

WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 3 NOVEMBER 2014, 7.30PM

THE VILLAGE HALL, HIGH STREET, WORTON

MINUTES

Present: Councillors: R Wilshire (Chairman); Mrs S Bonfield; Mr W Francis; Mr R Goss; Mr D Johnson; Mr A Midgley; Mr M Rose; Mr R Gamble [WC][for part].

Apologies: Mr K Bellamy; Mrs C Simpson

Also present: Cllr P Salaman [Marston PC]; Mr P Baxter (Clerk).

ACTIO

14/15/129 Declarations of interest.

Cllr Goss declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item on ditches and watercourses.

14/15/130 Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman. It was **agreed** that the outstanding matter of play equipment inspection would be placed on the next agenda.

14/15/131 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman thanked the volunteers that assisted with tree felling in Sandlease recreation area.

14/15/132 Public participation

Cllr Salaman enquired whether the stables/tack room under construction near South Cross Lane were within approved plans. It was established that they were.

14/15/133 Road safety – traffic on the C20 Worton-Seend Road

The Chairman reviewed the outcomes from the joint parishes' informal meeting that evening. Cllr Midgley undertook to join the proposed Working Group of parish representatives. The issues require clarification to assist forming a common evidence-based view that would then be placed before other agencies on behalf of all participating parishes. It was also **agreed** that a further agenda item be planned for the next meeting to review the Council's road safety strategy and to consider requesting a further metrocount for the east end of the village. Cllr Rose undertook to prepare an article for The Bridge magazine to include commentary on the recent metrocount and seeking views on the C20 road.

The next meeting would also consider the creation of an email contact database for residents, in compliance with Data Protection legislation.

14/15/134 Finance – Draft budget 2015/16

The Responsible Financial Officer presented a draft budget for 2015/16 with predicted Council Tax precept implications. The draft was **noted**.

14/15/135 Rights of Way and conservation

The Chairman reported that the Gardening Club had been encouraged to make an application to Aster Communities for funding to support the planting of additional trees on the Sandlease grass keep bankside. Cllr Johnson suggested that some planting of flowers in raised beds at the village entrances could be arranged, acknowledging that hazardous roadside conditions for ongoing

PB

AM

MR

PB

maintenance would need to be considered. Arrangements remain in hand for the Walking Group's footpath maintenance walk on 16 November.

14/15/136 Ditches and Watercourses

The Clerk reported receipt of guidance from Wiltshire Council, with their request that local knowledge be used to identify those landowners with ditches and watercourses that may be blocked and require clearance. Cllr Midgley undertook to make some inspections along the Semington Brook to assess the current situation. Cllr Gamble undertook to contact Cllr Jacobs, Chair of the Flood Operations Working Group-North, to express the concerns of the Parish Council over its capacity to assist and to suggest a more strategic approach for the management of the whole watercourse beyond the parish boundary.

14/15/137 Wiltshire Councillor's report

Cllr Gamble noted that the next Area Board is on 24 November, including a 'Health Fair' theme. The Devizes Coate Road planned housing development had been refused by the Secretary of State, and the implications of this for Neighbourhood Planning and local communities were still being assessed. The Core Strategy examination is nearly complete.

14/15/138 Flooding assistance scheme

In the absence of Cllr Simpson this item was deferred to the next meeting.

14/15/139 Planning matters

The following decisions were notified:

13/04949/VAR Gertasha, Seend Road – use of annexe as residential accommodation;
14/08030/OHL Pole 42 near Marston – overhead power-lines;
Approved with conditions.

14/15/140 Disbursements

The following disbursements were authorised:

Chq No	£
683 Worton & Marston village Hall (room hire)	21.00
684 Excel Floors (VH porch floor)	900.00
685 R Wilshire (tree felling consumables)	15.00

14/15/141 Correspondence received

The Clerk reported receipt of a donation request from the Good Neighbour Scheme at Community First. It was proposed by Cllr Francis, seconded by Cllr Midgley and **agreed** by all that a donation of £25 be made.

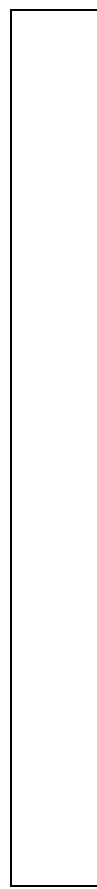
14/15/142 Date of next meeting

The next meeting was set for Monday 8 December 2014 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

14/15/143 Items of Maintenance

Cllr Johnson **noted** that the recently delivered householders' letters requesting maintenance of hedges and overgrowing vegetation seemed to have been successful.

14/15/144 Key Messages



It was **agreed** that dog fouling, road safety on the C20, a narrative on the metrocount data, completion of the road works, and thanks to those that had cut back hedges be mentioned in an article to be prepared by Cllr Rose.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed Chairman, 8 December 2014