

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLVEY PARISH COUNCIL
IN WOLVEY BOWLING CLUB
MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY, 2015 at 7.30pm

15.23 Present

Councillor Orchard (Chairman)
 Councillors Buswell, Kuncewicz, Dixon, Hardman, Kenrick & Nixon

Apologies

None

In attendance

County Councillor Morris-Jones & 3 members of the public.
 Borough Councillor Pacey-Day sent his apologies.

M Cartwright (Clerk)

15.24 Declaration of Interest and dispensations

None

15.25 Minutes of the meetings held on 19th January 2015

RESOLVED: The minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record

15.26 To receive comment and information from members of the public

There are three sets of deep potholes on Hinckley Road.

15.27 The Council received information relating to Warwickshire County Council from County Councillor Morris-Jones:

The County Council has now set the budget for 2015-16.
 As a result there will be an increase of 1.95% in County Council portion of the Council tax.
 The next Fosse Community forum meeting will be held on 12th March in Monks Kirby.
 Some funding is available for highway maintenance and road safety measures in local area.
 County Councillor's fund for 2015 is available for applications
 Traffic remains a problem. Magna Park and Ansty Business Park are expanding which is likely to mean additional heavy vehicles through the nearby villages.
 Police will be increasing their portion of the precept by 2%.
 Police are recruiting Community Ambassadors.

15.28 The Council received information relating to Rugby Borough Council.

Borough Councillor Pacey-Day was not in attendance but sent information regarding planning matters which was read to the Council-**noted**

15.29 The Council received the Clerk's Report:

- (i) Registration has been completed for Foundation level of Local Council award.
- (ii) Damage to grass verges has been reported to BT Openreach and County Highways.
 Clerk to ask Police if they have details of the car that damaged the verge and the fence at the Wetland

15.30 The Council received a report from the Selection Panel regarding the appointment of a new Clerk to the Council / Responsible Financial Officer.

The Council received a report from the Selection Panel. Following a rigorous recruitment and interview process they have selected the new Clerk/RFO.

RESOLVED: to appoint Mrs Jackie Essex as the new Clerk/RFO for Wolvey Parish Council with effect from 1st March 2015.

15.31 Planning

15.31.1 The Council received an **update** on previous Planning Applications:

- (ii) R14/1737 ARMSWELL HOUSE, CHURCH HILL, WOLVEY, LE10 3LB- **pending**
- (iii) R14/1885 WOLVEY HALL, HALL ROAD, WOLVEY, LE10 3LG- **pending**
- (iv) R14/2206 ABBEY FARM, HINCKLEY ROAD, LE10 3HQ- **approved**
- (iv) R14/2045 WOLVEY HALL, HALL ROAD, WOLVEY, LE10 3LG- **approved**
- (v) R13/0889 HEATHCOTE FARM, MILL LANE, LE10 3HR- **pending**

15.31.2 The Council considered the following **NEW** applications:

- (i) R15/0161 24 LEICESTER ROAD, WOLVEY, LE10 3HJ

LBC: To erect a fence along the western boundary to the front of the property using concrete posts and lap fencing panels. To a height of 1.85 metres.

RESOLVED: The Council **OBJECTS** to this application.

The Parish Council considers that the construction of this fence would have a detrimental impact on the character of this row of cottages and would be incongruous and out of character to the surrounding neighbourhood.

The Parish Council is also concerned that it would cause a reduction in the light available to the adjacent properties.

There is an existing high hedge in this location. Will this be removed if the fence is installed?

- (ii) R15/0175 THE CHALET, HINCKLEY ROAD, LE10 3HQ

Retrospective application for retention of new stables, including access road and hardstanding.

RESOLVED: The Council **OBJECTS** to this application.

This development represents inappropriate development in the Green Belt.

The existing brick building is not in accordance with the original application which makes no mention of brick construction. Even if it is eventually clad with softwood boarding it cannot be considered to be a temporary structure.

The building is overlarge and out of character in the Green Belt location.

The imposing nature of the building seriously affects the openness of the Green Belt, particularly when considered in the context of the multiple similar applications for stables in the immediate area. The Council believes the cumulative effect should be considered.

An additional access road within the site is an unnecessary engineering operation in the Green Belt. The Council considers this to be unnecessary as there is already an existing access gate.

15.32 Finance

The Council considered financial matters relating to the Parish Council, including:

- a) Payment of cheques:

Payments made under delegated powers

- (i) Cheque no 300184 Warwickshire County Council(legal fees): £299.48

Cheques to be paid

- (ii) Cheque no. 300185 M Cartwright (salary, allowances & expenses): (protected under DPA1998)
- (iii) Cheque no 300186 Warwickshire County Council (streetlight maintenance): £823.97
- (iv) Cheque no 300187 Warwickshire County Council(new streetlight column): £1194.27
- (v) Cheque no 300188 WALC (WALC briefing day): £148
- (vi) Cheque no 300189 Royal British Legion (donations): £174.00
- (vii) Cheque no 300190 SLCC (Clerk's membership for 5 months): £47.25
- (viii) Cheque no 300191 Wolvey PCC Millennium Account (room hire): £15.00

RESOLVED: To approve payments
Cheques signed and stubs initialled

b) Income received:

- (i) HMRC (VAT reclaim): £3618.36
- (ii) WALC (Local Council Foundation award): £250
- (iii) First Aid course fees:£60

c) Other financial matters:

(i) The Council reviewed the Council's Risk assessment/management 2015
Some minor amendments to the risk assessment were identified. **RESOLVED**
to approve the risk assessment/ management with these changes. Councillor
Dixon to research the role of a custodian trustee.

(ii) The Council reviewed the Council's Assets register 2015
Clerk to ask the Youth Club if they will take responsibility for the i-pod nano and Beats
box. If so, these will be removed from the Assets register.
Some additions have been made to last year's assessment.
RESOLVED to approve the revised assets register.

(iii) The Council considered possible ways to raise funding for council activities:
Advertising in the newsletter
Calendar
Sponsorship for specific events/projects eg. Christmas tree
The Council will need to ensure that any additional work is cost-effective
IT WAS AGREED to form a working group to consider this.

15.32 The Council received an update on the "Lengthsman scheme":

An invoice had been received for £166.66 from WS Gardens.
Clerk to ask for more detail on the work carried out before invoices are approved.
Council to suggest work schedule. This should not be in areas that are maintained by
volunteers eg. Landscaped area in the Square.
Improvement has been noticed on the streets.
County Highways has been notified of work which needs action by them eg.
Damaged footpaths, blocked drains, damaged street signs.

15.33 Streetlighting

RESOLVED: to renew the streetlight maintenance contract with Warwickshire
County Council for 2015-16.
Following discussion, IT WAS AGREED to request a survey of columns and lanterns
be carried out, in preparation for possible upgrading all streetlights in Wolvey.

15.34 The Council considered the renewal of the grass cutting contract.

WS Gardens have indicated that there will be an increase of £10 per cut for 2015-16. This is the first increase in charges for some time.

Following discussion, **IT WAS RESOLVED** to renew the contract with WS Gardens for 15 cuts at £170 per cut.

15.36 The Council considered progress on the Wolvey Action Plan, including:

(i) First Aid courses:

The first course took place last Saturday. Twelve people attended and feedback suggests it was a success and a good use of public funds.

A second course will be arranged for April and advertised in the next newsletter.

A vote of thanks was given to Councillor Dixon for all his work on this project.

(ii) Purchase of two Defibrillators and cabinets:

West Midlands Ambulance Service is supportive of the provision of two defibrillators in Wolvey. West Midlands Ambulance Service will supply one defibrillator at a discounted cost of £850 and provide a second free of charge. The Parish Council will need to purchase two cabinets to house the defibrillators. The boxes will need to have an electric supply. A decision needs to be made before the end of the month when the grant funding ends.

There is sufficient funds in the budget to proceed.

RESOLVED: to order two defibrillators from West Midlands Ambulance Service

The decision on where to site these to be made at a future meeting.

(iii) Improvements to public transport.

Warwickshire County Council transport is trying to arrange a meeting with Arriva at Hinckley to discuss re-routing some buses through Wolvey.

15.37 The Council considered matters relating to the Environment

(i) National Spring Clean 2015.

RESOLVED: to book a litter pick during March or April

(ii) Renewal of Membership of the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust at an increased cost of £85.

RESOLVED: to not renew membership for 2015

(iii) Review of hanging baskets and planters for the Square:

Councillor Buswell to obtain quotes from Four Winds Nursery and Baginton Nurseries ready for the next meeting

15.38 The Council considered the ongoing role of the Parish Council newsletter and items for the next issue.

APPROVED: Guidelines for the newsletter that had been sent to the Council prior to the meeting.

It is possible that the Link may not be continuing in future. If that happens the Council may need to consider expanding the newsletter to allow local organizations to contribute. The costs and extra work will need to be considered. Advertising might be possible but will need someone to administer it.

A twitter account to be considered as a means of improving communication.

Items for the next newsletter were considered:

First Aid courses; New Clerk; Defibrillators; Progress on Boardwalk; Budget & precept explanation; Possible fund raising; Lengthsman scheme.

15.39 The Council considered responding to external consultations:

(i) Rugby Borough Council Statement of Community Involvement consultation.

RESOLVED: Clerk to respond that there is a communication gap to outlying areas of the Borough.

(ii) Rugby Borough Council Rural Sustainability Strategy 2015

RESOLVED: Clerk to send comments.

15.40 Publications and documents – noted:

(i) CPRE request for donation

15.41 Minor matters for discussion and items for next Meeting:

(i) Annual Parish Meeting- letters to be sent to organizations that have received Parish Council grants.

Clerk to research a speaker to talk about fund raising and grants.

(ii) Next meeting: Action Plan – to look at if there is a need for a Neighbourhood Plan.

(iii) Need for a larger dog waste bin in Wolds Lane- Clerk to get quote

(iv) Need for a larger bin outside Village Hall- Clerk to get quote.

(v) Clerk to ask how often bins are emptied.

15.42 Date of Next Meeting:

Next meeting of the Council due to be held on **Monday 16th March, 2015 in Wolvey Bowling Club**

15.43 The Council considered exclusion of the public under Public Bodies (Amendment Act 1960, section 1) in view of confidential nature of business to be discussed:

(i) Legal advice regarding the boardwalk at the Wolvey Wetland Reserve

RESOLVED: There is no need to exclude the public as there is still nothing to report.

15.44 The Council considered action regarding the boardwalk at the Wolvey Wetland Reserve:

A meeting is to be arranged before the end of the month between members of the Parish Council and the current and previous owners of the supplier and the manufacturer of the Boardwalk.

15.45 The meeting was closed at 10pm.