

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER, 2014
7.30 pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.**

Present : Cllrs Coates, Eassom, Eldridge, Mrs Ellwood, Moore, Knott, Smith (Chairman), C/Cllr Mrs Compton and D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher, and the Clerk.

1. **Apologies** were accepted from Cllr Tunkle. There were no declarations of Interest to be registered.
2. **No public present.**
3. The previously circulated minutes of the meeting held on the 14th October were approved.

Matters Arising (Item 8) response sent to WDC

"Having considered this proposal, Leek Wootton and Guy's Cliffe Parish Council fully supports the adoption of this Code of Conduct. We would add that the code should extend to Councillors' participation on external boards and committees where they represent the interests of the District Council. Through such participation, they should aim to ensure that the same ethical standards are applied to any external bodies in which the Council has an interest."

No action taken in respect of sign maintenance – Highways will be contacted.

Item 8 (a) - C/Cllr Mrs Compton reported that some further changes to the boundaries had been proposed by the Boundaries Commission which were rejected by WCC and now awaiting a response

Cllr Mrs Ellwood - comments regarding a driveway encroaching onto the verge were not included, will be discussed further under item 7.

4. **PLANNING** -status report previously circulated.

W14/1276 – Wootton Grange Farm, refused – reason – inappropriate development in the green belt.

W14/1352 – School House, Warwick Road, now granted.

New application W14/1523 – Gaveston Lodge, Warwick Road - No objection. Decision pending.

The Chairman gave a short update on progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. As previously reported, designation has been delayed by the proposed changes to the Parish boundaries. A process which has become very complicated by the different approaches of WDC and WCC, as well as the Government Boundaries Commission and will not be resolved before April 2015. In order to facilitate early designation, it has been proposed that the Neighbourhood Plan should focus upon a slightly reduced area (within the new, proposed boundaries) and the Chairman reported that this was recommended for approval at the next WDC Meeting. Official designation will enable the Steering Committee to proceed with applications for grant aid and the preparation of a draft Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed that, when sufficient progress has been made, the approach should be communicated to parishioners by way of a public meeting probably in April 2015.

It was resolved to respond to the WDC consultation regarding the proposed Gypsies and Travellers site, as well as revisions to the SHLAA on the southern border of Kenilworth (within the proposed new boundary), which will impact on the Local Plan. Chairman to action.

5. FINANCE status report previously circulated.

Balance in No 1 account = £6462.85. Vat repayment now received.

The loan with the PWLB has now been cleared. Figures received from the PWLB and payment from the Village Hall Committee included the £30 bank charge for the transfers. When the remaining balance of £73.24 is paid to the Village Hall Committee, £25 remains in the No 2 account.

Preliminary discussion took place on the 2015/16 budget, and it was resolved to increase the precept by 2%, and an increase in the Clerk's salary in line with recommendations from WALC will be discussed further.

The Chairman reminded Councillors that 2015 (May) was an election year, with the accompanying expense, and suggested that some thought should be given to who will be standing for the 8 seats. Budgets will be discussed further at the January meeting.

a) Payments were approved for

Fairways October maintenance £270.

Clerk's November sundries £31.08

No 2 a/c final payment to the Village Hall Committee £73.24

6. PLAYGROUND/MEMORIAL GROUND

A decision from WREN regarding the application for a loan for playground renewal, is expected shortly.

After the recent Remembrance Day Service it was agreed that improvements were needed to the area surrounding the Memorial Stone.

a) Safety/Maintenance – it was felt that car parking in the Village Hall car park is becoming a problem, together with the access, and Cllr Eassom suggested that a meeting be arranged, as in the past, with the Trustees and other local representatives to discuss this, and other improvements.

Clerk will action with the date of 9th December at the Sports Club most suitable.

7. HIGHWAYS/TRANSPORT/VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

Details of WCC's winter gritting service received. Grit bins have been replenished.

Pot holes on the A46 have now been repaired.

No results about the weight limit restrictions being monitored by Community Police.

Advised that empty sandbags are available for collection, the school will be contacted.

Village maintenance – Tink a tank maintenance now completed by HQ property services. The five bar gate into the woodland from Woodcote Lane now needs repairing. Chairman to action.

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Ellwood would investigate the correct boundaries of driveways/verges in Hill Wootton Road

8. MEETINGS/REPORTS/

a) C/Cllr Mrs Compton reported

Recent fire strikes caused minimum disruption.

The County Council website contains consultations/conversations regarding a number of issues and advises Cllrs to view. Budget cuts beginning to bite with further cuts and redundancies expected in many services.

D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher reported

Parking services – on street parking now administered and enforced by County Council.

WCC has withdrawn funding for “Live and Local” events and urged Cllrs to help reverse this decision, which will affect local rural communities. There is an online petition.

New sculpture unveiled in the Jephson Gardens.

Planning –objectors to a plan are expected to attend the relevant planning meeting.

b) Recent guidelines from WALC indicating which documents are required by law to be published on Parish websites, were discussed, and it was felt that LWPC has fulfilled this criteria. The website is regularly updated and all the necessary regulations published. It was also noted that changes to Quality Status are to be made with a pilot scheme launching in January 15.

It was resolved to suspend standing orders 3l and add the new revisions as advised by NALC.

c) The WALC AGM 4th November, was attended by Cllrs Eassom and Moore.

d) Neighbourhood Watch – It would appear that Ms Craine is making little progress with finding coordinators. It was agreed to invite her to the next meeting to discuss how to help take this forward.

9. There was no other business for discussion only. The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

10. The date of the next meeting is 13th January, 2015. 2015/16 dates circulated.

Signed.....Date.....