



Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 11 April 2017, in the Committee Room, Leek Wootton Village Hall

Present: Councillors Smith (Chairman), Coates, Eassom, Kirkwood, Moore and Tunkle, C/Cllrs Compton and Redford, D/Cllrs Gallagher and Whiting, one member of the public and the Clerk

1.	To accept apologies for absence Cllrs Eldridge and Knott
2.	Declarations of Interest None
3.	Public Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mr P Sylvester (Warwick Road) asked the Council about the bollards in the layby; are they considering removal? He considers them to be dangerous. The Chairman reiterated the Council's position on the subject; that the works were carried out by WCC Traffic and Road Safety Group and the Council's engineer has reassessed the site more than once since the bollards were erected and confirmed that they are in the correct position. The Recreation Ground Trustees, Sports Club and Village Hall Committee are working towards improvements to the car park, which will improve the parking arrangements and define the priorities at the top of the slope for cars entering and exiting the car park, which will, in turn, improve the situation in the layby. Mr Sylvester informed the Council that cars have entered the neighbouring driveway in error, thinking it is the entrance to the village hall. The Chairman explained that the Recreation Ground Trustees, at the request of the Council, will be adding an additional sign to the Village Hall sign in the layby to clearly direct people to the car park ("CAR PARK ↗"). Mr Sylvester also informed the Council that he and his neighbours have experienced cars parking on the pavement outside their properties and walking to the recreation ground. The Warwick Road has a solid double-white line and therefore parking on the roadside is not legal. Illegal parking should be reported to the Police non-emergency number 101. Mr Sylvester left after the public participation. <i>Clerk to inform Safer Neighbourhoods Team about dangerous parking</i>
4.	Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">4.1. The minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday, 14 March 2017 were approved and signed.4.2. There were no matters arising not on agenda.
5.	Progress Reports for information <ul style="list-style-type: none">5.1. Playground (Cllr Coates) Nothing to report. General tidying and raking of bark to be carried out.5.2. Leek Wootton War Memorial Recreation Ground (Cllr Coates / Cllr Eassom) See Item 3. Meetings have taken place with WCC engineers and architects. Plans to be prepared for submission of planning application.5.3. Community Engagement:<ul style="list-style-type: none">5.3.1. Annual Parish Assembly (17 May 2017) Plans for the evening were discussed. The Parish Council is waiting to hear from the Village Hall Booking Clerk whether we can

commence the evening earlier than 8:00pm.

Cllr Eassom to contact the Booking Clerk about timings (Cllr Eassom has since confirmed that the hall is now available from 6:30pm)

Cllrs Coates, Smith and the Clerk to have a further planning meeting (20/04/2017)

5.3.2. Summer Fête (10 June 2017)(Cllr Knott)

In Cllr Knott's absence, Cllrs Coates, Eassom and the Clerk confirmed that planning is progressing well.

There is to be a final planning meeting at 7:30pm on 2 May 2017 at the Sports Club.

5.4. Community Maintenance:

- WCC Highways (Cllr Kirkwood)
 - i. Woodcote Lane ponding – WCC said contractors will repair before end of March, which has not been done. Cllr Kirkwood cannot raise a response from WCC contact.
Cllr Kirkwood to provide information to C/Cllr Compton, who will pursue a response from WCC
 - ii. Potholes – Marking has taken place throughout Hill Wootton Road (both in Leek Wootton and towards Hill Wootton). Repairs should be carried out within 1 month of markings. Some emergency patching has already taken place at the skew bridge (Coventry Road/Hill Wootton Road junction)
 - iii. Roots in drains – Order was issued in January, but contractors have not completed the work yet. WCC will chase up
 - iv. School hedge – WCC Highways does not accept responsibility for maintenance of the hedge
Clerk to write to Head Teacher informing of WCC's opinion

Cllr Coates asked about the small plot of land in Quarry Fields that was auctioned recently. The Chairman informed the Council that after notifying WCC, the Council's Senior Solicitor informed Loveitts (auctioneers) that the whole of the area being offered for auction is still regarded by the County Council as forming part of the public highway and suggested that, as a minimum, potential buyers should be advised of the highway status of the land at the auction. The auction took place on 30 March. It is understood that the auctioneer did not mention the restrictions and the land was bought for £5,300 (plus all sellers costs, etc). He understands that the purchaser (who had not read the legal pack before the auction) visited the site for the first time the next day with a surveyor, apparently planning to build a house, and was, of course informed that it was out of the question. The confirmation from the WCC Senior Solicitor of the land's status is helpful for the Parish Council, for future reference.

- Other (Clerk)

The Clerk has written to The Warwickshire about maintenance of the Wootton Court Arboretum in view of its status as a locally listed Historic Park and Garden with Warwick District Council.

The Clerk has informed The Environment Agency about fallen branches and trees in the River Avon.

There is some concern about the condition of boundary hedges and trees on Warwick Road between Leek Wootton and Broad Lane Leisure.

Clerk to write to landowners

6. **Warwick District Council: Refuse collection / replacement of bins**

The Clerk circulated a report detailing the cost of replacing bins (attached).

There was a discussion about how the bins will be secured (ground or back).

The Clerk to inquire with the retailer whether there is an option to secure the bins at the back or have them drilled

- 6.1. The Parish Council agreed to proceed with the purchase of seven 90Ltr waste bins to replace all of the dog waste bins in Leek Wootton. Once delivered the Parish Councillors will investigate the best method of securing them.
- The Parish Council also agreed to branding the bins with the Parish Council logo with Vinyl stickers.

Clerk to proceed with purchase of bins

The Council thanked the Clerk for the time taken to research and report on this project.

7. **Planning**

- 7.1. To note planning decisions made:

- W/16/2265: 16 The Hamlet – Single storey side/rear extension, two storey rear extension, single storey front extension, new gable to front and other external alterations. (Application amended prior to final decision) GRANTED
- W/17/0262: 2 Sunrise Cottages, Warwick Road - Erection of a front porch; first floor side and single storey rear extensions. GRANTED

- 7.2. A report on the progress of current planning applications:

- NONE

- 7.3. To consider new planning applications:

- W/17/0008: Avenue Lodge, North Woodloes - Retention of existing 16 solar panels (approx 10m x 5m x 1.2m high) in field adjacent to Avenue Lodge granted under planning application W/11/1450 that expired on 31 January 2017 – Cllr Eldridge email 22/03/2017, "This is a renewal request related to solar panels in the grounds of Avenue Lodge which were given permission previously. I can see no reason to object."
- W/17/0483: 3 Waller Close - Single storey side and rear extension – NO OBJECTION
- W/17/0498: 6 Waller Close - Single storey rear extension – NO OBJECTION

The Chairman observed that, subsequent to the Local Plan being adopted and Leek Wootton being removed from the green belt, would the planning officer's recommendations change. The following discussion is covered in item 8.

8. **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Following on from the discussion above, The Chairman asked for opinions about whether the Parish Council should make representation to the Inspector about the Local Plan, with specific reference to the removal of Leek Wootton from the Green Belt. This removal is a consequence of Leek Wootton being identified as a 'growth village' and the inset boundary was decided by the planners. It is the Chairman's opinion that, with the quantity of development assigned to the village on one major site (Woodcote), this satisfies the required development and removal of the green belt protection leaves the village vulnerable to 'garden grabbing' and therefore overdevelopment, with a potential of increasing the village by up to 50%. The available land that removing the green belt within the boundary as proposed would only provide 7%

A discussion followed about whether representation should be made. The Council agreed that representation should be made.

The Chairman to draft and circulate a letter of representation to the Inspector

- 8.1. The Neighbourhood Development Plan is currently being re-drafted by Kirkwells. The GroundworkUK grant expired at the end of March and repayment of leftover monies is included in the Finance payments for approval (item 9.2). A further grant will be applied for at the referendum stage.

- 8.2. Community Meeting (25 April 2017)

Philip Seccombe has confirmed that he will be attending. Representatives of Place Partnership will probably also attend, but will not be speaking, although they will be on hand to answer questions.

Cllr Kirkwood asked whether large reproductions of key elements of the PP Masterplan

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will be useful. It was agreed that this would be useful.

Cllrs Smith and Kirkwood to organise prints from the Masterplan

9. **Finance**

9.1. The Financial Report for April 2017 was noted.

9.2. The following payments were approved:

• Warwickshire CC (Highway Improvements at Leek Wootton Village Hall)	£4,872.99
• C Smith (Chairman's Allowance 2016/17)	£100.00
• H N Eldridge (Clerk's Expenses (Mar/Apr))	£83.03
• C Smith (Easyspace (One Click Installs))	£9.78
• Fairways (Maintenance (Mar))	£295.20
• Diane Malley MAAT (Administration of payroll services)	£81.00
• WALC (Annual subscription)	£324.00
• Kirkwells (Stage 4 Completion)	£3,360.00
• P Eldridge (NDP Flyer printing)	£30.80
• GroundworkUK (Refund of leftover Neighbourhood Plan Grant money)	£32.86

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

10.1. Warwickshire County Council (C/Cllr Compton)

Nothing to report as the County Council is suspended prior to the elections.

WCC had 62 councillors representing 56 electoral divisions. Following a boundary review the new Council will comprise 57 Councillors and the elections will take place on 4 May 2017. After this Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish will fall into a new electoral division, Cubbington & Leek Wootton.

WDC has given permission for the Old Shire Hall to have work done to improve it as an entertainment venue. It's will be managed by a stand alone company, which has already taken over.

The delegated transport budget will continue into the next session of the CC. If there are transport related projects, this fund can be applied to.

We have yet to be informed whether we will fall into Warwick Rural West or East Community Forum after the elections and what form the Community Forums will take is yet to be decided.

10.2. Warwick District Council (D/Cllrs Gallagher and Whiting)

Local Plan

Progress continues as planned, with an approved plan expected to be in place by September.

HQ relocation

WDC councillors have been briefed on the progress on this major project, which will see the Council's current Riverside House site developed for housing, and new offices (along with residential apartments and a replacement multi-storey car park) built on the Covent Garden site in the heart of Leamington Spa. The next major step will be the submission, later this year, of planning applications related to the two sites.

Europa Way

The council is considering the purchase of land from WCC at Europa Way, south of Warwick. This would enable a mixed use development of housing, commercial premises and (as already agreed in an outline planning permission for the site) a new community football stadium. This stadium would enable the relocation of Leamington Football Club from their current Harbury Lane site, which has been identified as a possible gypsy and traveller site. Such a site is a long-standing requirement to satisfy national planning requirements, so progress on this would be very helpful.

Community Infrastructure Levy

A paper is also going to Council which will take the next steps in the creation of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on new developments in the District. In addition to the existing Section 106 funds, the CIL would provide funds for infrastructure in the

locality of new developments.

Leisure Centres

There have been hold ups due to Severn Trent Water being unable to locate water mains.

With regards to the appointment of a company to manage the leisure centres, WDC will make more money from the deal than expected.

D/Cllr Whiting answered questions about the 5 year contract extension and its advantages to WDC. Leisure is not a statutory requirement for the District Council to provide, but the contract will enable WDC to provide the services and make a profit.

11.	Correspondence for information
11.1.	None
12.	Councillors' Reports and items for future agenda Cllr Moore raised the issue of a pothole in the cul-de-sac lane in Hill Wootton. <i>Cllr Kirkwood to inspect and raise with WCC Highways.</i>
13.	Date of next meeting To confirm the date of the next meeting which is the Annual Parish Council Meeting and is scheduled for Tuesday, 9 May 2017 at 7:30pm in the Committee Room, Leek Wootton Village Hall. The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday, 17 May 2017 at 7:00pm, Leek Wootton Village Hall.
14.	To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:
14.1.	Personnel issues – None
14.2.	Legal issues – None

Signed: Colin Smith (Chairman)

Date: 9 May 2017

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