

WICKLEWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Wicklewood Village Hall on Monday 1st November 2021

Present: John Seville (JS) Chair, Nick Kemp (NK) Vice Chair, Joel Pailes (JP), Louise Downton (LD), Richard Goodings (RG), John Hipperson (JH)

In attendance: Helen Frayer (HF) Parish Clerk, Richard Elliott (RE) District Councillor, Rachael Mold (RM) Bookings Clerk

81. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: JS welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received from Margaret Dewsbury

82. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: JH for items 9.1 and 9.2

83. PUBLIC FORUM:

83.1 Local resident thanked the parish council and RG in particular for the way the concerns of the allotment holders had been address and said he was pleased the pavement was finally finished.

83.2 Local resident raised concerns about the planning applications for Low Street due to the ongoing flood issues in the road

83.3 RE spoke about the new shop front grants of up to £2,000 for shops and small businesses to improve their frontages. The nominations are open for the business awards, nominate via the SNC website. The deadline is approaching for the member's grant and he would like to be able to give a grant to a local organisation

84. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th OCTOBER:
JH proposed to accept the Minutes as correct, seconded by NK, all agreed

85. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CLERK ON ACTIONS SINCE PREVIOUS MEETING:

85.1 Mick George responded to the complaint that they had identified the offending drivers and they had been spoken to and other drivers working in the area had been reminded to keep to the authorised route. However since then, the lorries had continued to come through the village again. Clerk had emailed to complain again, and although no further reply had been received, updates from a resident who lives on the road concerned, said that they had now virtually stopped.

85.2 The signs for the permissive footpath have been done. JH agreed that he would install them. The pathway will then be publicised. JS thanked JH for his work in digging out the verge to assist access to the path

85.3 The defibrillator has now been installed, registered with the ambulance service and advertised on local social media and will be put in The Net

86. FINANCE

86.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Salaries	Clerk & Booking Clerk	430.32
HMRC	Month 7	72.20
Clerk expenses	Mileage	8.10
Dream Team Cleaning	Cleaning village hall	299.79
Nick Kemp	Stakes, ties and rabbit guards for orchard	126.75
Hussey Knights Ltd	Signage for permissive path	45.60
A Robbie	Refund of damage deposit	50.00
Tim Carver	Verge cut 6	120.00
	TOTAL	1,152.76

Resolved: That all accounts as presented be paid. Proposed RG, seconded JH, all agreed

86.2 MONTHLY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS REPORT

	Current	Premium	Total
Balance b/f	12,009.20	22,835.24	34,844.44
Total receipts to	6,295.00	0	6,295.00
	18,304.20	22,835.24	41,139.44
Total payments to	1,385.06	0	1,385.06
	16,919.14	22,835.24	39,754.38
Inter Account Transfers	-1,253.00	+1,253.00	0
Closing Balance	15,666.14	24,088.24	39,754.38

Receipts this month include the half year precept minus the loan payment, adopter payment, allotment rents and payments for the trees for the orchard

86.4 Proposal from Cllr Pailes for upgrade to play area to be included in next year's budget – JP had circulated a proposal paper prior to meeting. JS clarified that the play area does meet safety standards and has passed a RoSPA inspection and detailed the ages of the various equipment. JP talked through his proposal, Wicklewood currently has a precept level way below other comparable sized villages in the area and has a much higher percentage of children under 15 yrs than the rest of the county. He said that if the council were to increase the precept by £6,000-£10,000 for this work it would improve the opportunities for match funding from grant providers. Other councillors expressed concerns at raising the precept at a time when the country is facing an uncertain financial future with large cost of living increase. **JP proposed for the council to agree to upgrade the play area in the next financial year. Seconded by LD. No other votes. RG proposed to postpone any decision on this for 12 months to see what the national financial situation was. NK seconded. JH and JS agreed.**

86.5 To consider first draft of 2022/23 budget – The initial draft budget had been circulated with known or expected figures already inserted. Will need to consider what potential work/items may need to be budgeted for in the coming year. **Councillors to submit suggestions to clerk by mid Nov and second draft will then be put to following meeting.**

87. HIGHWAYS

87.1 Report from Highways Officer: JP had circulated the SAM2 data after it has been in place in Milestone Lane for the first time. Average speed 21.63. Will place near top of High St next.

87.2 Update on footpath: The footpath is finished. JS reported that Bob West will be inspecting, he is already aware some dropped kerbs are not correct. There is a concern re the BT chamber outside No. 73 which is raised and the footpath has been diverted around it. **HF to contact Highways to check the diverted pavement is wide enough for wheelchairs and to request reflective markings around the chamber which is a trip hazard**

87.3 RG raised concerns re High Oaks Rd. The farmer has planted his hedge on the edge of the verge rather than on his own land which is taking up space on the parking place, pushing traffic over to the other side of the road which is now eroding with the risk of vehicles going into the ditch. **HF to contact Highways**

87.4 JH reported the Hospital Road name sign has been knocked down. NK reported the 30mph sign at the bottom of Church Lane is lying on the ground. **HF to report both to Highways**

87.5 To approve bid for PPS for bus shelter: The draft bid had been circulated. HF said she will get an updated quote prior to submitting. JS asked that, in view of the volatile prices for metal at the moment, we ask the PPS if the price rises significantly by the time the bid is approved, can we request further. **LD proposed agreeing the draft bid, NK seconded, all agreed**

88. PLANNING

88.1 Application: 2021/2331 and 2021/2332 – Plots 1 & 2 land south of Low St. Erection of two new dwellings and garages. LD said she would not vote on this as per the rules as she has already submitted a personal response to the application but asked why there had been no correspondence sent to the neighbouring properties and no public notice put up. RE said he will check the situation. NK said the longstanding flooding problems down there were a concern as more houses could increase this. JS said the plans state that the catchment from the properties would be contained on site and a control discharge into the local ditch network. Highways have a long term plan to extend the drainage in front of the ex-local authority houses up to the point where the new houses were proposed to increase capacity of the drains. **NK proposed objecting on further development until the existing flooding issues are properly resolved. JP seconded.** JS said that it is within the development boundary and the flooding issues are with the Flood Authority, therefore the council didn't really have any grounds to object. **JS proposed to submit no views, but to**

comment that the developers demonstrate how they will deal with the disposal of the water, further work needs to be done to prove the drainage from the ditch network down to the stream. RG seconded. JS made casting vote, this proposal passed

89. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYING FIELDS AND ALLOTMENTS

89.1 Report from Booking Clerk. RM reported that there had been an enquiry from the Blood Donation Scheme with a view to the village hall becoming a donor centre. The Hoppers will not be returning and will return their keys. She has had a query from a hirer because of the possibility of a positive Covid test. **Will we give a refund? JP proposed yes, JH seconded, all agreed.**

89.2 To agree amended booking form: Amended form had been circulated. Deposit had been raised to £100, clarification on actions required to avoid causing damage. Addition of clause to allow refunds due to booking not going ahead due to Government directive which would cover future Covid situations. In addition, fireworks, Chinese lanterns and balloon releases added to banned activities. **LD proposed accepting amended form, RG seconded, all agreed.**

89.3 Hall Maintenance: The floodlight work still outstanding

89.4 Playing Field Inspection: LD reported all ok apart from some rubbish. The grass is still growing because of the recent mild weather. **HF will ask TTSR to do one further cut.**

89.5 Report from allotments inspection: RG thanks JS for his help in staking out the two vacant plots. Emails from two plot holders had expressed concern re access to plots and parking now that Tim's old plots had been cultivated. RG had met with one who is disabled, and the situation was resolved by slightly widening the path to allow vehicle access. The other plot holder was reassured that she could drive to the plot to load/unload but would then move the car to the car park. RG had met with a new plot holder. RG raised concerns that the overhead power wire was rubbing on a branch on Hillcrest Farm which might cause damage. **HF to contact landowner.** There is one vacant plot left, and no longer a waiting list. **HF to advertise it.** JH was thanked for digging out the access to the new permissive path making it more accessible.

89.6 Update re community orchard: HF reported that further to her report last month, she had invoiced all the people who had selected trees. However, the chosen nursery was now no longer accepting private orders and were wholesale only. They had a link to an alternative nursery, however that did not have as wide a selection and many of the trees people have selected were not sold and they also were not currently accepting orders. HF suggested it would be easier to refund people their money and ask them to buy their own trees, specifying dwarf root stock. **JH proposed this action, LD seconded, all agreed.** We have received a quote for £45 per cut to cut around the trees.

90. RESPONSES TO CORRESPONDENCE

90.1 To consider request for dropped kerbs at end of pavements. To be referred to Highways. It appears they are about to do some work at the end of Hillside Crescent, this might be able to be included

90.2 Proposed Morley St Botolph main sewer via Wicklewood. JS queried what the impact on the Wicklewood pumping station would be as the holding tank may not have capacity for increased input and appears to be in poor state of repair and very smelly. There is the concern that it wouldn't be able to cope and would overflow into the river. Also, as the new sewer is coming past High Oaks, is there the potential to connect High Oaks to the main sewer? **HF to contact Anglian Water**

90.3 Re Norfolk parish movement for an Offshore Transmission Network (OTN) – All agreed to send the group letter to our MP showing our support for this

- 91. CO-OPTON OF COUNCILLOR:** Statutory advertisement for election was completed and no election is required. HF suggested it might be better to wait until the New Year before co-opting a new councillor as people are very busy over the Christmas period and there might be a better response in January. JH proposed doing the co-option at the February meeting. RG seconded, all agreed. HF will promote the vacancy in January
- 92. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** None
- 93. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING:** The next meeting will be at 7.45 on 6th December. Agenda items to Clerk by 26th November.