

WICKLEWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Wicklewood Village Hall on Monday 2nd December 2019

Present:	John Seville	(JS) Chair
	Nick Kemp	(NK) Vice Chair
	Alan Goodings	(AG)
	Joel Pailes	(JP)
	Richard Goodings	(RG)
In attendance:	Helen Frayer	(HF) Parish Clerk

228 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received from John Hipperson, Margaret Dewsbury and Richard Elliott. Gemma Minors has resigned as a councillor with immediate effect and the process of co-opting a new councillor will now commence. The vacancy will be advertised on noticeboards at the hall and school and will be put on the local social media sites.

229 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

RG and AG declared an interest in 10.1.

PUBLIC FORUM

230 A resident thanked the council for publicising the Guide to Parish Council Meetings and the forthcoming meeting dates in The Net.

231 A resident asked if the council knew when the footpath by the new development would be cleared. It has been barricaded off for works for some time. JS said it should be clear shortly. The works had been held up because of the weather.

232 A resident said that he saw on the agenda that street lighting was to be discussed. He said that he would be horrified if street lighting were to be brought to the village.

233 A resident said he was sorry to learn that Gemma Minors had resigned as the council needed younger people on it and she had brought new blood and ideas to the council

234 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2019

Resolved: to agree and sign the minutes as correct. Proposed RG seconded JP all agreed

UPDATE FROM CLERK ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

235 HF reported that all actions had been completed. Re the caravans in Low Road, the Planning Enforcement Officer reported that the owners of the site had been served an eviction notice that all caravans and structures had to be removed and they must cease residential use of the site by 23rd November. He would then inspect and if it had not been complied with would commence prosecution for non compliance.

236 CORRESPONDENCE

NCC Mobile Library Dept	Info re poetry competition	Noted
NCC Communities & Environmental Services	Invitation to join the NWL Local Liaison Group	The council agreed that they would not send a representative to this group. JP will attend the more local group
NCC Passenger Transport	Changes to rural bus services	Noted
Power for the People	Request for parish council to campaign for local energy generation	The council agreed they did not wish to support this
Norfolk Police	Warning about fake police scams	Noted

237 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Salaries	Clerk and Booking Clerk	341.91
Expenses - Clerk	Mileage and football nets	78.92
Expenses – Booking Clerk	Door mat, kettle descaler	16.47
HMRC	Month 8	53.00
Dream Team Cleaning	Cleaning	288.00
	TOTAL	£788.30

In addition, a cheque was required to refund the damage deposit for a recent hall hire. **Resolved: That all accounts as presented be paid. Proposed RG, seconded NK, all agreed**

238 MONTHLY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS REPORT

	Current	Deposit	Hampshire Trust Bank	Total
Balance b/f	7,318.39	9,150.67	5,000	21,469.06
Total receipts to	1,251.74	0	0	1,251.74
24/11/19	8,570.13			22,720.80
Total payments to	3,637.95	0	0	3,637.95
24/11/19	4,932.18			19,082.85
Inter Account Transfers	0	0	0	
Closing Balance	4,932.18	9,150.67	5,000	19,082.85

239 HF reported that Barclays have halved their interest rate, currently 0.1%

HIGHWAYS

- 240 Report from Highways officer:** JP reported that the 2 damaged signs, one has been repaired, the other has been reported but not yet fixed. Some potholes have been reported to him and he will notify the council. Councillors told him of others they know of that need reporting. He pointed out that anyone can report pot holes on the council website.
- 241 Issues with Church Lane:** Residents have reported that the situation regarding the verge at 33 Church Lane is worsening. The residents are continuing to move soil from the opposite verge and building up their own side as if they are trying to make the road bend round them. This has resulted in a gully at the edge of the road surface on the opposite side which makes it even more difficult to negotiate. The fire hydrant has also been moved to the opposite side of the road, not known who moved it. Bob West at Highways to be notified re the councils concerns for pedestrian safety in this area.
- 242 Street lighting:** Gemma Minors, prior to resigning had requested this be considered after a resident contacted her asking for some form of lighting in the High Street as she considered it dangerous in the dark. The councillors did not consider that street lighting in the village was desirable. Also, once the footpath has been built, this will remove this issue.
- 243 Village Survey:** JP had carried out the survey in the village. A cross section of residents in the roads most likely to benefit from the proposed footpath were approached. It had not been intended to survey the entire village. 27 surveys had been completed, the results were:
- 244 Bus Shelter:** JS had circulated information about a cantilever bus shelter for consideration. Agreed to consider at a future time.
- 245 Parking at Windmill Cottage:** Following several complaints received about the new residents of Windmill Cottages parking on the footpath which both obstructs the path and made access of opposite and adjoining properties difficult, the clerk had written to the Mills Officer (Amanda Rix) at the council. She had replied that it would be discussed by the Trustees and passed to the agents to raise with the tenant. Councillors reported that it has improved, however one car now tends to park by the hedge with the end sticking out into the road, leaving it at risk of being hit by vehicles leaving Hillside Crescent.
- HF to notify Amanda Rix of this and ask for update from Trustees**

PLANNING

- 246 Application 2019/2049 – Green Farm. As required by Standing Orders, Councillors are required to leave the meeting when an item they have declared an interest in is discussed. AG refused to leave the meeting, therefore both he and RG were present when this application was discussed. No objections were raised to the application.
- 247 2019/2306 – Whitehall Farm, prior approval is not required for this.
- 248 2019/2319 – Land east of Green Lane. No comments
- 249 The new planning decisions were noted

WICKLEWOOD VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS

- 250 **Report from Booking Clerk:** The Guides, Brownies and Rainbows had been affected for the third time in a year for elections and had had to rearrange their Christmas events. Complaints had been received by a user and also Donna about glasses being left lying around and broken glass after use by the Cinema Club. The Booking Clerk will address this with them. Some users have asked to use the sound system owned by the Cinema Club (with their permission), they have now said they don't wish this arrangement to continue. It was noted that it needs to be recorded on the key log that the Cinema Club have a key to the side room. A new Early Childhood and Family Service has been in touch as they are looking for halls for outreach. They would require storage space. Rachael will follow this up. The Wednesday Yoga class has now ended. Rachael asked if the council would like to her to do a follow up contact to hirers to check satisfaction with facilities and ask for any suggestions for improvements. Agreed this would be useful.
- 251 **Hire rates for the hall:** A report had been circulated that showed that our hire rates are still comparable with others in the area. Will review annually. **JP proposed no action required at this time, seconded NK, all agreed**
- 252 **Request for charity collections by hall hirers:** A hirer has asked if they can do a charity collection amongst their guests. This needs authorisation. **JS proposed to agree, NK seconded, all agreed**

Maintenance items in village hall:

- 253 There are two broken hooks in the ladies that need replacing and the kitchen tap is very wobbly. On inspection, the tap seemed ok, will monitor, JS will replace hooks.
- 254 Quotes had been received to re-shelve the bar, re-floor and decorate. Shelving £390 (plus VAT), painting £139 and floor £394 including fitting. Although the bar doesn't get booked very often, it was considered in too poor a condition to leave any longer. To paint the committee room as well would be £132. **JS proposed that the bar be refurbished and the committee room also painted. It can then be promoted as a positive asset to the hall. Seconded NK, all agreed.** Rachael

offered to clear the glasses away, The Buck to be contacted to remove their drink prior to work being carried out

255 Report from playing field inspection: NK reported that all is well. He has installed the football nets. Will need to ensure that the groundsmen are aware so they can be lifted prior to grass cutting. **HF to contact Norse.** The table tennis equipment is being left lying around. The clothes bank had been removed and a new one placed. The paper bank is full, will ring to notify them to empty.

256 Maintenance of the grounds: The grass has been scarified.

BUDGET

257 Version 2 of the budget had been circulated. Needed final decisions on what work needed doing in the hall and whether the precept could be increased sufficiently to enable the footpath to be carried out this coming year (successful application to PPS permitting). Quotes received to repaint the hall: Main hall £376, all toilets £474, Entrance lobby, £75, boiler room £139. Re-carpet the stage, £442. After discussion it was decided that maintaining the hall to a high standard was important as it is a major source of income. It was also agreed that it was important to have the footpath built for better safety in the village. To enable both of these this year, it is required to raise the precept to £11,000. A precept briefing sheet had previously been circulated. Wicklewood stands alone in being the cheapest parish of its size in South Norfolk, even with this increase it will still be the cheapest. The impact of this rise on a Band D property will be an additional £15 per year with other bands pro rata. **JP proposed raising precept to £11,000, NK seconded. AG proposed this rise but on condition that it is reviewed again next year with a view to reduce again if possible. JS seconded this, all agreed**

258 To approve submission of bid to Parish Partnership Scheme for footpath: The draft bid for 50% funding of footpath already circulated was approved for submission. **Proposed JP, seconded NK all agreed**

ENVIRONMENT AND WELLNESS

259 To consider tree planting: A plan had been circulated showing proposed site at the far end of the playing field to plant. Advice had been received to plant oaks surrounded by quicker growing trees. Also plant 4 trees along far end of allotments. NK had spoken to tree warden who will contact Highways for other suitable places to plant. JP said that due to over subscription the offer was now closed but will re-open next year with trees delivered next November. Will look for other sources of free trees. **NK proposed to go ahead with the positions identified when trees became available, RG seconded, all agreed.**

- 260 Commercial Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI):** The council had briefly considered one quote. A representative will be invited to meet the council to answer their questions.
- 261 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** Donna had reported a suspicious man sitting in his van in the car park for several hours a few days ago. She and her husband had spoken to him and he said he was working from home. Has been reported to police for info.
- 262 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday 6th January - Agenda items to Clerk by 27th December .