049	£20.39
04/01/2021	Rugby Pest Control	Mole Control	106050	£72.00
19/01/2021	P Dixon	Fencing - Dyers Lane	106051	£1,900.00
19/01/2021	Lakeside	Hedge cutting - Playing field	106052	£189.00
19/01/2021	Shell Energy Retail Ltd	Phone and Broadband	106053	£27.98
19/01/2021	EON	Electric - Pavilion	106054	£8.79
19/01/2021	EON	Electric - Streetlights	106055	£1,385.92
19/01/2021	Staples	Stationery	106056	£55.67
19/01/2021	DM Payroll Services Ltd	Payroll Admin	106057	£90.00
19/01/2021	Parish Council Employees	Staff Salaries	106058-60	£2,259.92
19/01/2021	HMRC	PAYE	106061	£284.66
19/01/2021	WCC Pension Fund	LGPS Dec	106062	£357.39
19/01/2021	WCC Pension Fund	LGPS Jan	106063	£357.39
19/01/2021	Mr P Owen	Fuel and Sanding Sheets	106064	£23.20
23/01/2021	Brandon and Wolston Village Hall Fund	Grant	106065	£1,500.00
23/01/2021	Cancelled - replaced by 106067	Cancelled	106066	£0.00
23/01/2021	Eco Plastic Wood Ltd -replacement for 106066	Bench for Playing Field	106067	£671.51
				<b>£9,262.88</b>

Signed.....

Following a discussion Cllr Milne proposed approving the accounts for payment, which was seconded by Cllr Miss Ball and the motion was passed.

**RESOLVED: The accounts, as listed above, be approved.**

b) *To note payments received in January 2021 and the latest bank reconciliation:*

Income				
Date Received	From whom	For what purpose ?		Amount
04/01/2021	Wolston & Brandon Allotments Association	Land Rent		£1,590.00
				<b>£1,590.00</b>

The payments as listed above were noted, along with the latest bank reconciliation.

#### 184. PLANNING

All Councillors were given the opportunity to review the applications prior to the Parish Council meeting.

a) *R20/0965 – Single storey extension to the south-east elevation and alterations to fenestration on north-west elevations at Sedgfield Barn, Priory Road, Wolston. CV8 3FX (new information has been submitted).*

Further to the last Parish Council meeting a formal planning consultation had been opened for this application, and Councillors had reviewed the new and additional information provided. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the concerns raised at the January 2021 Parish Council meeting are still present. Cllr Wright therefore proposed that the Parish Council should not support the application, and should seek advice from the Parish Council Planning Consultants in relation to the letter to be sent to the Planning Officer. This was seconded by Cllr Fewkes and agreed unanimously.

**RESOLVED: For the Parish Council to not support this application, and obtain advice from the Parish Council Planning Consultants before a letter is sent to the Planning Officer.**

b) *RBC/21CM001–Section 73 application for the variation of conditions of planning permission RBC/14CM029 (installation of solar panels) at Ling Hall Landfill, Coalpit Lane, Rugby. CV23 9HH.*

Cllr Fewkes advised that there had not been a Ling Hall Quarry meeting since the start of last year, but he understands that the application has just been modified slightly as a new company is now involved. Councillors felt that it would be advantageous if there was an ability to have grazing under the proposed solar panels. Cllr Fewkes proposed supporting the application subject to the request that the height allows for animal grazing where possible, which was seconded by Cllr Parker and agreed unanimously.

**RESOLVED: For the Parish Council to support this application, subject to consideration being given to the ability to have grazing under the solar panels where possible.**

c) *R21/0089 – Demolition of existing dwelling including rear projection, and erection of replacement dwelling with associated parking and landscaping at Mickle Hill Farm, Fosse Way, Rugby. CV8 3GD*

Following a discussion, Councillors felt that this proposal would be an improvement. Cllr Grainger proposed supporting the application, which was seconded by Cllr Milne and agreed unanimously.

**RESOLVED: For the Parish Council to support this application, subject to neighbour consultation.**

#### 185. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

a) *Fencing around Dyers Lane Playing Fields.* Councillors reviewed the quotes to install additional fencing around the playing fields. A discussion took place and it was felt that the inside of the hedge along Dyers Lane, from the Pavilion to where the new fence runs along the top of the playing fields, should be flail hedge cut by Lakeside (the Parish Council's vegetation contractor) before any new fencing is installed. Councillors were happy with the previous work undertaken by PD Fencing, and as this was a continuation of work, Councillors decided to award the rest of the work to the same company.

**RESOLVED: For Lakeside to be asked to flail the inside of the hedge along Dyers Lane.**

**RESOLVED: For PD Fencing to be asked to install fencing as per their quote.**

b) *Area of Land by Skatepark.* Following a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should ask Godfrey-Payton what Licence Agreement would be required, in order to carry out work (including possibly planting wildflowers) on the land. It was also agreed quotes should be obtained in order to show the boundary of the land which may include a) installing new fencing, b) putting in new posts or c) installing some of the bollards owned by the Parish Council. It was agreed that this agenda item will be deferred until all of this information is obtained.

**186. STREETLIGHTS**

A quote had been received from E-ON to replace the damaged streetlight at the bottom of Priory Road. Following a discussion Cllr Grainger proposed accepting the quote, which was seconded by Cllr Miss Ball and agreed unanimously.

**RESOLVED: For E-ON to be asked to replace the damaged streetlight as per their quote.**

**187. GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

Councillors discussed the form. It was agreed that it should be made clearer on the form that priority will be given to Wolston based groups and organisations of a charitable, voluntary or community nature. It was also agreed that if a group doesn't have any formal accounts, that a balance sheet or details of income and expenditure should be provided. Cllr Milne proposed that, subject to these changes, the form be adopted. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Miss Dobinson and all Councillors were in agreement.

**RESOLVED: For the Grant Application Form to be adopted, subject to the changes being made.**

**188. PROGRESS REPORT**

The Progress report was noted. The Chair reminded Councillors that this item should be for information only, and queries should be raised with the Clerk prior to the Parish Council meeting, or via email to all Councillors.

**189. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence list was noted. Councillors who wanted additional information on items on the list had requested and received this from the Clerk prior to the meeting.

**190. DELEGATES REPORTS**

- a) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations – Councillor Grainger advised that the Working Group would be meeting within the next week to discuss the work required, with a view to the Parish Council adopting the new documents at the Annual Meeting.
- b) Parish Council Newsletter – Cllr Miss Ball requested this item be deferred, which was agreed.
- c) Community Speed Watch (CSW) – Cllr Grainger explained that the Working Group had been liaising with the Police, and it looks as though the CSW may need to be retrained and the scheme started again. Cllr Grainger is liaising with the Police and Brandon & Bretford Parish Council in relation to this.

**191. INFORMATION FOR UPLOADING TO THE VILLAGE WEBSITE**

Cllr Grainger appreciates Councillors providing him with information and articles for the website as soon as they are available – rather than waiting for the Parish Council meetings.

- New Fencing on Dyers Lane Playing Fields
- Parish Council Precept 2021-22 (remaining at 0% increase for residents)
- Grants available from WCC and the new Parish Council grant application form.

**192. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Play Area Repairs
- Flooding

**193. DATE OF NEXT MEETING/S**

The Chairman confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 via zoom.

As there were no further items on the Agenda the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.

Signed:..... Chairman

Date: .....

**Notes on the Public Forum and Parish Matters held during the  
Parish Council Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited representations from all who were present.

A resident asked a question which would require some research doing first, and so was requested to email the Clerk the query after the meeting, so an answer could be given. Residents were reminded that they do not need to wait until Parish Council meetings to ask questions, and can contact the Clerk at any time during the month – especially if the question requires research or looking into.

A resident raised concerns about incorrect information being put on Facebook following the last Parish Council meeting, which was felt to be inappropriate. The Chairman agreed that it is a shame when false information is put on Social Media, and confirmed the Clerk had commented on the post with the correct information. A discussion took place about methods to stop this sort of thing in the future, and any actions that could be taken against it.

Borough Cllr Bearne provided an update on fly tipping, which has been increasing in the area. It was noted how efficient RBC were at collecting fly tipping when reported to them, but questions were also asked about how much it was costing and if prevention methods were being considered or CCTV to catch offenders. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the Head of Services to thank the team for their work, and also ask about prevention methods.

Cllr Milne asked if there was an update on Local Government Administration (unitary authorities), and the Borough Councillors promised that when updates were available they would share the information with Parish Councillors – but at the moment there is nothing to report. Borough Cllr Mrs Bragg said she would ask the questions but doubted an update would be available for a while.

Cllr Miss Ball asked if there was an update from the Village Hall Committee about the risk assessment and liaising with the groups who want to hire and use the facilities after lockdown. The Chairman (who is also Chair of the Village Hall Committee) advised that the committee had been following the guidelines from the Village Hall Insurers who had informed them their insurance could be invalidated if they could not regulate and manage what the groups were doing each time they used the hall. There had been some concerns raised by the committee which included fire exits being blocked, and the Chairman stated that although the committee want people using the hall again as soon as possible after lockdown and are liaising with the groups, they will not open if it will jeopardise their insurance or go against their risk assessment.

Cllr Wright asked about grit being available for the Doctors Surgery. The Clerk confirmed that a salt bin had been offered to them last year (and it is still available in the Pavilion if they want). Usually the Doctors would supply their own salt, but the Clerk will ask the Lengthsman to provide some for them.

A discussion took place about the recent flooding of the roads out of the village, and it was agreed that the Clerk would ask the Environment Agency what their policy is in relation to dredging the river, and request they write to the owners of the Church Field to remind them of their riparian responsibilities.

Cty Cllr Mrs Timms advised that WCC had set their budgets and all of the information is online. They have had to put an increase of 89p per week onto Band D properties, which is mainly due to Social Care provisions. She then gave information about some grant funding which is available from WCC for environmental projects, which will be emailed to Parish Councils and put on Social Media.

A discussion took place about WCC's plans for Open Spaces Management on new housing developments. Cty Cllr Mrs Timms said this would be for new developments only but they are still looking at how they will manage it. There are no updates at present, but she assured councillors that as soon as she had any more information she would let them know.

A discussion took place about the need for bollards on certain paths/areas in the village to stop vehicles driving or parking on them. It was agreed that if Councillors can take photographs of the problems and send them to Cty Cllr Mrs Timms she will look into the matter.

As there were no further comments or questions, the Chairman declared the public forum part of the meeting closed at 7.15pm

*Note: Cty Cllr Mrs H Timms and Borough Councillors Bearne and Mrs S Bragg and Mrs C Malyon (NDP) gave their apologies and left the meeting at this point.*

Signed.....