

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, MAIN STREET, WOLSTON  
THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 AT 7:15PM**

**PRESENT:**

**WPC: Cllr Dobinson (Chair), Cllr Wright, Cllr Rainey, Cllr Ball, Cllr Grainger, Cllr Galliford, Cllr Willis, Cllr Shirley, Mrs D George (Clerk)  
Plus 10 members of the public.**

**Meeting Opened by the Chair commenced at 7.15 pm with the public forum.  
Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.48 pm**

- 247 Apologies – To receive apologies.  
Apologies received from  
Simon Ward  
Derek Poole  
Heather Timms  
Cllr Ramsay**
- 248 Declarations of Interest (existence and nature) on items on the agenda.  
Councilors to declare any personal and/or pecuniary interests on items on the agenda.  
Cllr Willis Declared a blanket Pecuniary Interest by day as employed by WCC and as a Councillor for RBC.  
Cllr T Shirley declared a blanket pecuniary interest as partner of the Public Works Lead.**
- 249 Minutes of the Parish Council  
a) To review and, if appropriate, approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023  
Cllr Ball suggested the confidential detailed comments of the closed session should be referred to as notes.  
Proposal: Cllr Wright proposed to defer minutes because they were not factual in the private and confidential session.  
Counter Proposal: WPC accept the Public Minutes for 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 and hold over the amendment to the notes in the private section.  
Proposed: Cllr Grainger  
Seconded: Cllr Ball  
Unanimous**
- Resolved WPC accept the Public Minutes for 2nd March 2023 and hold over the amendment to the notes in the private section  
b) To review and, if appropriate, approve the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
Proposal: To approve the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 subject to the amendments to include the figures in the proposed movement of the reserves in item 236.  
£55,000.00 in general reserves and an additional £3,500.00 for the pavilion and £40,000.00 ringfenced for the allotments and £10,000.00 ringfenced for Warm Spaces.  
Proposed: Cllr Wright  
Seconded: Cllr Grainger  
1 Abstention  
Rest in favour**
- Resolved: To approve the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 30th March 2023 subject to the amendments to include the figures in the proposed movement of the reserves in item 236.  
£55,000.00 in general reserves and an additional £3,500.00 for the pavilion and £40,000.00 ringfenced for the allotments and £10,000.00 ringfenced for Warm Spaces.**
- 250 Parish Council Vacancy Co-Option – to discuss and consider co-option of prospective councillor, to receive any expressions of interest, and, if necessary, vote and co-opt councillor (SD)  
No one stepped forward.**

- 251 Finance
- a) To note and accept accounts for payment for March 2023.  
**Proposal:** To note and approve accounts for payment for March 2023.  
**Proposed:** Cllr Ball  
**Seconded:** Cllr Grainger  
**Unanimous:**
- Resolved** To note and approve accounts for payment for March 2023.
- b) To note payments received.  
 No payments to WPC received.
- c) To note receipt of Warm Spaces Project Grant of £10,000.00 from Awards for All National Lottery Community Fund on 17th February 2023. This money is ring fenced and held by WPC on behalf of the Warm Spaces Project for disbursement to participating groups on receipt of invoice.
- A lengthy discussion took place.  
**Proposal:** To note that WPC are holding £10,000.00 from National Lottery on behalf of Warm Spaces Project as a ringfenced account and that a separate process will be set up to manage disbursement.  
**Proposed :**Cllr Grainger  
**Seconded:** Cllr Wright  
 1 abstention  
 Rest in favour.
- Resolved** To note that WPC are holding £10,000.00 from National Lottery on behalf of Warm Spaces Project as a ringfenced account and that a separate process will be set up to manage disbursement.
- d) To approve payments in March 2023 to participating groups in the Warm Spaces Project (funded by the Awards For All National Lottery Community Fund).
- Cllr Ball suggested that this item would have to be declared as a breach on the AGAR and this will have to be raised as an agenda item at the next meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Rainey will prepare some notes with Cllr Ball for the next meeting, including Terms of Reference.
- e) To discuss internal audit requirements and agree on an Internal Auditor.  
**Proposal:** To appoint MS Audit and Consultancy Services as auditor and finance Committee help develop scope of work for the internal auditor.  
**Proposed:** Cllr Grainger  
**Seconded:** Cllr Wright  
**Unanimous**
- Resolved** To appoint MS Audit and Consultancy Services as auditor and finance Committee help develop scope of work for the internal auditor.
- f) To approve the originally agreed plinth details for the jubilee clock and make any appropriate decisions.  
**Proposal:** WPC accept the quotation and the correct single tender justification to be put in place.  
**Proposed:** Cllr Ball  
**Seconded:** Cllr Grainger  
**Unanimous**
- Resolved** WPC accept the quotation and the correct single tender justification to be put in place.  
 Cllr Willis suggested, in the interests of transparency, that we advertise future works on the website regardless of value.
- 252 Planning - Councilors are to review planning applications prior to the Parish Council meeting. All planning applications and consultations can be viewed on the RBC Planning Portal Website. To discuss and if appropriate comment on any planning applications received.  
 R22/0201 at WOLSTON ALLOTMENTS, STRETTON ROAD, WOLSTON for Erection of 48 dwellings (Reserved Matters Application for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline planning approval under R19/1411 granted at appeal by reference:  
 APP/E3715/W/20/3265601).
- Action** Write to RBC with Road Names for the development (Cllr Grainger will find the minute

- number and previous letter). Clerk to do this on return from annual leave.  
Cllr Willis is happy to follow up on this.
- 253 To receive an update on and consider quotes for immediate urgent remedial works to playground equipment and make any appropriate decisions. (Cllrs Wright and Rainey)  
A lengthy discussion was held.  
Cllr Rainey – Annual Compliance Inspection is due in April – suggest we defer any major decisions on expenditure until the report is received.  
All the small urgent remedial works are being carried out by Public Works Lead.  
Cllr Ball suggested we check our insurance and warranty before carrying out any repairs to the equipment.  
It was agreed to defer this item to the meeting following receipt of the Annual Compliance inspection report.
- 254 WALC Suggestions of Bespoke Training Session with CEO for the whole Council – to consider and make any appropriate decisions. (SD)  
Cost £300.00 via Zoom £300.00 plus travel expenses for face-to-face. All Councillors would have to attend.  
A discussion was held.  
Proposal: To approve Bespoke face-to-face Training Session for all Councillors and Clerk with CEO of WALC.  
Proposed: Cllr Ball  
Seconded: Cllr Willis  
Unanimous
- Resolved To approve Bespoke face-to-face Training Session for all Councillors and Clerk with CEO of WALC.
- Action Cllrs to let the Clerk know their unavailability.
- 255 IT Support Package – To consider quotes and make any appropriate decisions (TB)  
A discussion was held. Cllr Ball reported that we are awaiting two further quotes for this. Chair thanked Cllr Ball for the work put into this and that further discussion could take place outside the meeting.
- 256 Allotments –  
a) To receive an update on progress with phase 1 and future agreement between WBAGA and WPC and licenses for plot holders and make any appropriate decisions. (RG)  
Cllr Grainger gave an update. A discussion took place.  
Proposal: WPC contact the Solicitor asking for a way forward and the status of the Allotment Association as a legal body and that WPC come up with a strategy and heads of terms together with the Allotments Association and Allotments Working Group and then ask the solicitor to draw up an agreement between the Allotment Association and WPC.  
Proposed: Cllr Dobinson  
Seconded: Cllr Wright  
Unanimous
- Resolved WPC contact the Solicitor asking for a way forward and the status of the Allotment Association as a legal body and that WPC come up with a strategy and heads of terms together with the Allotments Association and Allotments Working Group and then ask the solicitor to draw up an agreement between the Allotment Association and WPC.  
b) To consider a site meeting with representatives of Wolston PC, Spitfire Homes and WCC drainage and their consultants, with the objective of identifying the inadequacy of the WCC approved land drainage scheme and agree a strategy to develop a drainage scheme that will be effective and make any appropriate decisions. (RG)  
Cllr Grainger gave an update. Rosconn drainage scheme as approved by the WCC planning authority will not work. A lengthy discussion took place.  
Proposal: WPC to write a formal letter to the Planning department advising that the drainage scheme approved as part of the planning permission will not work.  
Proposed: Cllr Rainey  
Seconded: Cllr Ball  
Unanimous
- Resolved WPC to write a formal letter to the Planning department advising that the drainage

scheme approved as part of the planning permission will not work.

- c) To consider a proposal to discuss with Spitfire Homes the appointment of an independent land drainage specialist, and to share the cost 50/50 between Spitfire Homes and Wolston PC and make any appropriate decisions. (RG)

A lengthy discussion took place.

Proposal: To Appoint Mr Postlethwaite as an independent land drainage specialist with a view to presenting his report to WCC.

Proposed: Cllr Wright

Seconded: Cllr Grainger

Unanimous

Resolved

To Appoint Mr Postlethwaite as an independent land drainage specialist with a view to presenting his report to WCC.

- d) To consider investigating the appointment of a fully accredited industrial chemistry laboratory to undertake an independent full chemical analysis of water samples from the allotments site and make any appropriate decisions. (RG)

A lengthy discussion took place.

Proposal: WPC request Henry Biddington of RBC to re-visit site and take further samples.

Proposed: Cllr Ball

Seconded: Cllr Wright

Unanimous

Resolved  
Action

WPC request Henry Biddington of RBC to re-visit site and take further samples. Clerk to write a letter requesting RBC to come back and re-test – Cllr Rainey to assist with wording.

257

Replacement Bollards – To consider purchasing replacement bollards from Eco Plastics Wood to match existing throughout the centre of the village and make any appropriate decisions.

A discussion took place.

It was agreed to defer the decision to the June meeting. Cllr Rainey will put a proposal in place with full information of number and location of bollards.

258

Installation of Replacement Commemorative Bench – to consider installation of Replacement commemorative bench at the corner of Stretton Road and Warwick Road and make any appropriate decisions. (TB)

Proposal: WPC to approve the bench and help with installation.

Proposed: Cllr Ball

Seconded: Cllr Wright

Unanimous

Resolved  
259

WPC to approve the bench and help with installation.

Future Agenda Items – Councillors are asked to use this opportunity to raise items for future agendas. Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision-making.

WI D Land bottom of John Simpson – grass cutting can it be included?

Coronation Tree

Warm Spaces Project

Tenders on Parish Website – Expressions of Interest

Bollards to go to June 2023 Meeting

Councillor Vacancy Cooption

Parish Matters Arising

260

Date of Next Meetings – To confirm Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 for the next regular meeting of the Parish Council at the Baptist Church, Main Street, Wolston at 7:15pm. If an interim meeting is required, an agenda will be sent to Councillors and be put on the website and in the Main Street noticeboard three clear days before the meeting is held.

Meeting Closed at 22:05

Signed.....Chair

Date .....

Public Forum opened at 7:15pm

RBC Cllr T Willis

Local elections – photo ID will be required – please bring photo id with you when you vote.

There is still time to get the postal and proxy votes in – see the borough website, contact by phone is limited.

Upcoming Coronation – deadline for application for parties and road closures has passed.

Cllr H Timms asked to pass on the white lining for Warwick Road and other areas are put in pipeline in the near future.

Fly Tipping – Ryton Island, Brandon Lane – it has been cleared.

Alerted to a potential bonfire pile being built in the village – Officers have written to the owners of the land where the bonfire is being built.

Please get in touch if you have any questions regarding fly tipping or anything else.

Cllr Wright – please ask Mrs Timms if the reflective tape is still going to be put up on the lampposts as requested last November 2022. Cllr Willis will pass this on.

Cllr Wright – Let Forestry Dept know if we want to plant another tree near the jubilee clock in celebration of the coronation. Cllr Grainger proposed extending the plaque to include King Charles.

A Who is on the committee for the Heart of England £100,000.00 for the Allotments?

Cllr Grainger said the first Panel meeting takes place at the end of April.

Cllr Ball requested contact details of the CEO.

A Item 255 – objection to paying 50/50 for sorting out the drainage

B Query re extra contractor to carry out works – Parish Council use this contractor on an ad hoc basis.

Cllr Galliford objected to the way the hedge has been maintained.

C Was the Public Works Lead asked if he would like to extend his hours.

Cllr Rainey – Public Works Lead was consulted.

D Hedge shielded the scouts – however if it was dead it makes sense to remove it.

B Jubilee Tree – when it was replanted did we take a sample of the soil? Cllr Wright - On Monday morning we took the old tree root out and planted the new tree under instruction from the Forestry Officer.

D Problem with the water troughs. Spitfire - Mr Warren had not told Hayden about the manhole covers. Hayden is coming back on Tuesday. Spitfire agree to things but never deliver. Ex Drainage engineer looked at the site and said it would be a considerable amount of time until the site is workable and we should not be paying rent for it. The gentleman will provide a written report. Objects to any 50/50 payment for the drainage. Spoke to someone from RBC – an officer is coming out to look at contaminated water. RBC Cllr Willis will pick this up with officers on Tuesday and visit the site.

Cllr Wright – Mr Postlewaite’s verdict on plot 39b said that will take 5 years to become usable. Do not remove the top soil, gently remove the trees. Put land drainage in first then work the top after the growth has gone.

Chair stated that spitfire planning came through on Friday. Public Forum closed at 19:48