

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF WOLVEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 18 JANUARY 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors Adrian Warwick (Chairman), Jas Guraya, Richard Hawcutt, John Hawkins and Bill Silvester.

In attendance: Jackie Essex (Clerk)
Rachel and Matthew Dore – Community Speed Watch

Apologies: Borough Councillor Chris Pacey-Day

This meeting was held in accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. The meeting was conducted using Zoom video conferencing software and all participants took part in the meeting remotely.

150/21 Declarations of Interest and Grant of Dispensation

Councillor Warwick declared an interest in Wolvey Baptist Chapel, and in any matter by reason of him being a Member of Warwickshire County Council. Councillor Hawkins declared an interest in any matter relating to Wolvey Playing Fields Trust and also in Planning Application no. R20/1056 – Haul Y Bryn, 30 Pipers End, Wolvey by reason of the applicant being a family member.

151/21 Chairman's Announcement

The Chairman reminded councillors that they must inform the Clerk of any contact with an outside organisation if they were acting on behalf of, or representing, the parish council. This did not apply if they were making any comments or representations in their capacity as a member of the public.

152/21 Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

153/21 Public Participation

The problem of dog fouling and owners failing to clear up after their dogs was raised, despite the number of dog bins and signs in the village. The Chairman thought that this problem was not being caused by local residents but by people travelling to Wolvey to exercise dogs during the current restrictions around COVID-19. The Clerk would report this increase in dog fouling to Rugby Borough Council.

154/21 Rugby Borough Council – Update

Borough Councillor Chris Pacey-Day was not present at the meeting as his wife was unwell. The parish council extended their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

The Chairman reported that Rugby Borough Council was carrying out a restructuring exercise to identify and address areas for improvement.

155/21 Warwickshire County Council – Update

County Councillor Adrian Warwick reported on the following:

- (a) Warwickshire County Council had agreed a pilot working arrangement with Homes England which could provide environmentally friendly and affordable new homes.
- (b) Warwickshire County Council was operating a new demand responsive minibus service in partnership with the Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC) to assist residents who were unable to access public transport in Rugby borough.
- (c) Recycling centres in Warwickshire remained open during the current government restrictions.
- (d) Rugby Borough Council was taking measures to address the problem of fly tipping in the borough.
- (e) The Chairman raised concerns of residents over the safety of the wall along Church Hill. Both Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council were seeking to confirm ownership and responsibility for this wall in order to take appropriate action. In the meantime, the safety of the wall would be monitored by Building Control Officers.

156/21 Community Speed Watch

Rachel Dore reported that Community Speed Watch initiatives had been temporarily suspended until further notice. In the meantime, the Police had indicated that they would look at providing Police speed checks.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

157/21 Wolvey Wetland

In light of recent comments, Councillor Hawkins confirmed that the Wetland was managed and maintained in accordance with the approved Management Plan and available budgets. He emphasised that, in addition to providing a safe haven for nature and wildlife, the Wetland should also be “people friendly”. The Chairman confirmed that this was imperative in order to comply with the terms of grants which had previously been awarded for the Wetland.

Councillor Hawkins requested approval for WS Gardens Ltd. to clear bullrushes from the pond area at a total cost of £350 + VAT which represented two operatives for one day.

RESOLVED that

- (a) approval be given for pond clearing works to be carried out in accordance with the Management Plan at a total estimated cost of £350 + VAT;
- (b) the parish council's support for works to be carried out in accordance with

the Management Plan and available budget be endorsed; and

- (c) the parish council's thanks and appreciation be extended to Councillor Hawkins for all his work on the Wetland.

158/21 Wolvey Playing Field – Update

Councillor Hawkins reported that the Trust had received money from Rugby Borough Council's second round of Business Grants.

The new bench to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Playing Field Trust had been delivered that day.

The Trust had spent £1,100 of its parish council grant on the service and repair of one of the mowers (£450 service and £650 repair costs).

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

159/21 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator machine on the outside wall of the village hall was out of action. Various tests recommended by Tranter Training to ascertain the problem were being carried out. One of the issues might be the power supply to the cabinet which resulted in lack of heat for the machine. The defibrillator at Wolvey C of E Primary School was working.

RESOLVED that due to the importance of this life saving machine in the community, authority be delegated to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to arrange for any repairs and/or replacement parts to ensure that the machine is working again at the earliest opportunity.

160/21 Planning

The following new planning applications were considered:

- (i) R20/0997 - The Chalet, Hinckley Road, Wolvey - erection of stables and associated store building (resubmission of R19/1148).

RESOLVED that the parish council objects to this planning application on the grounds that the cumulative effect of the development would have a detrimental impact on the Green Belt and the openness of the area. The parish council also considers that the proposed plans are in excess of what could reasonably be required for stables and would request that Rugby Borough Council carries out a needs assessment for the provision of further stables on this site.

- (ii) R20/1056 - Haul Y Bryn, 30 Pipers End, Wolvey - erection of a single storey side and rear extension.

RESOLVED that the parish council has no comments on this application.

(Councillor Hawkins declared an interest in the above planning application on the grounds that the applicant was a family member and took no part in the discussion or voting on this item).

- (iii) R20/1058 - Tregenna, Coventry Road, Wolvey - erection of a two-storey rear extension with additional single storey rear extension, loft conversion, alterations to front porch, internal alterations and creation of granny annex from existing garage and extension to garage.

RESOLVED that whilst the parish council does not object to the proposals, it would request that any planning consent granted is subject to a condition that the annex remains incidental to the main dwelling for use by family members and cannot be used as a separate dwelling.

- (iv) R20/0998 - 4 Mill Lane, Wolvey - first floor side extension above garage.

RESOLVED that the parish council supports this planning application.

161/21

Financial Matters

- (a) The following payments be authorised:
- (i) Clerk's salary and expenses – £734.51
 - (ii) WS Gardens Ltd – wetland work (invoice no. 9062) - £840.00
 - (iii) WS Gardens Ltd. – Take down Christmas Tree (invoice no. 9064) - £120.00
 - (iv) CPRE – annual membership fee - £40.00
 - (v) Western Power Distribution – connect power to streetlight in Moat Lane – (invoice no. 20078227) - £652.45
 - (vi) WALC training – Understanding the Planning System - Councillor Silvester - £30.00
 - (vii) WALC training – Understanding the Planning System - Councillor Hawcutt - £30.00

(Councillors Guraya and Silvester to authorise payments)

- (b) The invoice from Western Power Distribution for the connection of power to the streetlight in Coventry Road for £3,075.31 be paid after works have been completed.
- (c) The following direct debits be noted:
- (i) NEST pension – December - £66.86
 - (ii) Opus Energy – streetlighting for the period 19 Nov – 19 Dec - £595.86
 - (iii) Unity Trust – quarterly bank charges - £18.00
- (d) The following financial reports for Quarter 3 be noted:
- (i) Cash Book – 1 April 2020 – 31 December 2020 - £69,529.86
 - (ii) Bank Reconciliation as at 31 December 2020 - £69,529.86
 - (iii) Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring Report

162/21 Grass Cutting 2021

The parish council considered the grass cutting contract for 2021.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Grass Cutting Contract for 2021 be agreed; and
- (b) a notice inviting quotes for the Grass Cutting Contract for 2021 be published on the parish council website.

163/21 Christmas Tree Baubles

It was suggested that some of the money remaining in the Christmas budget could be used to purchase more baubles for the Christmas tree.

RESOLVED that approval be given for the purchase of Christmas tree baubles using unspent money from the Christmas budget.

164/21 Risk Register

The parish council reviewed its Risk Register.

RESOLVED that the Risk Register be approved.

165/21 Boardwalk – Update

There was nothing to report.

166/21 Village Sign – Update

Councillor Hawcutt reported that the sign required lacquering with a suitable product and it would then be installed in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's specification.

167/21 Streetlight Renewal Programme - Update

Western Power had re-connected the power supply to the streetlight in Moat Lane. Western Power had indicated that the power supply to the replacement streetlight in Coventry Road would be reconnected on 27 – 29 January 2021.

The Clerk reported that she was still waiting for some technical information from Hi-Lite Electrical which Western Power had requested to enable the re-calculation of the cost of streetlight electricity now the new more efficient LED lanterns had been fitted.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

168/21 Neighbourhood Plan – Update

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk would complete the supporting documents for the draft Neighbourhood Plan for submission to Rugby Borough Council.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

169/21 Environment Matters

Councillor Hawkins requested approval for WS Gardens Ltd. to carry out works under Phase 2 of the Church Hill/Temple Hill project for clearing overgrown bushes and trees in order to keep verges in a tidy condition at a cost of approximately £700.

RESOLVED that approval be given for WS Gardens Ltd. to carry out works as set out above at an approximate cost of £700 – the works to be funded equally from both the Environment and Village Maintenance budgets.

170/21 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Monday 15 February 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.37 p.m.