



WOLVEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE



WOLVEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE 2017

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held at 7.30 pm on
Wednesday 1st February 2017

At Wolvey Baptist Chapel,
School Lane, Wolvey.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Hardman, Ruth Buswell, Adrian Warwick, Clare Nixon, Pete Hopkins, Linda Lakin.
There were 6 Members Present.

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 member of the public were present

17/001

TO ELECT A CHAIR OF WOLVEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

A nomination to elect John Hardman as Chairman of the Wolvey Environmental Committee was received.

PROPOSED by Ruth Buswell, **SECONDED** by Linda Lakin

It was **RESOLVED** that **John Hardman** be elected Chairman of the Wolvey Environmental Committee.

17/002

TO ELECT A VICE CHAIR OF WOLVEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

A nomination to elect Ruth Buswell as Vice Chairman of the Wolvey Environmental Committee was received.

PROPOSED by Pete Hopkins, **SECONDED** by John Hardman

It was **RESOLVED** that **Ruth Buswell** be elected Vice Chair of the Wolvey Environmental Committee.

17/003

TO ELECT A SECRETARY OF WOLVEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

It was stated that as the Wolvey Environmental Committee was a committee of Wolvey Parish Council and the issuing of Agendas and taking of Minutes is the responsibility of the Clerk on the Council.

RESOLVED that as the clerk was not present that Pete Hopkins would take the minutes of this meeting.

It was agreed that copies of previous Agendas and Minutes (July – December 2016) be forwarded to the Clerk.

17/004

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Richard Hawcutt, Chris Kenrick.

17/005

TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS TO ANY MATTER PERTAINING TO THE AGENDA AND TO CONSIDER DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests to any matter pertaining to the agenda were received.

Councillor Warwick distributed Declaration of Interest forms for all members present to complete and return to him.

17/006

TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th DECEMBER 2016

The minutes were accepted as correct by all present.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes for the meeting held on 14th December 2016 be confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.

17/007

MATTERS ARISING

Ruth Buswell noted that the date of the previous meeting was 14th December 2016 and not 11th January 2017 as shown on the minutes that were distributed.

The error has been corrected.

17/008

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

No issues were raised

17/009

WORKING PARTY

It was stated that the Wolvey Environmental Group (WEG) is a Working Party consisting of volunteers. A register of members (volunteers) is compiled and submitted annually to Wolvey Parish Council for approval. The names of any new members must be submitted to Wolvey Parish Council for approval. A List of 23 members had already been distributed to the PC members prior to the meeting..

It was **RESOLVED** that a working party of 23 members has been submitted to Wolvey Parish Council for approval and is known as “WEG2017”

17/010

WORK SCHEDULE

A list of Environmental Group tasks for the coming year, plus immediate tasks for February and March was provided for submission to the next meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 20th February 2017.

Any works found to be necessary which are not included on the immediate list of planned works, but are included on the annual list of works notified to the Parish Council, may be undertaken and will be reported to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

With the imminent closure of the wetland due to trees in the Woodland Walk needing urgent attention, the question was asked if WEG members could still work in the areas not affected. This includes urgent reed reduction in the main pond before the start of the wildfowl nesting season.

Councillor Warwick informed the committee that as long as access was via the north gate, work on tasks in other areas could continue whilst the reserve was closed to the public.

The point was raised that a plan for unforeseen urgent tasks, including incidents that could be beyond the remit for WEG and could be lead to health & safety concerns needs to be considered. Some items may need attention without waiting approval from either WEC or at a future Parish Council meeting

Councillor Warwick reminded the committee that the Parish Council are subject to budget constraints and that WEG have a pre-set budget for 2017/18 that may include such items. Further to this it may be necessary to call an emergency WEC meeting to consider responsibilities and the costs involved.

17/011 HEALTH AND SAFETY

An Econet Risk Pond, Streams and Wetland work Assessment form originally supplied by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust was given to Councilor Warwick by Ruth Buswell. As it was Paper copy Pete Hopkins agreed to scan the document and send it out the all WEC members electronically as a PDF.

With the past and recent tree surveys Clare Nixon suggested that the trees along the Woodland Walk could be numbered for easier identification using stamped metal discs. Clare to Investigate availability, costs etc.

17/012 AOB

Councillor Warwick informed the committee that the recent tree survey has identified a fungus infection in trees in the woodland walk plus there are unsafe trees at both Wolvey Grange and at Galliford Try which could come down in the wetland. The treatment of the trees affected are rated as either 'EMERGENCY', 'RECOMMENDED' or 'DESIRABLE'. He also outlined the costs to either rectify or remove the worst affected trees.

Councillor Warwick agreed to check with the insurers and the surveyors to establish what the ratings will mean and the timescales and costs involved.

With the recent insurance restrictions preventing WEG members working 'off the ground' Pete Hopkins raised the question of using stepladders in Wolvey square; this is with regard to WEG managing the flora in the Square which involves installing hanging baskets in and around the Square.

Councillor Warwick agreed to check with the insurers to see if WEG members were allowed to use stepladders.

Ruth Buswell had circulated a schedule of WEC and WEG meetings for 2017. Currently WEG meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, and WEC meetings are scheduled to be held bi-monthly and this meeting would be 7 days before WEG meeting.

John Hardman stated he thought it better that the Environmental group meetings take place prior to the Committee meeting for the following reason; Issues arising at the Environmental Group meeting could not be raised for a possible long period of time as Committee meetings were scheduled for every two months. Urgent matters may require a special meeting of the Committee be called with all the consequent additional administration.

It was agreed that when the two meeting are held in the same month that they would be on the held on same night, WEG meeting at 7.30pm and WEC at 8.00pm. If there was still business to discuss at WEG meetings at 8.pm then the meeting could reconvene after the WEC meeting. Ruth agreed to distribute a new meeting schedule; a copy will also be posted in the Village notice board and on the Wolvey Website.

17/013

CLOSURE OF MEETING AND AGREEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th April 2017 in Wolvey Baptist Chapel.

There being no other business the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 8:55pm