

**WILLOUGHBY WATERLEYS PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021  
AT 7.30pm via ZOOM**

Present: Councillor David Campbell-Kelly (DCK) in the Chair, together with Councillor Emma Clanfield, Councillor Philip Day (PD), Councillor Philip Leech (PL) and Councillor Arthur Lyons, also in attendance Mrs J Jackson (JJ - Clerk), Neil Bannister - District Councillor (NB), and 2 members of public.

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- 2020.076 Apologies for Absence:**
- Blake Pain (County Councillor)
- 2020.077 Declarations of Interest:**
- It was noted that DCK, AL, EC and PD were all members of the WWRA
- 2020.078 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021**  
The minutes, having been circulated prior to the meeting were verbally approved as an accurate record
- **Proposed AL; seconded PD** that these be signed virtually and the hard copy signed at the earliest opportunity.
- 2020.079 Matters Arising:**
- i) Helicopter
- NB was thanked for his investigations. It was noted it was still flying over the village but not as often during the past 2 months.
- ii) Notice Board
- The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to Platform Housing confirming that should the board ever need to be moved from the agreed site, it would be at the expense of the Parish Council.
  - PD reported that the price could be reduced by using a stencil rather than engraving for the lettering and cost would be £1,334 plus VAT (£266). There was a 4 - 6 week turnround from order date and it was hoped that this would be available for collection by end April.  
**AL proposed** that the board be ordered. **PL seconded**
- iii) Tree Survey
- DCK reported that LRALC had been approached re responsibilities of the Parish Council and offered free legal advice regarding possible damage to nearby property. The advice was that if it was a Closed Churchyard the Parish Council has the responsibility for grounds maintenance and would need to instruct the survey and then make a decision as to action required.
  - DCK to instruct Sam Metcalf to carry out the survey previously approved which would make recommendations for consideration.
- iv) Church Gates
- PD reported that the gates would be welded/repainted as soon as the weather improved
- v) Payroll Administration
- The Clerk updated Councillors re her findings and advised that the most cost effective way forward was to administer the payroll in house
  - **DCK proposed; EC seconded** that the Clerk administer the payroll on behalf of the Parish Council wef 6 April 2021

PD

DCK

JJ

- vi) Grass Mowing Contract
  - The Clerk confirmed that the charge of £80 per mowing would remain throughout the 3 year contract
- vii) Planning Complaint – Lodge Farm
  - The complaint received at the last meeting has been filed with Harborough DC and DCK reported that a further complaint had been received regarding a possible unapproved commercial activity
  - PD reported that planning permission granted some years ago for conversion of attic space has now been started by contractors. PD believes HDC has issued an enforcement notice to stop all current work on further out buildings pending an up to date planning application.
  - It was agreed that a further notification be sent to HDC regarding the second complaint
- viii) Grass Flailing
  - DCK has spoken to Stuart Fletcher re the mowing of the cemetery path and round trees at each end of the village and it was estimated that it would take 4 -5 hours at £30 per hour (£150).
  - EC said that it had been agreed wild flowers should be sown and the mowing should be carried out at the correct time.
  - PD confirmed that the flowers should have seeded by the autumn and any mowing would need to be done after that. PD would talk to Mark Frankham re the flowers being planted/mowing times. Subject to this approval was given to formalising the arrangement with Stuart Fletcher
  - AL had hand trimmed around the trees to tidy them but mentioned there was a tree in the verge opposite Longways that was rotten and was in danger of toppling into the road.
  - The Clerk to speak to Highways regarding their recent inspection and to ask if this tree had been noted for action.
  - AL also informed Councillors that trees to the north of the village that spell Willoughby have lost the “G” tree. AL said that when the situation allowed he and PD would be replacing it. PD to look in village records to see the type of the original tree. Approval had already been given for its replacement.

JJ

PD

JJ

PD/AL

**2020.080 District Councillors Report (report circulated prior to meeting)**

Neil Bannister (NB) gave his report particularly noting:

- Covid vaccinations were going well and with Schools re-opening on 8<sup>th</sup> March everyone should still be extremely careful and obey restrictions.
- HDC have agreed the 21/22 budget
- Fly-tipping was a major problem for the District. DCK stated that the team at HDC were very responsive to phone calls.
- Garden Waste charges were increased to £55 and currently the take up was higher than the previous year.
- Police and Crime Commissioner elections and County Council elections would take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021.
- HDC cabinet would meet on 8<sup>th</sup> March to discuss Reg 18 Consultation on the Local Plan for Blaby and NB had registered to speak on behalf of Willoughby Waterleys Resident Association.

**2020.081 County Councillors Report**

Blake Pain (BP) had sent apologies but reported as follows:

- BP re-iterated that he would support the village in their endeavours to improve the bend on the Ashby/Cosby Road.

- DCK had attended Ashby Magna Parish Council meeting and they were totally supportive of improvements being requested.
- Works had commenced to reinstate the brook railings and installation of verge markers. DCK said that better road markings were still needed
- BP had also confirmed that he had asked LCC to respond to DCK as to what LCC's response would be to Blaby's DC Local Plan consultation but nothing had yet been received

**2020.082 Whetstone Pastures:**

**82.1 Zoom Meeting with Tritax:**

- Parish Councillors had met with Tritax on 18<sup>th</sup> January
- The Council's consultation response had been submitted and would be put onto the website.

JJ

**82.2 Blaby Local Plan Consultation:**

- DCK outlined some thoughts of the response which he would circulate to Councillors for consideration before for submission. Such response would support WWRA's comments that any proposal to allocate Strategic Sites, including Whetstone Pastures would be premature. Blaby requires for its own needs circa 6800 homes between 2019 and 2038. As at March 2020, 6200 had been identified so why a further 6,000 at Whetstone Pastures, 5,000 at Stoney Stanton?
- PL was concerned that Blaby DC are trying to move the plan forward sooner than is required. Is it meeting a need which was a benefit to the District?
- **PD proposed, AL seconded** that DCK prepare a response ready for submission by 16.45pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March and circulate for approval.

DCK

**2020.083 Parishioners Time**

- No comments raised

**2020.084 Planning Applications:**

The Clerk confirmed the following applications had been received:-

- (i) 21/00307/TPO - Orchid House, Main Street – Works to Trees T1
- (ii) 21/00263/TCA - Orchid House, Main Street – Works to Trees (Fell) T2-T5
- (iii) 21/00282/TCA - Old Hall Cottage, Ashby Lane – Works to Trees
- (iv) 21/00298/TCA - 2 Church Farm Lane – To prune Cedar T1 in front garden and away from next door's drive for access.
- (v) 21/00252/FUL – Longways House, 61 Main Street - Installation of 5 bar timber gate and infill panel

Councillors confirmed they had no objections to the above applications  
A further notification had been received after issuing the agenda as below:

21/00350/CLU – Meadowlands Farm Bungalow – Use of dwelling house without occupancy restrictions.

Councillors were asked to confirm their comments by the 20<sup>th</sup> March

ALL

**2020.085 Financial and Legal Matters:**

**2020.085.1 Finance Report to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021**

- Financial reports to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved as correct.
- **PD proposed adoption; AL seconded**

**2020.085.2 Payments for Authorisation:**

HDC	Dog Bins	80.06
Clerks Salary	December & January	444.96

**Resolved** that all payments be authorised.

**Proposed PL; seconded PD**

**2020.086 Correspondence:**

- LRALC correspondence had been circulated and it was particularly noted that authorisation for Zoom meetings would end in May and unless legislation was changed the next meeting would be held in the Village Hall
- PD was asked to make a provisional booking for the hall for 13<sup>th</sup> May.
- NB stated that he felt sure the Government would bring in new restrictions in time allowing continuation of Zoom meetings.
- LCC Press Releases were received notifying of temporary road closures for works on Cosby Lane/Ashby Lane on the 4/5 March and Cosby Lane for 5 days commencing 15<sup>th</sup> March.

PD

**2020.087 Any Other Business**

**2020.087.1 Zoom Subscription**

- DCK confirmed he had taken out a subscription and confirmed he was happy to use this for Parish Council meetings

**2020.088 Late Items for Next meeting:**

- There were no items raised

**2020.089 Date of Next Meeting:**

- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – This would also be the Annual Meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.24 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_