

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLVEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN WOLVEY BOWLING CLUB ON
MONDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2017 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillor Warwick (Chairman); Councillors Hawkins and Hawcutt

In attendance: County Councillor Phillip Morris-Jones
Borough Councillor Chris Pacey-Day
7 Members of the public

Apologies: None

16/215 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting.

16/216 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Warwick declared an interest in Wolvey Baptist Chapel.
Councillor Hawkins declared an interest in planning application R17/0193 – Land at Gypsy Lane, East of the Chalet on Hinckley Road, Wolvey by reason of a family member living in close proximity to the site.

16/217 Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January, 2017 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/218 Presentation of the Supported Village Kit

This item was deferred to a future meeting as Chief Inspector Neil Harrison was unable to attend due to illness.

16/219 Warwickshire County Council – Update

Councillor Phillip Morris-Jones reported on the following issues:

- (i) The West Midlands Combined Authority, of which the County Council was a non-constituent member;
- (ii) Warwickshire County Council had increased its Council Tax by 4%, of which 2% would fund social care and would provide an additional 40 social workers;
- (iii) Continuing problems with the increase in large vehicles driving through villages due to the expansion of Magna Park;
- (iv) changes to Fosse division and Parliamentary boundaries this year;
- (v) Fosse Forum meetings which were a useful means of interacting with Warwickshire villages. The last meeting was held in Withybrook at which there was a presentation by Warwickshire Police. Target areas included speed checks and thefts.

16/220 Rugby Borough Council – Update

Councillor Pacey-Day reported on the following issues:

- (i) the consultation period for the Borough Local Plan had been extended and the plan was scheduled for adoption in February 2018;
- (ii) local authorities, including parish councils, were being urged to take action in respect of Japanese Knotweed, which was extremely troublesome if left untreated;
- (iii) the detrimental environmental impact of LED street lighting on insects eg spiders and beetles;
- (iv) Walsall and Birmingham Councils were adopting the County Court injunction which gave local authorities greater powers to evict unauthorised gipsy and traveller encampments on council land.

16/221 Public Consultation

- (i) Reference was made to the planning application in respect of Bon Ami which had recently been granted planning permission, despite concerns over parking. Warwickshire County Council Highway's Officers had not raised any objections to this application. Rugby Borough Council would not be able to defend refusal on highway grounds, if no objections had been received from the highway authority. It was confirmed that the parish council's objections had been reported. Councillor Morris-Jones was asked to make further enquiries with Warwickshire County Council Highway's Department to determine their reasons for not raising any objection. In response to concerns raised at the meeting, the property owner and/or developer would be responsible for repairing any damage to neighbouring properties, including fences. Councillor Hawcutt offered to assist with writing a letter to the developer pointing out their responsibility for putting right any damage caused. It was also suggested that photographs should be taken of existing fences to be used as evidence if needed.
- (ii) The white paint on the mini roundabouts had faded and needed re-painting.
- (iii) The street lamp in the village centre was still not working.
- (iv) The road sign outside the Council houses in Leicester Road still needed correcting.
- (v) The minutes of 10 January, 2017 referred to a damaged road along Gypsy Lane instead of a damaged road sign.
- (vi) The pavement along Church Hill needed re-surfacing.
- (vii) The leaflet explaining the charges for green bins had not been delivered to households in Wolvey. Councillor Pacey-Day was requested to report this back to Rugby Borough Council.
- (viii) The rubbish which had been piled up outside The Brindles had been removed and the residents were thanked for their co-operation.

16/222 Clerk's Report

- (a) As no requests had been received for a by-election, the Council could start the co-option process to fill the four vacancies on the parish council.

- (b) The date on the pads in the defibrillator outside Wolvey Village Hall had expired resulting in the red light.

RESOLVED that two sets of pads at a discounted cost of £40 + VAT and two sets of paediatric pads be purchased from Tranter Training Solutions.

16/223 Planning

Councillors considered planning application no. R17/0193 – Land at Gipsy Lane East of The Chalet on Hinckley Road, Wolvey – change of use of land for the siting of two residential gypsy pitches including the erection of a day room.

RESOLVED that the parish council objects to this application on the following grounds:

- a) inappropriate development in the Green Belt;
- b) unsuitable location for development due to highway concerns;
- c) detrimental impact on amenity of the area – the land should be maintained as grazing land;
- d) Rugby Borough Council be requested to identify whether there is a need for the pitches on this site.

If Rugby Borough Council was minded to approve planning permission, the parish council requests that temporary consent be given to allow the demonstration of clear grounds for need of the pitches on this site.

16/224 Finance

RESOLVED that

- (a) The payment of the following cheques be approved:
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|---|---------|
| (i) Wolvey Baptist – room hire - invoice nos 220, 221&222
(cheque no. 300454) | £21.00 |
| (ii) Acting Clerk's salary and expenses for period
16 Jan-19 Feb - 4 weeks at 4 hours per week and 1 week
at 6 hours) (cheque no. 300455) | £226.02 |
| (iii) WCC – Street Lighting Maintenance 2016/17
(cheque no. 300456) | £988.34 |
| (iv) WS Gardens – take down Christmas tree
(cheque no 300457) | £90.00 |
| (v) WALC Training event - End of Year Procedures
(cheque no. 300358) | £30.00 |
- (b) Further enquires be made with WPCC concerning the printing of Newsletter at a cost of £104.00
- (c) the following income be noted:
- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Grant from Rugby Borough Council's | £2378.13 |
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Rural Development Fund	
Grant for NPAC from Big Lottery Fund	£9825.00
Cheque for Christmas tree from Clarke's Windows	£550.00

- (d) the Direct Debit from Opus be noted £582.20
- (e) the Unity Trust bank balance as at 6 February 2017 of £67,290.15 be noted.

16/225 WALC Training Course – End of Year Procedures

The Chairman reported back from the recent WALC training course he had attended on End of Year Procedures. He stated that in the interest of openness and transparency, parish council financial information should be published on the website.

The importance of risk assessments and risk management, using the “what if” scenario, were also emphasised at the training.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

16/226 Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) – Update

The Chairman referred to the success of the Theme Groups which had been recently held, which enabled NPAC to build policies in accordance with public preferences.

The revised consultation deadline would delay NPAC's progress.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

16/227 Renewal of Grass Cutting Contract 2017/18

Councillors considered the renewal of the Grass Cutting Contract for 2017/18. WS Gardens had confirmed that there would be no increase in charges from last year.

RESOLVED that the contract with WS Gardens for the grass cutting in Wolvey for 2017/18 be renewed.

16/228 Renewal of Street Light Maintenance Agreement 2017/18

Councillors considered the renewal of the above contract with Warwickshire County Council for 2017/18 which would be £1.85+VAT for LED lanterns and £9.50 + VAT for non-LED lanterns.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the contract with Warwickshire County Council for Street Light Maintenance for 2017/18 be approved; and

- (b) Councillor Hawcutt produce a list of streetlights, identifying any Mercury (MBF) or Low Pressure Sodium (SOX) lanterns, which would need replacing as a priority as the lanterns and associated materials and equipment were now obsolete.

16/229 Control of Moles

Councillors discussed measures to be taken for the control of moles, especially on the Axe and Compass island.

RESOLVED that consideration of this item be deferred to the next meeting of the council, pending further investigation.

16/230 Christmas Tree - Christmas 2017

Councillors considered a quote from WS Gardens for £300 + VAT for the putting up of the Christmas tree in 2017 (including fitting all lights and decorations) and £100 + VAT for taking it down.

RESOLVED that the two quotes from WS Gardens for the putting up and taking down of the 2017 Christmas tree be approved.

16/231 Review of the Asset Register

Councillors reviewed the parish council's Asset Register. The Clerk reported that the strimmer, purchased in August 2016, at a cost of £261.00, had now been included in the Register.

RESOLVED that the Asset Register be approved.

16/232 Wolvey Environmental Committee

(a) Update

The Wolvey Environment Committee met on 1 February 2017. Membership comprised six members from the WEG and two parish councillors. John Hardman was elected Chairman and Ruth Buswell was elected Vice-Chairman. Meetings have been arranged every two months, to coincide with meetings of WEG.

There were currently 21 WEG volunteers.

A list of proposed works over the next 12 month period and a bi-monthly list of works had been produced.

All Health and Safety procedures were located in one file. Councillor Hawcutt had been appointed by the parish council to lead on health and safety matters and he would meet with John Hardman in the near future.

A spreadsheet would be maintained by WEC to monitor all expenditure.

Operational arrangements of the committee would be discussed when the new Clerk was in post.

John Hardman apologised, on behalf of WEC, for the trees which had recently been cut down at the Wetland without authorisation from the parish council.

Alison and Dave from The Grange were thanked for the prompt removal of the dangerous trees on their land, which ran alongside the boardwalk.
All requests and orders for additional works must be made through the Clerk. All existing suppliers would be made aware of this.

(b) Tree Survey

The parish council had not yet received the tree survey report in respect of trees at the Wetland. At least one tree had, however, been identified for immediate felling. Once the survey report had been received, the cost of tree works would need to be assessed and budgetary implications taken into account, before any tree works could be approved by the parish council.
Councillor Warwick would send the tree survey report to John Hardman, when it had been received.

(c) Quote from Baginton Nurseries

The parish council considered the quote received from Baginton Nurseries to provide tubs and baskets in the Village Square at a cost of £261.40.

RESOLVED that the quote from Baginton Nurseries for £261.40 be approved.

(d) WEG List of Volunteers

Councillors considered arrangements for adding names to the WEG List of Volunteers between parish council meetings.

RESOLVED that authority be delegated to the Clerk to add the name(s) of any new volunteers to WEG's approved List of Volunteers, between parish council meetings, with a report being submitted to the next parish council meeting.

16/233 Items for the next meeting

- (i) Tree survey
- (ii) Mole control
- (iii) Blocked drains

16/234 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 20 March 2017 at 7.30pm at Wolvey Bowling Club.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.