



**WORTON PARISH COUNCIL
6th March 2017 7.30pm Village Hall
MINUTES**

Present: Cllr R Wilshire (Chairman); Cllr S Bonfield; Cllr M Fisher; Cllr R Goss; Cllr D Johnson; Cllr B Devine; Cllr W Francis;

Apologies: Cllr A Midgely;

Also present: Mr M Powell, Mr P Salaman, Veronica Franklin, Cllr R Gamble; Mrs E Read (Clerk).

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Midgely, these were accepted by the Council.

2 Declarations of interest – including non-pecuniary interests of those on the Neighbourhood Planning Group

Cllr Bonfield declared an interest in the item regarding Village Hall and Cllr Johnson and Cllr Fisher the item regarding Neighbourhood Planning

3 The minutes of the last meeting of the Council

Proposed by Cllr John and seconded by Cllr Bonfield the minutes were accepted and signed.

4 Chairman's announcements

Nothing to report at the moment.

5 Public participation on matters set out below – for up to fifteen minutes, three minutes per person.

[Note: this item is only for questions or representations addressed to the Council on any matter set out below and is the only opportunity for such at this meeting. New business cannot be raised but should be requested for a future agenda to a councillor or Clerk to the Council outside this meeting].

Mr Salaman enquired about the minutes which mentioned the vegetation overhanging the brook and the overflow at Ray bridge. He informed the Council that contractors have been assigned to cut back vegetation and support the side of the bank where it is overflowing.

Mr Salaman also enquired about what a member of the public should do if they regard a Parish Councillor as having a conflict of interest. The clerk answered that they should contact the Monitoring Officer at Wiltshire Council and he would follow the Standards Board process.

6 Wiltshire Councillor's report

Cllr Gamble reminded the Council of the Volunteering fair at the Area Board meeting.

He then highlighted that there will be road closures on the A360 southbound in April. The road is due to close in mid April for repairs between Tilshead and Shrewton over Easter with a diversion going the long way round. Clerk to put this information in the Bridge and on the website.

7 Neighbourhood Planning Update

The Housing Needs Survey has gone out, and some mistakenly to parts of Cheverell and Potterne. However the group have made efforts to rectify this, and the survey is clearly marked as only relevant to residents of Worton. Nick Stokes and Cllr Johnson volunteered to go to the "Planning for Communities" Workshop run by Community First.

Cllr Johnson stated that while the Housing Needs Survey is a Wiltshire Council survey, he thought that the Parish Council should run a repeat of its own survey this June or July as it is two years since the last one. This survey would cover use of village facilities, what facilities would you like, if there were a shop, would you volunteer to run it or take part in speed watch etc. This survey would include surrounding villages.

8 **Parish elections, date of annual meeting – 8th May**

The clerk stated that the nomination forms need to be returned to Council offices by the 4th of April, and the Council agreed that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council would take place on the evening of the 8th of May.

9 **Village Hall loan**

Veronica explained that while the Village Hall Committee are confident that they will raise all the money needed to have the work on the loos done, and have put in money from their reserves, they are currently waiting for confirmation of a grant for £4000.

To minimise disruption to regular users of the hall such as the Brownies and the toddler group, the committee would prefer the work was done in a school holiday. The chosen tenderer is fully booked in the summer holidays and so would like to do the work in April.

It is unlikely that the Committee will raise £4000 by April, but have the outstanding grant application as above.

The committee have had some more donations, had a gig on Saturday, and other events coming up. However, they do not have the funds to start the work at risk, and are asking that the Parish Council assist.

The Village Hall Committee are grateful for the grants already given by both Parish Councils and solar funds, and are looking to approach this in a different way, so are asking for a loan of up to £4000 from Worton Parish Council, to be paid back within the financial year 2017/18.

The Clerk read paragraph 4 of schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2003 and Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19 and the Council were happy that they had the legal power to give a loan to the Village Hall.

Cllr Francis proposed that the Parish Council provide a loan to the Village Hall of up to £4000, this was seconded by Cllr Fisher and passed by the Council, subject to the agreement drawn up by delegated authority between now and the next meeting. Village Hall can go ahead with the work on this basis. Delegated authority was given to Cllr Wilshire, Cllr Fisher and Veronica Franklin and Pauline Crisp to draw up a straightforward agreement covering amount, term, repayment and contingencies. Clerk to get a template for a loan agreement between PC and VH. VH won't be available for the 3rd of April, Clerk to request the use of the school.

10 **Planters for village gates**

Cllr Johnson has come across some good planters £39ish for large pots. The Clerk said that while she has had some progress with Highways she has not had permission to put signs or planters on the village gates license. Clerk to ask Highways regarding signs on the planters and on the village gates which read "Welcome to Worton" on one and "Please Drive Carefully" on the other.

11 **Planning matters – to receive those decisions notified and to consider and decide any that are received before the meeting**

17/00687/FUL - 132 High Street, Worton. First floor bedroom extension to rear of existing house with Juliet balcony. Replacement of existing detached prefab single garage to rear of house with new single storey, garage and annexe room with ensuite.

No objection

17/02688/TCA Work to trees in a conservation area fell Japanese Larch tree – no objection votes 4 -3

17/01234/FUL Ivy Cottage - rendering – no objection

12 **Confirmation of auditor and audit meeting for clerk £15**

Frank Marshall to be asked if he would be prepared to carry out the Internal Audit £15.00 +VAT expenditure approved for the audit meeting.

13 **Clerk salary incremental increase**

In line with nationally agreed pay scales, the Clerks hourly rate is to be increased to £11.054 an hour from April. Clerk to arrange increase direct debit

14 **Disbursements**

February Salary

The clerk informed the Council that she had been warned by the previous clerk that there might be an extra fee for the website soon. She has not found any information or invoices out of the ordinary, and so was giving prior warning to the Council should this fee arise.

15 **Future agenda item planning**

Flower pots and signs, Chase BT re phone box, Loan to Village Hall, Grass cutting, Elections 4th April Nominations, Annual Meeting planning

16 **Date of next meeting (proposed for Monday 3rd April 2017 at the school)**

17 **Items of maintenance (for information or the next agenda)**

18 **Key messages.**

Giving the Village Hall a loan.

Elections

Road closure and on website