

Wardington Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 28th November 2023 at 7:30pm in the Main Hall at Wardington Village Hall

Present: Mr R Jarrett (Chairman), Mr G Page, Mr M Patterson, Mr N Bankes.

In attendance: Clerk, 0 members of the public

70. Apologies for absence – Apologies received - Cllr Julie Burnett, and Cllr Richard Reid. Apologies accepted – None. Apologies also received from District Cllr Phil Chapman.

71. Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda – None.

72. Public participation session – None.

73. To approve the minutes of the PC meeting held on 17th October 2023 – The minutes were proposed, agreed, and duly signed.

74. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings

74.1 HS2 update – None.

74.2 Defibrillator/CPR training session – Not yet arranged. St John Ambulance have not yet come back with potential dates. **Clerk to continue to follow up.**

74.3 Maintenance/repairs to the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) in the village – The VAS into the village going north is still not working and all of the signs still need changing to show 20mph as the limit. **Clerk to chase up County Cllr George Reynolds to find out if he has any update on the limit being changed on the signs.**

74.4 Update on bench outside the Churchyard – The bench has been received but not yet installed. **Cllr George Page to contact the contractor to arrange installation.**

75. Play Area

75.1 Play equipment safety inspection – No report due to Cllr Lexi Gordon-Finlayson's absence. It was agreed that the **Clerk should complete the inspections in future.**

75.2 Proposal to instruct a contractor to clean the play equipment on a regular basis – After some discussion it was agreed not to go ahead with this.

76. Planning applications received

23/02779/TCA - Os Parcel 0060 Village Spinney Adjoining And North West Of Babbington Barn, Cropredy Lane, Williamscot. T1 x Sycamore - remove but leave as a 15 foot monolith for habitat. - tree is deceased with lots of fungus and wood pecker holes. Has been reduced previously and now in decline. What three words location - renting.frostbite.bluntly. T2 x Sycamore - removal of three lowest limbs of which stretch towards the road. What three words location of tree - clearing.different.enter. **No representation made. APPROVED.**

23/02840/F - The Old School, Wardington. Porch extension. **No representation made.**

23/02858/F - Land South Of Sewage Works, Williamscot Road, Cropredy. Erection of new stable block. **No objection. (Response made using delegated powers).**

23/03053/F and 23/03054/LB - The Bishops House, Street From Banbury Road To Mount Pleasant, Wardington. Insertion of conservation rooflights in rear roof slope to facilitate use of roof space as habitable accommodation, and conversion of stable to ancillary guest accommodation. **No objection.**

It was noted that there have been a number of occasions recently where the clerk has been unable to submit a response (listed as No representation made) due to not receiving sufficient information from councillors. It was agreed that the **Clerk should email all Cllrs** on behalf of the Chairman **reminding them**

to respond to planning application information provided by the Clerk when the prefix on the e-mail subject is RR (Response Required).

77. Planning decisions received

23/01833/HED - Wardington Grange, Banbury Road, Wardington. Remove old sparse hedge to improve working of agricultural fields. **Approved.** The councillors expressed their disappointment that the planning office did not appear to even consider the request submitted by the PC for there to be replacement planting, particularly given the national drive to go 'more green' and encourage planting of trees and wildflowers etc. **Clerk to e-mail the planning office to make them aware of the PC's concern.**

23/01960/PIP - Barn Farm Plants, Barn Farm, Thorpe Road, Wardington. To develop the site for 7-9 dwellings with associated access, parking and amenity space. **Refused.**

23/02252/F - Glen Meadows Farm, Chacombe Road, Wardington. Single storey side and rear extension. **Approved.**

23/02491/F - High Wardington House, Thorpe Road, Wardington. Extension to existing outbuilding and conversion to create a dwelling. Associated works including amenity space, landscaping and access (Alternative to 20/03642/F). **Approved.**

23/02560/TCA - Long Cottage, Thorpe Road, Wardington. T1 x Birch – removal. **Approved.**

23/02387/F - Cobweb Cottage, Edgecote Lane, Wardington. Alterations to rear and side elevations to change external windows and doors. **Approved.**

78. Concerns raised by parishioners about the state of the grass outside Post Office Cottage, Mount Pleasant, due to vehicle access – After discussion it was agreed that the clerk should contact the planning enforcement team to advise that there have been a number of concerns relating to activity that has taken place within the Conservation Area over the last 6 months which includes the installation of a new entrance with no dropped kerb, change of lawn to gravel, installation of high fencing, and a possible change of use to business premises and ask them to advise if any of this requires planning permission.

79. Accessibility to the website for parishioners – Defer to next meeting.

80. Finance

80.1 To note the bank balances and cashbook balances as at 22.11.2023 – Noted.

Bank balances

PC Current	£2,183.69
PC Savings	£27,834.94
Uncashed cheques	-£40.00
Total	£29,978.63

	WPC Main	Williamscott	Total
Cashbook balances as at 22.11.23	£22,721.18	£7,257.45	£29,978.63

80.2 Proposal to make a donation of £250 to Cluster Care Group – Cllr Jarrett contacted the Chairman of the Cluster Care Group to find out more about their funding. Most of their funding has stopped and they have opened their service up to more people (those who are lonely regardless of their age) but their income continues to be lower than costs to run the service. It was agreed that a note should go in the Warbler to make the community aware of the services Cluster Care offer. It was proposed and agreed to make a donation of £300 to Cluster Care. **Clerk to arrange the donation.**

- 80.3 To note and approve payment of the following invoices already paid using delegated powers:
Proposed and agreed.

25.10.23	Kirsty Buttle	Salary Oct	£432.43
25.10.23	HMRC	Tax Oct	£0.40
31.10.23	NEST	Pension Oct	£16.58

- 80.4 To note the following receipts: None

- 80.5 To approve payment of the following invoices: Proposed and agreed.

Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath Donation	£50.00
Kirsty Buttle	Salary Nov and backpay	£603.50
HMRC	Tax Nov	£43.60
NEST	Pension Nov	£24.79
Brent Harris	Playground repairs	£439.00
Brent Harris	Bench base installation	£63.45
Parish Magazine Printing	Printing newsletter Nov edition	£398.00
Glasdon	Lowther seat	£847.65
N R Prickett	Grass cutting 2nd and 7th Nov	£402.00
CPRE	Annual membership	£36.00

- 80.6 To review the draft budget for 2024-25 – Cllr Bob Jarrett to send Clerk photos of the War Memorial for the Clerk to contact the War Memorials Trust to get guidance on what work is required and potential costs. It was agreed that the draft budget figures suggest an increase in the precept will be required this year but the PC would like to try to keep that increase down to 5%. **Clerk to present updated figures to the PC for consideration at the January meeting.**

- 81. Information exchange** – The proposal to install a car park at the Cricket Pavilion has been put on hold as the trust feel they can't afford it. It was suggested that if there is genuine interest from parishioners for this to go ahead the parish could look at ways to help fund it. It was noted that Ann Wilkins and Ian Franklin are standing down from the over 60's club. The PC are very grateful for their work over the years and hope the club can continue. The pothole at Top Dawkins has now been filled in.

- 82. To agree meeting dates for 2024 – Proposed dates are: 9th January, 13th February, 12th March, 16th April, 21st May, 18th June, 23rd July, 3rd September, 15th October, 26th November** – Proposed and agreed.

Meeting closed @ 9:23pm

Date of next meeting – 9th January 2024

Signed..... Date.....