

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 4TH APRIL 2019 AT 7.15 PM**

PRESENT Cllr T Harvey-Smith (Chair), Cllr D Cross, Cllr Miss S Cross, Cllr G Fewkes, Cllr R Grainger, Cllr J E D Milne, Cllr A Parker, Cllr L Wright, Cllr Mrs M White and Mrs M Meede (Clerk).

Plus: Borough Councillor Mrs S Bragg and 2 members of the public

After members of the public and Councillors had been given the opportunity to raise any issues, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and the Parish Council meeting commenced at 7:50pm.

210. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The apologies of Cllr Miss T Ball were approved. The apologies of Cty Cllr Mrs Timms and Borough Councillors Poole and Bearne were noted. Reasons for absence were given and noted in the attendance book.

211. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (existence and nature) for items on the Agenda

Cllr Milne declared a personal interest in agenda item 220. The Chairman declared a personal interest in agenda items 220, 222 and 224. The Chairman advised that Councillors could declare an interest later in the meeting should this become apparent for any agenda item.

212. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

All Councillors had been given the opportunity to review the minutes prior to the Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th March 2019, having been approved for adoption by those who had been present at the meeting, be signed by the Chairman.

213. PROGRESS REPORT

Concerns were raised again about dog fouling in the recreation ground, particularly on and around the play equipment and football pitches. Incidents should be reported to the RBC Dog Wardens on tel: 0800 0968800 or email: ept@rugby.gov.uk. Some of the dog bins are also being filled by a dog walking/exercise venture within the village and RBC were struggling to empty the bin – it was felt RBC could ask the business to provide their own bin if it becomes a problem for them. It is hoped that the new CCTV cameras will act as a deterrent. A discussion took place again about Coalpit Lane verges and the fact that white lines would be beneficial on both sides of the road, especially as it is well used by pedestrians. The Clerk will contact County Highways and Cty Cllr Mrs Timms about this matter.

214. PLANNING

Councillors were given the details of all planning applications to review prior to the meeting. All planning applications can be viewed at www.planningportal.rugby.gov.uk.

- a) R19/0456 – Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed development/extensions at The White House, Priory Road, Wolston. CV8 3FX

A discussion took place and Councillors concluded that they were not in a position to make comments in relation to this application, as they felt they did not have enough knowledge in order to make an informed decision. Cllr Wright proposed that due to the complex legal nature of this application, determination should be made by the Rugby Borough Council Lawyers. This was seconded by Cllr Fewkes and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council felt they could not make an informed decision in relation to the application and that the decision should be made by the RBC Legal Team.

- b) R19/0509 – Proposal for retention of garden shed at 29 Arderne De Gray Road, Wolston. CV8 3LQ.

Councillors discussed the application. A number of Councillors raised concerns about a precedent being set if this application was to be granted and felt that as residents were aware of the restrictions prior to purchasing a house on this estate, the conditions should be adhered to. Other Councillors felt that the proposed shed would not impact on other residents, and therefore felt the application should be supported.

Cllr Wright proposed objecting to the application due to concerns about the precedent being set and it was felt that that conditions should be observed.

Cllr Milne proposed an amendment, stating that the Parish Council should support the application subject to neighbour consultation. Cllr Milne's proposal was seconded by Cllr Parker, and Cllr Miss Cross also supported this proposal.

Cllr Cross seconded Cllr Wright's initial proposal which was supported by Cllr Mrs White, Cllr Fewkes and the Chairman. Cllr Grainger abstained from the vote.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council do not support this application due to concerns about a precedent being set and the fact residents should be aware of the restrictions, and so the conditions should be adhered to.

215. CORRESPONDENCE

The Enforcement Officer from RBC is looking into the matter of what appears to be mobile homes being installed on land up Stretton Lane.

Councillors concerns about the state of the A45 roundabout as you leave the village towards Ryton have been raised with Mr J Wright MP, and the Clerk has been liaising with his Chief of Staff.

A query was raised about when the tree works will take place on the land near the electric substation on the grass area off Meadow Road. It was also noted that the dead Elm at the top of the recreation ground is now impacting on trees on neighbouring land, and the Clerk will raise both of these issues with Eagles Arboriculture.

216. FINANCE

Councillors reviewed and discussed the accounts for payment and considered payments received.

a) To approve accounts for payment in March 2019

Payments made in March 2019				
Date Issued	To whom payable	For what purpose	Cheque	Gross
01/03/2019	Mrs A J Gregory	NDP Website	105542	£145.50
01/03/2019	Godfrey-Payton	Allotment Land Rent	105543	£1,590.00
01/03/2019	Mr P Owen	Fuel and Mileage	105544	£17.06
04/03/2019	Mr M Cooper (Village Handyman)	Play Equipment Repairs	105545	£20.00
04/03/2019	Mr P Bird	Annual Equipment/Tool Maintenance/Repairs	105546	£348.53
18/03/2019	Vita Direct	Bin Bags/Cleaning Equipment	105547	£147.54
18/03/2019	Mr R Grainger	Mileage (Meeting at WCC)	105548	£12.78
18/03/2019	Mrs M Meede	Open Spaces Society Membership Renewal	105549	£45.00
18/03/2019	E-ON	Streetlight Maintenance	105550	£727.18
18/03/2019	Brandon & Bretford Village Hall	Room Hire -NDP	105551	£200.00
25/03/2019	Mr P Owen	Petrol and Diesel	105552	£61.32
25/03/2019	Eagles Arboriculture	Tree Works	105553	£462.00
25/03/2019	Creative Sign and Design	NDP Work	105554	£298.80
25/03/2019	D Stilgoe	NDP Leaflet Delivery	105555	£100.00
25/03/2019	Mrs M Meede	50 Hedge Quicks	105556	£36.00
28/03/2019	Mr R Grainger	3x New Keys (Pavilion)	105557	£16.00
28/03/2019	Staples UK Ltd	Stationery	105558	£118.27
28/03/2019	Arco Ltd	PPE and Equipment	105559	£87.64
28/03/2019	Arco Ltd	Powerclean 25Lt	105560	£44.11
28/03/2019	Parish Council Employees (x5)	Staff Salaries	105561-5	£25,539.38
28/03/2019	HM Revenue & Customs only	PAYE	105566	£392.46
28/03/2019	WCC Pensions	Staff Pension Scheme	105567	£371.20
28/03/2019	Stratford-On-Avon District Council	NDP Surveys/Work	105568	£552.00
28/03/2019	St Margaret's Wolston PCC	Avon Grapevine Subscription (x3)	105569	£15.00
28/03/2019	Staples UK Ltd	Stationery	105570	£232.51
29/03/2019	Mr P Owen	Shelving Units - Pavilion	105571	£122.45
29/03/2019	E-ON	Electric Supply - Pavilion	105572	£33.51
29/03/2019	E-ON	2x New Streetlights (Meadow Road Parking)	105573	£3,369.60
29/03/2019	Southam Agricultural Services	Edger Combi Tool, Oil, Strimmer Line	105574	£164.99
29/03/2019	Rugby Pest Control	Mole Control	105575	£48.00
29/03/2019	CJ Hobday	Flail Hedge Cutting	105576	£90.00
29/03/2019	Mrs A J Gregory	NDP Website	105577	£579.00
				£35,987.83

RESOLVED: The accounts, as listed above, be approved.

b) To consider payments received in March 2019. – The payments received below were noted.

Payments received in March 2019				
Date Rec	From whom	For what purpose ?	Reference	Amount
01/03/2019	HSBC	Business Account Interest		£23.40
12/03/2019	Allotment Association	Allotment Land Rent		£1,590.00
18/03/2018	HMRC	VAT Reclaim		£3,868.00
				£5,481.40

RESOLVED: The payments listed above were noted.

217. CCTV

The Parish Council was unfortunately unsuccessful with their grant request to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Fund for new CCTV cameras, and so further quotes will now be sought. A discussion took place about possible companies to approach and RBC and how to move forward. Cllr Grainger and the Clerk will work together on this matter.

218. TREE CHARTER

Councillors had been given the opportunity to read through the relevant information in relation to the Tree Charter prior to the Parish Council meeting. Councillors discussed the Tree Charter and fully support the objectives, but queries were raised about the involvement of the NUS (National Union of Students). Cllr Milne proposed deferring this agenda item in order to establish the exact role the NUS play, as there was some confusion about what their involvement could be. The Clerk will contact NALC to request that they advise what position/input the NUS have. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cross and all Councillors were in agreement.

RESOLVED: For NALC to be asked what role the NUS have and what input/authority they have.

219. SPRING CLEAN

The Clerk confirmed that the Village Spring Clean will take place on Saturday 4th May, meeting at 10am at the Baptist Church. If anyone feels unable to assist with the actual litter pick, help is welcomed in the Baptist Church providing refreshments to volunteers. Cllr Wright offered to pick up the rubbish bags from around the village and transport them to the Pavilion Compound. The Chairman proposed that the Clerk be authorised to purchase refreshments for the event, which was seconded by Cllr Milne and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: For the Clerk to purchase refreshments for the event.

220. ALLOTMENT LAND

Cllr Milne provided an update. Cllr Milne, the Chairman and Cllr Grainger attended a meeting with the Parish Council Solicitor, who has agreed to represent the Parish Council on legal matters. He strongly recommended and advised that the Parish Council also instruct an independent Planning Consultant/Expert who can examine the proposals put forward by Godfrey-Payton and advise the Parish Council accordingly. A number of Planning Consultants have been contacted and quotes received – and this was discussed. A discussion also took place about what was required from a Planning Consultant, and the importance of being prepared prior to instructing a Consultant – so they have all relevant information prior to commencing work. Concerns were raised about not rushing into getting professional advice or moving too fast at this stage, but all Councillors agreed it was important to have someone with the relevant knowledge and expertise to represent the Parish Council at future meetings. Following the strong recommendation from the Parish Council Solicitor to retain a competent Planning Consultant to advise the Parish Council, and assist with engagement with Godfrey-Payton, Cllr Grainger proposed that the Parish Council follow this advice. This was seconded by Cllr Parker and agreed unanimously – subject to the Planning Consultant being fully briefed so they can best advise the Parish Council on how to proceed. Quotes were discussed again and Cllr Parker proposed following the advise of a local expert (who cannot assist due to conflict of interest) on who to instruct, and it was agreed that if the costs were under £100 per hour then the Clerk can be authorised to award the contract – in conjunction with the Chairman, Cllr Milne and Cllr Grainger. This was seconded by Cllr Fewkes and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: For a Planning Consultant to be appointed to advise the Parish Council. For the Clerk to award the contract in conjunction with the Chairman, Cllr Milne and Cllr Grainger.

Councillors then discussed the fact WCC are supposed to receive the results of gas monitoring twice yearly on the site to the south of the allotments off Stretton Road, and it was felt that the readings from this monitoring may have an impact on the safety of any proposed development. The Clerk agreed to contact WCC (Planning ecology/minerals) to ask them about the monitoring and the last recordings they have received from the landowner.

221. RBC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW

Councillors discussed some suggestions that could be made to RBC for their next Scrutiny Review, including:

- Public Space Protection Orders – Councillors felt that rural areas/villages are disadvantaged and don't have as great protection/coverage as the more urban areas or Town.
- Fly Tipping, Waste removal/collection and Rugby Waste Centre – It is noticeable that fly tipping is increasing across the Borough. Residents comment that it is getting more difficult to get large waste collected in a timely manner, and there are increasing restrictions on residents and businesses being able to take rubbish to the Hunters Lane Waste Centre.
- Air Quality Monitoring – Councillors feel that that more robust air quality monitoring should take place within the Borough, and that locations should be changed to identify if there are more areas of concern (for example in Wolston the air quality monitoring equipment is by the School which is away from any roads, but areas on bus routes and where residents walk/children play are not necessarily monitored).
- Self-Build Plots – A query was raised about delays in the policy around self-build plots for local people.

RESOLVED: For the Clerk to respond to RBC with the suggestions from Councillors for the Review.

222. GARAGE SITES – MANOR ESTATE

Councillors discussed the garage sites, and the fact that the self-build policy within the RBC Local Plan may be of interest to some residents. It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr Grainger will meet with representatives from RBC in the near future to discuss the sites and how to progress.

RESOLVED: For the Chairman and Cllr Grainger to report back after their meeting with RBC.

223. PARISH COUNCILLOR BADGE

A sample design and costs had been shared with Councillors prior to the Parish Council meeting. Councillors were happy with the design and made a decision about the fastening. After a discussion, Cllr Wright proposed that the Parish Council should pay for the badges which should be returned by Councillors at the end of their term as a Councillor, unless the Councillor opts to purchase the badge from the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Parker and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: For 30 badges to be purchased. For Councillors to have the option to purchase their badge should they wish at the end of their term – or return it to the Parish Council.

224. WOLSTON BRANDON AND BRETTFORD JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE (WBBJBC)

Councillors discussed the Terms of Reference which had been approved at the last WBBJBC meeting. Cllr Wright queried if the Assets of WBBJBC should be published with the Treasurers report, and the Chairman agreed that this would be a good idea, and he will raise it with the WBBJBC Clerk. Cllr Grainger then proposed endorsing the Terms of Reference, which was seconded by Cllr Wright and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: For the WBBJBC Terms of Reference to be endorsed.

225. DELEGATES REPORTS

- Wolston Events: Cllr Miss Cross advised that the Ball at WLCC will take place on 7th June, and local businesses have been asked to sponsor different aspects of the event. There will be a 1940's band and DJ at the event.
- Historic Landfill Sites: Cllr Grainger and Cllr Wright had attended a meeting at WCC to look through information relevant to Historic Landfill Sites within Wolston. Cllr Grainger agreed to put together a written summary for Councillors.
- Quarry: Cllr Parker provided an update on the last Quarry Liaison meeting he had attended, including details about a number of fields which have been restored completely and returned to agriculture. Warwickshire Wildlife have also taken over responsibility for certain areas. The road by the Quarry was also discussed, and there had been complaints about its poor state and the fact the road cleaning does not appear to be very effective. This has been referred to County Highways for them to assess the condition, but it was thought that compared to other roads which are near to quarries it is not too bad. The minutes from the meeting will be made available on the village website.
- Recreation Ground/Pavilion – Cllr Wright felt that an outside tap at the Pavilion would be beneficial and also felt that the car park surface is in a poor state. It was also agreed that the Christmas trees under the hedges on the recreation ground will be cleared away – they had apparently been put there to stop footballs going through the hedges. Complaints about dogs fouling and urinating over the new equipment was highlighted again.

226. INFORMATION FOR INCLUSION IN AVON GRAPEVINE AND THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

- Dog Fouling
- Reminder about using www.fixmystreet.com
- Police drop-in sessions
- Tree Charter information
- Quarry minutes
- Village Spring Clean

Cllr Grainger appreciates Councillors providing him with information and articles for the website as soon as they are available – rather than waiting for the Parish Council meetings.

227. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- CCTV
- Tree Charter
- Allotments
- Parish Office Windows

228. DATE OF NEXT MEETING/S

The Chairman confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will take place on 2nd May 2019 at the Baptist Church. If an interim meeting is required, an agenda will be issued to Councillors, displayed in the noticeboards, on the website and be sent to Wolston Library three clear days before the meeting is held.

As there were no further items on the Agenda the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:55 pm

Signed:..... Chairman

Date:

Signed.....

**Notes on the Public Forum and Parish Matters held during the
Parish Council Meeting on 7th April 2019**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited representations from all who were present.

Mr Tim Willis provided an update on the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The Call for Sites has now closed and the sites are being assessed. 34 business questionnaires had also been received and the relevant Working Group were looking at these. The last NDP meeting was attended by representatives from the Strategic Planning Department at RBC who had fielded questions and provided information and guidance on moving forward. It was felt that RBC had been supportive and their attendance had been beneficial – it was also positive that they had been complimentary of the NDP Working Group and the work they have done so far. It is anticipated that the first draft of the plan will be around September, and the document should take Wolston through to 2031 – although Councillors were reminded that it is a fluid document which will need reviewing every two years, and possibly ‘tweaking’ to ensure it is kept up-to-date and relevant. Some questions were raised and it was confirmed that the Tree Charter will be discussed at their next meeting, and the fact that Ridge and Furrow fields/land have been identified, and they will be looking to safeguard agricultural land.

A resident raised a query about the Flood Alleviation Scheme and the flood risk in the Church Field. The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to the riparian owners and that the Environment Agency should be coming to spray the brook again – and assess the condition of the brook and river.

Borough Cllr Mrs Bragg advised that the rubbish-blocked culvert and poor condition of Coalpit Lane had been reported, and the ditches and culverts are due to be cleansed and cleared. Fly tipping continues to be a problem which RBC are aware of and monitoring – reports should be made via RBC and/or www.fixmystreet.com

The Clerk will contact Severn Trent again about the new pumping station and to enquire about the costs of their cleansing programme. There have been no issues since the cleansing programme has been in place, but Severn Trent have confirmed on numerous occasions that it would be more cost effective for them to upgrade/replace the pumping station rather than continue with the cleanse programme.

A discussion took place about pavements, and Cllr Mrs Bragg agreed to report the problems along Main Street and School Street again to Cllr Mrs Timms, and Cllr Grainger agreed to look at the path outside the Chip Shop with the Lengthsman. The Clerk will contact WCC direct.

Air Quality Monitoring was discussed, and it is thought that the equipment is at the School. The Clerk agreed to contact RBC to see if air quality around the village could be monitored rather than just in one spot – especially at bus stops by the roads, where residents have to stand and wait by the roadside.

Cllr Milne felt that the new style of Police E-Newsletter is much improved, and wished to pass on this thanks and congratulations.

Cllr Fewkes highlighted that the new grass cutting contractors were doing a good job – and all Councillors agreed. It was confirmed that no complaints had been directly received so far, but the Lengthsman and Clerk had received lots of positive comments.

Smoking outside the Half Moon Public House was again discussed, including the cigarette ends which are often left on the ground. Cllr Mrs Bragg agreed that the Borough Councillors will make contact with the Landlord to discuss the problem and agree the best way forward.

It was noted that some of the hedges as you leave the village by Warwick Road are obscuring the road signs. The Chairman agreed that the Lengthsman could take a look and if necessary a letter will be sent to the residents.

A complaint had been received about a certain large vehicle parking in Brook Street opposite the Garage. It was confirmed that as the vehicle is parked legally there is nothing that can be done, but the Clerk will raise the issue of parking with WCC again.

As there were no further questions, the Chairman closed the public forum part of the meeting and all Councillors agreed to start the Parish Council meeting at 7:50pm.

Note: Borough Councillor Mrs Bragg gave her apologies and left the meeting at this point.