

WIMBOTSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27th April 2021 at 7.00pm, held remotely via Zoom.

In Attendance: Councillors: Ian Cable (Chair), Simon Bates, Dean Chilvers, Steve Mingay and Anne Smith
1 member of the public Clerk – Pippa Winson

- 1/21 To consider apologies for absence.**
Apologies received from J Squires and D Fendley.
- 2/21 To Consider Requests for Dispensations from the restriction on participating in the discussion or voting on a matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.**
No dispensation requests.
- 3/21 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 9th March 2021.**
Having been circulated prior to the meeting the minutes were agreed, and are to be signed, as a true and accurate record by all present at the meeting.
- 4/21 To record Councillors' declarations of interest on Agenda Items.**
A Smith declared an interest in Item 11/21.
- 5/21 Councillor Vacancies**
No applications to consider.
- 6/21 Public Speaking.**
a) No Borough or County Councillor present.
b) No members of public present.
- 7/21 Matters arising for items not covered elsewhere on the agenda – info only.**
None.
- 8/21 New Village Hall Working Group**
Update from Anne Smith: There was a meeting last night. An update was already planned for the newsletter and it has been agreed that an additional announcement will be given to advise that a presentation will be given to the village on either 14th or 21st July, where Swann Edwards will present their findings.
- 9/21 Correspondence**
A parishioner from Naphans Lane has made contact regarding the new LED lights advising that they no longer need a light on at night. Clerk has spoken to D Fendley and he feels that this light on Millers Lane is better now from a security point of view. Agreed that this will be monitored to see if any further issues raised by parishioners.
Various via email
- 10/21 Highways**
Update and Issues to be reported
Clerk to ask whether Rangers have visited and if so, what works have been completed? Regarding the Trod at the bottom of West Way, The Hare Estate has now tidied up the muddy mess from the loading of the sugar beet a while ago. They've levelled it out and it's dry at the moment so accessible but after a lot of rain it will most likely flood again so will need to be monitored.
- 11/21 Memorial**
The Village History Group want to erect a Memorial in respect of the 1943 Lancaster Bomber crash. C Seymour spoke on behalf of the group. All agreed to support the proposal. PC questioned if Millers Lane was best location for sustainability and how it would be maintained in the future? Suggestion that Village Green could be more appropriate? C Seymour needs to identify land ownership to get consent for the siting of the Memorial. A village history walk is also proposed and it was suggested that J Squires could be involved in this.
- 12/21 Wildflower Planting**
At last month's meeting it was agreed that two areas be planted, one on each side of the entrance to Turners Close of 2 x 6m. The Clerk contacted the BC and they have provided a map showing their preferred location. On proposal from S Mingay and seconded by A Smith, all agreed to a budget of £500 for the works, to include next years maintenance.
- 13/21 Village Event**
S Mingay and S Bates are currently planning on this being some time in September on the Village Green or Recreation Ground and the format is still to be discussed and agreed. At last month's meeting, when this was initially proposed, it was suggested that the event would be for children but it

was commented that this should be an event for all residents. They would like the Parish Council's support and there is likely to be music and light refreshments. They will provide further information, to include the amount of any financial support required, to the next meeting. It was suggested that they contact other committees and groups in the village for their support. The Friends of Wimbotsham School will be approached. I Cable suggested contacting the Molly Dancers. All agreed to support the principle of the event.

14/21 Fenland Classic Bike Show

S Mingay spoke on behalf of the group organisers. It is normally held on August Bank Holiday Monday and over £135,00 from the funds raised has been ploughed back into local funds. Insurance can be obtained for the event and they are morally and legally satisfied that the event can take place, so would like the event to go ahead. In the absence of an event, they did still make some small donations last year. Councillors expressed some concerns regarding the size and the fact that it cannot be contained or numbers limited, although the main area would be the Recreation Ground and School. It was felt that villagers may not want so many people in the village and that it may be too early for such an event. It was commented that it would be irresponsible for the village for the PC to support this. On proposal from S Bates and seconded by A Smith, it was agreed that the Parish Council do not support this event at this time. It was clarified that this request could be given further consideration by the PC nearer the time of the event.

15/21 Representatives Reports – to receive any updates.

- a) **Recreation Ground** – Nothing to report. Volunteers needed to fill the potholes with hardcore. I Cable, S Bates, D Chilvers and A Smith offered to help with this.
- b) **Village Hall** – It is selectively operational for those groups that can use it.
- c) **Village Green** – Tree works quotes pending. Christmas Tree still up with the lights on. S Bates said that he would liaise with P Goodrum and Windy Miller to get it removed.
- d) **Footpaths** – PROW needs to be strimmed, but the rest look good. Trod at West Way has been cleared. PROW obstruction on footpath between Millers Lane and Tinkers Lane needs to be monitored. Kissing gate at the rear of the Church has fallen over, it was suggested that this may be redundant as there is now an inside fence, and highways said that they would remove the gate. It was suggested that this may allow unwanted access, clerk will try and establish ownership.
- e) **100-Acre Trust** – I Cable advised nothing to report. Meeting planned for July.
- f) **Allotments** – Look busy.

16/21 Maintenance

The Speed gates have now been painted. I Cable will email around some dates for the planned Village walk around.

17/21 Newsletter

Planned for the end of May.

18/21 Planning

Nothing to consider.

19/21 Finance

- (a) On proposal from D Chilvers and seconded by A Smith, all agreed to renew the NALC subscription as a cost of £201.23, which includes £35.00 for website hosting.
- (b) Payments were agreed at tonight's meeting.
- (c) Accounts to 31st March 2021 agreed and to be signed.
- (d) Annual Accounts for 2020/21 agreed and to be signed. It was noted that there should be some acknowledgement that the Parish Council pay for the maintenance of the churchyard.

20/21 Councillors concerns and items for next meeting agenda.

Thanks were expressed to Steve Hewitt for making sure that the right flag is always erected on the flagpole on the Village Green. Clerk will send an acknowledgement to him for his diligence. There has been a lot of noise from The Chequers for the past two Sundays and there have been complaints from parishioners. The Community Safety and Neighbourhood Nuisance Team (CSNN) at the Borough Council can investigate these complaints to determine if there is a statutory nuisance. S Mingay advised that the Borough Council had advised that as long as social distancing is being adhered to then live music can be held. The Parish Council are unable to manage this but appreciate the concerns that the music is held every Sunday and that there are concerns that there is a potential lack of social distancing. Clerk will email the CSNN team and the Licensing Department at the BC advising that concerns have been raised by a number of residents and that it is not considered 'neighbourly'. Councillors to be copied into correspondence. Response and concerns will be reviewed at the next

meeting. It was mentioned that there is blue paint on the road but it is thought that this is from the dustcart.

21/21 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 25th May 2021 starting at 7pm.

The Main Hall at the Village Hall is not available so if possible, the meeting will be held remotely.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman:

Date

DRAFT