



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 8 March 2016, in the Committee Room, Leek Wootton Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors Smith (Chairman), Coates, Eassom, Eldridge, Knott and Moore  
County Councillor Mrs Compton

<b>1. Apologies</b> Received from Cllr Tunkle, District Cllr Gallagher and District Cllr Whiting
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b> None
<b>3. Public Participation</b> No public present
<b>4. Minutes</b> 4.1 The previously circulated draft minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2016 were approved. 4.2 Matters arising: 4.2.1 HM Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Cllrs Coates and Eassom reported on a very encouraging first meeting of the organising committee for this event. Some sponsorship has already been received and the PC agreed to grant £250 towards the event's funds. 4.2.2 Fallen Tree in Quarry Fields Cllr Smith reported receipt of an email enquiring about the fallen tree from WDC. Clerk to follow-up to recoup expenses incurred.
<b>5. Planning</b> 5.1 To note planning decisions made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>W16/0059: 30 The Hamlet - GRANTED</li></ul> 5.2 Planning applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No new applications</li></ul>
<b>6. Neighbourhood Plan</b> 6.1 Report on progress Cllr Smith gave an update on progress with The Neighbourhood Plan and the final draft will be presented to all Councillors and the community on Thursday, 10 March at the community meeting. The draft plan, AECOM reports, other information and response forms will be made available after that meeting on the Parish Council website. Cllr Smith is still seeking a meeting with Nick Corbett, Conservation Officer, WDC, for his feedback. After meeting with Gary Fisher, Planning, WDC on 22 February 2016, the NP Steering Group is confident that the District Council is largely in agreement with its proposals. WDC is anxious to regularise the boundary for historic park and garden at Woodcote. The NP is important to secure improved Community Infrastructure Levy of 35% from future developments (this replaces the previous Section 106 payment).
<b>7. Finance</b> 7.1 Financial Report The Clerk circulated a summary of expenditure since the last meeting for information. Councillors discussed the possibility of offering Ben Tebby a retainer to carry out incidental jobs as and when required throughout the year. C/Cllr Compton referred to the Lengthsman Scheme being considered by Lapworth PC and other PC in the area. It was

decided to await further feedback about the Lengthsman Scheme. No decision on offering a retainer to retain Ben Tebby.

7.2 Payments approved:

- £225.00 to Warwick District Council for Election Costs 2015.
- £286.50 to Fairways Ltd for March maintenance.
- £97.46 Clerk's expenses (FEB/MAR)
- £40.00 Council expenses
- £780.00 and £528.00 to Kirkwells for Neighbourhood Plan
- £30.85 to YouTree Printing for Neighbourhood Plan flyer

**8. The Playground**

8.1 Requirement for replacement litter bin raised. Clerk to investigate, report to Cllrs Smith and Coates and proceed with purchase/installation as soon as possible.

**9. Leek Wootton War Memorial Ground Access & Car Park**

9.1. Progress Report by Cllr Eassom

**Car Park**

No further progress to report.

Removal of trees and shrubs between the car park and access road cannot proceed as it is within the conservation area. WDC Planning to inspect shortly.

**Access**

Indication of costs at "under £15,000" provided. Cllr Eassom to pursue a firm figure before exploring need for financial assistance. C/Cllr Compton confirmed provision of £10,000 towards this project. If necessary Cllr Eassom will explore partial completion of project or additional funding to cover any shortfall.

**10. Community Maintenance Issues, etc**

10.1 Progress Report

Clerk circulated Action and Resolved Reports on issues raised throughout the parish.

A number of issues are WCC Highways responsibility and C/Cllr Compton suggested that a designated Highways Cllr on the Council could liaise regularly with Peter Hallam of WCC Highways about issues.

Clerk to investigate arranging a meeting between Peter Hallam and a Councillor in order to 'walk the bounds' around the village and mutually agree remedial works to hedges, verges etc. as part of our regular monitoring programme.

Where works have been carried out, concern was expressed that it was only minimal and did not fully resolve all issues.

10.2 New Issues:

- Footbridge and footpath closure at Chesford  
Clerk to contact Mr Barnard, Rights of Way, WDC, to establish programme of works for replacement of the bridge and re-opening of the footpath. This issue requires prompt attention as members of the public ignore the closure and continue to use the bridge despite it being taped off to the extent that the tape is no longer present.
- Overgrown vegetation blocking footpath on Chesford side of Cattle Brook

**11. County and District Councillors' reports**

11.1 Warwickshire County Council

C/Cllr Mrs Compton presented a brief report on WCC's budget and finances.

She reported proposed alterations to the Stanks roundabout (A46/Birmingham Road A4177) at the southern boundary of the parish, intended to improve traffic flow. Timetable for works is, as yet, unknown

11.2 Warwick District Council

In absentia D/Cllrs Gallagher and Whiting submitted their Annual Report.

D/Cllr Gallagher sent a written report that the Local Plan has been agreed at full Council and has now gone to the Inspector.

WDC part of the council tax will rise by 2% this is the first rise in 9 years.

This week at Executive it is expected that Travel Tokens will be withdrawn. There will be a 6 week consultation and I urge anyone who feels that they should stay please write to WDC.

The Leisure Options. Was also passed at full council and now WDC Culture is drawing up a prospectus to look for an outside contractor. WDC will still own the centres and we are also keeping the concession prices so we should, after we have spent £12k on the two leisure centres, have some of the best facilities in the country.

*C/Cllr Compton encouraged the Council to respond to the amendments to the Local Plan. Cllr Smith confirmed that it intends to do so.*

**12. Council Administration**

12.1 New Parish Councillor:

Jim Kirkwood has sent his apologies for this meeting. He will be attending NP Steering Group meeting on Thursday (10/03/2016), where he can sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and other papers.

12.3 Correspondence

- Confirmation has been received that the Aviva Women’s Cycle Tour will pass through the parish on 16 June 2016. Details to be shared with community organisations including the school.
- Leek Wootton & District Horticultural Society informed the Council that it has set up a website. A link will be added from the Council website.
- Letter received from Rev Perryman expressing thanks for re-phasing of pedestrian lights near Church Lane.
- Leek Wootton History Group is seeking support to purchase a photograph album from the 1890s/1900s that belonged to Wathen Arthur Waller of Woodcote. The current owner is asking for £500 and the History Group wishes to prevent it from being broken up and lost. The Council offered its support and will consider donating towards a fund. It was also suggested that the Council may consider making a loan to the History Group if necessary.

12.4 Other

- WDC Chairman’s Civic Service on 20 March to be attended by Cllr Moore

**13. Any other business**

For discussion only

Other:

Condolences were sent to the family of Mrs Audrey Gillitt on behalf of the Parish Council by Cllr Smith.

**14. Date of next meeting**

14.1 Tuesday, 12 April 2016 at 7:30pm in the Committee Room, Leek Wootton Village Hall

Signed: ..... Date: .....