

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wolverton Parish Council held at Wolverton Church Hall immediately following the Annual Meeting on 16 May 2024

Present: Cllr S Easterbrook (Chair); Cllr S Murphy; Cllr T Phillips; Cllr J Wynn-Evans
WCC Cllr I Shenton (for part of the meeting); SDC Cllr D Parker
Parish Clerk: Jennifer Bendall
Public: None

24/05/16/01 Record of members present

Noted.

24/05/16/02 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr P Anthony who was away. Approved.

24/05/16/03 To receive declarations of interests (existence and nature) on Items on the Agenda

None.

24/05/16/04 Minutes of the last meeting(s)

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21 March 2024 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chair.

24/05/16/05 To provisionally approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 23 April 2024

Councillors were advised that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly would be officially signed at the next Parish Assembly to be held in April 2025. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 23 April 2024 were taken as read, approved and provisionally signed by the Chair.

24/05/16/06 Matters arising from previous meetings (*not covered elsewhere on the agenda*)

None.

24/05/16/07 Clerk's Report

The Clerk advised the meeting that would be attending the official webinar on .gov.uk domain names on 20 May.

The Clerk brought to the attention of the meeting that WALC has been working with Warwickshire County Council on the new updated version of the Local Councils Charter, and that any comments on the draft should be submitted to WALC by 14 June.

24/05/16/08 Parish Council Focus Update

(The 2024/25 PC Focus is the environment, climate change and sustainability, with an emphasis on the Climate Action Plan, rubbish and the ecological emergency)

It was agreed that there should be a dedicated session to work on the Climate Action Plan. Cllr Wynn-Evans to include a note in the Parish Magazine report to gauge what response there is from parishioners. This subject will be revisited at the July ordinary meeting.

The Chair advised that he has nominated Wolverton as being suitable for a focus group for an innovation project from the National Grid called REACH: Rural Energy and Community Heat. REACH

is a university lead research project looking at how rural areas (villages and hamlets) can accelerate their decarbonisation plans where the network capacity might be limited in their area.

24/05/16/09 To note issues within the Parish relating to highways and public areas (eg. the state of the roads, parking, overgrown hedges footpaths, etc)

The meeting noted that Saddlebow Lane is being resurfaced from the A4189 to the crossroads.

There was a discussion about no-mow May and the fact that some verges are being cut by WCC contractors. It was noted that some verges are still being cut for safety reasons.

Cllr Ian Shenton gave an update on gulley cleaning.

24/05/16/10 Identifying Local Housing Needs

The Chairman welcomed Sarah Brooke-Taylor, the Rural Housing Enabler from Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC), to the meeting.

Sarah explained that purpose of housing needs surveys is to ensure that every housing need in the parish is identified. Completed surveys are analysed to identify need and realism, not aspiration. If developers use locally identified needs to justify a development, they must have the support of the parish council as well as showing that the development meets the need.

There was a discussion about identifying genuine local housing needs and preventing landowners from exploiting these. It was noted that self-build houses do not have the same regulations as developments that use local housing needs as the reason for the development. Houses built to meet housing needs must be sold to people with a local connection and will have a Section 106 agreement on it which will ensure the housing is for local people in perpetuity.

As it is five years since the last housing needs survey in Wolverton, it was agreed that WPC should commission a new one. Sarah advised that there is no cost to WPC for this. She asked if a need is identified, would WPC consider working with a local housing needs developer along with the community to find solutions. It was agreed that the survey would be issued in the Autumn and that it would be advertised in the Parish before then.

24/05/16/11 To receive the draft report on automatic numberplate recognition cameras (ANPR) in the Parish, and to consider and agree further action as appropriate

Received.

It was noted that Claverdon has had a spate of break ins and burglaries despite having ANPR cameras installed in the parish. WPC agreed that the costs involved with the initial installation and on-going expense, as well as the logistics of siting the cameras and recording equipment and consideration of pedestrians being recorded, made the scheme unfeasible.

Advice received from Warwickshire Police is that if someone wants to break in and/or steal something that badly, they will find a way to do so, but if residents follow the principles of 'reduce their reward', 'slow them down', 'increase their chances of getting caught', then they are likely to find easier targets to go for. A link to the Warwickshire Police most up to date home security advice is to be put on the WPC website.

24/05/16/12 Report from County Councillor Shenton

Report received with thanks (available on WPC website).

24/05/16/13 Report from District Councillor Parker

Report received with thanks (available on WPC website).

24/05/16/14 Planning Matters

1. Applications and decisions

To consider and resolve to comment as appropriate on planning applications received, and to note current status of existing planning applications

Application Number / Address	Applicant	Application Details	For consideration or to receive update:
24/00018/FUL	Mr Mathias	Conversion of an existing barn to 1no. dwelling and construction of a carport in place of existing pig shed	Update: Planning permission refused
24/00290/FUL	Mrs Carole Webb, Farm Animal Rescue Sanctuary	Temporary siting of mobile home for the care of animals in conjunction with the existing farm animal sanctuary (agricultural use) (with no use of the unit for accommodation purposes) for a period of five years	WPC objects to this application.

2. To discuss other planning issues within the parish

None.

24/05/16/15 Finance

1. Account Balances

Appendix 1 attached.

2. Payments Received Since Last Meeting

Date	From	Reason	Total
22/04/2024	SoA DC	Precept	£1,850.00

3. Payments Made Since Last Meeting

Date	To	Reason	Total
15/04/2024	Clerk	Salary (at old rate)	£127.93
17/04/2024	WALC	Annual subscription	£146.00
17/04/2024	HMRC	PAYE	£1.40
17/04/2024	Clerk	Overtime (new website development)	£271.55
	Clerk	Backdated pay Feb-Mar 24	£22.00
	Clerk	Expenses Nov 23 – Mar 24	£34.08

4. Items of Expenditure to be Reviewed and Approved

Payment To	Reason	Total
-		

24/05/16/16 Correspondence

Date	From	Details
-		

24/05/16/17 Parish Report / Items for next meeting

None.

24/05/16/18 Dates for future meetings

18 July 2024 – Ordinary Meeting

24/05/16/19 The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed:

Wolverton Parish Council Chair

Date:

APPENDIX 1

WOLVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Accounts Year to Date 12 May 2024

Reconciled to bank statement dated 30 April 2024

Actual 2023/24		Budget 2024/25	Actual 2024/25
BALANCES B/F			
£ 8,118.39	Current Account at 1 April	£ 10,372.99	£ 9,325.45
£ -	Uncleared income at 1 April	£ -	£ -
£ -	Unpresented cheques/payments at 1 April	£ -	£ -
£ 8,118.39	TOTAL B/F	£ 10,372.99	£ 9,325.45

INCOME			
£ 3,700.00	Precept	£ 3,700.00	£ 1,850.00
£ 655.53	Grants	£ -	£ -
£ -	Interest	£ 165.00	£ -
£ -	VAT reclaim	£ 150.00	£ -
£ 665.85	Other	£ -	£ -
£ 5,021.38	TOTAL INCOME	£ 4,015.00	£ 1,850.00

GENERAL EXPENDITURE			
£ 1,645.16	Clerk's Salary	£ 1,800.00	£ 421.48
£ 10.39	HMRC	£ -	£ 1.40
£ 23.86	Clerk's Homeworking Allowance and Travel Expenses	£ 40.00	£ 10.10
£ 319.93	Admin Expenses (stationery, printing, postage, internet, etc)	£ 250.00	£ 19.98
£ 469.07	Grass cutting	£ 591.00	£ -
£ -	Parish Maintenance (excluding grass cutting)	£ 100.00	£ -
£ 187.00	Subscriptions (WALC, ICO, etc)	£ 200.00	£ 125.00
£ 214.00	Insurance	£ 300.00	£ -
£ -	Room Hire (includes Zoom virtual meetings)	£ 54.00	£ -
£ -	Training	£ 150.00	£ -
£ -	Audit Fee	£ -	£ -
£ 667.12	Other	£ 50.00	£ -
£ 100.00	Election Costs Fund annual increase	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
£ 150.00	Assets Fund annual increase	£ 150.00	£ 150.00
£ 50.00	Contingency Fund annual increase	£ 50.00	£ 50.00
£ -	Grants made under Discretionary Powers and Section 137 Grants	£ 200.00	£ -
£ 177.79	VAT paid (to be reclaimed)	£ 150.00	£ 25.00
£ 4,014.32	TOTAL GENERAL EXPENDITURE	£ 4,185.00	£ 902.96

EXPENDITURE FROM RESERVES			
£ 100.00	Election Costs	£ -	£ -
£ -	Assets Fund (purchase, repair, renewal, inspection)	£ -	£ -
£ -	Ringfenced funds	£ -	£ -
£ -	VAT paid from Asset Fund (to be reclaimed)	£ -	£ -
£ 100.00	TOTAL EXPENDITURE FROM RESERVES	£ -	£ -

Actual Balance of Accounts at 31 March 2024		Forecast Balance of Accounts at 31 March 2025 (as per budget for year)	Actual Balance of Accounts Year To Date
£ 9,325.45	Current Account Balance	£ 3,937.99	£ 10,572.49
£ -	Savings Account Balance (inc. ringfenced funds and reserves)	£ 6,665.00	
£ -	Plus uncleared income	£ -	£ -
£ -	Less payments awaiting approval / not reconciled to statement	£ -	£ -
£ 9,325.45		£ 10,602.99	£ 10,572.49
£ 5,120.37	Ringfenced funds *	£ 5,120.37	£ 5,120.37
£ 600.00	Contingencies fund (sum retained for unexpected expenses)	£ 650.00	£ 600.00
£ 500.00	Sum retained for future election costs	£ 600.00	£ 500.00
£ 700.00	Sum retained for Asset Fund (purchase, repair, renewal and inspection costs)	£ 850.00	£ 700.00
£ 2,405.08	TOTAL DISPOSABLE FUNDS	£ 3,382.62	£ 3,652.12

* Ringfenced funds

CIL payment (to be used for infrastructure projects) #

£4,990.37

Donations for replacement defibrillator (balance remaining, to be used for ongoing defibrillator maintenance costs)

£130.00

£5,120.37

The CIL funds that WPC has received have to be spent within 5 years of receipt, as follows:

Amount:	Received:	To be spent by:
£1,081.13	21/06/2021	20/06/2026
£1,081.13	08/11/2021	07/11/2026
£2,162.25	13/06/2022	12/06/2027
£665.85	26/06/2023	25/06/2028

Greenshoots Grant

Total grant awarded £1,800.00

Date	Amount of Grant Received from WCC	Amount Forwarded to Grow Team
21/02/2023	£900.00	
21/03/2023		£920.00
01/09/2023	£400.00	
18/09/2023		£456.98
28/12/2023	£255.53	
22/01/2024		£178.20
Totals	£1,555.53	£1,555.18
Balance of Grant to be forwarded to Grow Team when received		£244.82