

Wickersley Parish Council

Minutes of the Wickersley Parish Council Meeting 20th January 2020, 7.00 pm, held at Wickersley Community Centre, Wickersley

Members: Cllrs:- S Ellis (Chairman,) J Barber, A Bates, P Beighton, M Godfrey, T Nurse, M Scott , B McNeely, and P Thirlwall

In Attendance: Mrs C Lavell (Parish Clerk)
1 member of the Public
Cllr Cutts (RMBC)

Cllr Scott was welcomed as a co-opted member to the Parish Council following his appointment at the December meeting

5899/20 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs A Gibson (attending Bowls AGM in capacity of Parish Councillor Representative), C Grimes, S Horsfield, N Judah and K Phillips

5900/20 To note any declarations of interest on items to be discussed at this meeting

Cllr Ellis declared an interest in any matters pertaining to Licensing. (Standing declaration)

5901/20 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th December 2019

RESOLVED : The minutes of the meeting of 16th December 2019 were accepted as a true record.

5902/20 To resolve if members of the press and public are to be excluded from any agenda items of the meeting due to the nature of the business being transacted, Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1 (2)

No exclusions

5903/20 To receive a report from the Police

There were no PCSOs present or updates provided

5904/20 To note any issues from members of the public

A teacher from Wickersley School spoke on behalf of a school governor expressing concern regarding the dangers involved in students crossing Morthen Road., having witnessed several near misses.

The Chair explained the ongoing actions regarding trying to secure a crossing for this location and communications with RMBC, referencing the 18-year history trying to get a safer crossing in this location

The Clerk had followed up with RMBC the progress regarding the pedestrian crossing which had been agreed would be installed at the top of Morthen Road, the site of a recent hit and run accident discussed at the November Council meeting. No feedback had been received

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and the Officer who had dealt with the case has now left the Council. The Clerk to redirect the query to Bronwyn Knight and request an update.

The Clerk to email the teacher with actions to date to share with the governor.

It was suggested the School Governors also write to RMBC regarding their request.

Cllr Cutts (RMBC) requested that the Parish Council address issues of lighting on the path between the Church and Tanyard stating he had been informed by RMBC it is the responsibility of the Parish.

It was explained that Street lighting is the responsibility of the Borough. Cllr Cutts responded stating he will discuss this with the Chief Executive of RMBC

5905/20 To consider any community matters from Councillors

The Clerk read a letter from Cllr Horsfield outlining her concerns and concerns of neighbours who had spoken to her regarding 2 issues at the Masons Public House.

The first referred to the use of gas cannisters in the car park and the subsequent littering problem (photo circulated)

The second concerned the issue of drinks being spiked and a victim being hospitalized as a result. (This subject also been raised in a letter from a Parishioner recorded in the general correspondence section)

The Chair reported that the issue regarding spiking of drinks is already being dealt with in consultation with the Police. It had been confirmed that the victim had been hospitalized as a result of her drink being spiked.

There is now a plan in place devised from collaboration between the Police, licensing department RMBC and the Manager of the Masons to respond to this and increased spot checks by security staff have been introduced.

An awareness campaign was also requested with notices displayed in the toilets.

The concerns regarding gas canisters were also discussed during the above conversations.

Motorbikes have been observed travelling through the underpass, this may coincide with the damage that has been done to the mural which is a relatively straight line across much of the mural at handlebar height.

The Clerk to notify the Police and ask for support and regular checks to help alleviate this problem.

The damage to the mural had been previously reported and conversations with RMBC have been ongoing. Evidently due to the underpass having been flooded the wall and paint has been softened making it more vulnerable to marking/paint coming off. The wall needs to dry out for a period of months when the weather is warmer before it can effectively be repainted. This will be followed up again in late Spring.

5906/20 To note matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting of 16th December 2019

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A query was raised regarding the Christmas Lights not working on Northfield Lane for much of the Christmas period.

The Chair explained the Christmas Lights were to be the subject of a special meeting to determine how to proceed in 2020 after the problems experienced in 2019, due to the severe wet weather.

Cllr Thirlwall requested that proposers and seconders for motions were recorded in the minutes.

The Clerk to check best practice regarding this

5907/20 To consider financial matters, including: -

5907/20.1 Authorisation of payment of accounts since the last meeting

RESOLVED: That the following payments for January 2020 are approved (Unanimously)

18/12/2019	D Card	£251.93	£41.99	£209.94	Seton	Grit/Salt bin Tanyard
22/01/2020	204730	£27.50	£0.00	£27.50	Graham Woodcock	Gorse Warden Honorarium 2019-20
22/01/2020	204729	£27.50	£0.00	£27.50	Paul Paddock	Gorse Warden Honorarium 2019-20
01/01/2020	DD	£137.04	£6.53	£130.51	Opus Energy	Xmas Lights Feeder Pillar - Electricity
08/01/2020	DD	£12,944.47	£0.00	£12,944.47	United Kingdom Debt Man. Office	Loan Repayment 08/01/2020
22/01/2020	BACS	£144.00	£24.00	£120.00	Uk Event Medical	First Aid Cover Christmas Lights
	DD	£24.00	£4.00	£20.00	Sage Subscription	Support
22/01/2020	BACS	£886.99	£147.83	£739.16	T Farnsworth	Grounds Maintenance Contract Works December
09/01/2020	DD	£202.56	£9.65	£192.91	Eon	Winthrop Electricity 22/11 - 22/12
28/01/2020	DD	£208.20	£34.70	£173.50	Veolia	Tanyard Waste Collection 01/12 - 30/12
22/01/2020	BACS	£16.30	£0.00	£16.30	LBM Ltd	Handy men materials December 2019
22/01/2020	BACS	£180.00	£30.00	£150.00	Smiths of Derby	Clock Repair to find fault
08/02/2020	DD	£55.30	£2.63	£52.67	N Power	Tanyard Toilets Electricity 30/11 - 31/12
20/01/2020	BACS	£956.80	£0.00	£956.80	HMRC	Tax and NI January 2020
20/01/2020	BACS	£755.88	£0.00	£755.80	SYPA	Superannuation January 2020
20/01/2020	BACS	£6,764.90	£0.00	£6,764.90	Staff	Net wages January 2020
22/01/2020	BACS	£36.00	£6.00	£30.00	APC	Monthly pest control service contract
22/01/2020	BACS	£150.42	£25.07	£125.35	KILLIS	Cleaning/ maintenance products Handymen
22/01/2020	BACS	£48.00	£0.00	£48.00	Bubbles	Winthrop Cleaning 23.12.2019

5907/20.2 To receive the Quarterly Report

The Clerk presented the report and the Clerk stated the finances are progressing in line with predictions.

It was questioned how the recharge for WCCA is determined and whether the admin charge was accurate considering current staffing costs.

RESOLVED to accept the report and request that HR and Finance committees consider whether current WCCA recharges are representative of true costs.

5908/20 To agree the Budget and Precept for 2020/21

The Finance committee met on 13/01/2020 to determine the budget, precept and associated areas, all Councilors were invited to the meeting.

The resolutions from this meeting have informed decisions made in minutes 5908/20 to 5910/20

Cllr Barber proposed and Cllr Ellis seconded that the base budget of £295,636 be agreed to.

It was **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to increase the base budget as presented, to £295,636 including a contribution of £42,860 from reserves to fund small projects and roll over.

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Cllr Barber proposed and Cllr Ellis seconded that the proposed £178,000 be the precept request figure.

It was **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to increase the Precept by 8% to represent an income of £178,000.

Councillors will be updated on the impact of this increase to Parishioners, once the Clerk receives a response to this question from RMBC

5909/20 To agree the reserve policy

The below revised policy statement was **RESOLVED** to be accepted.

Reserves Policy 2020/21

This policy outlines Wickersley Parish Council's allocation and requirement for reserves.

Reserves are required for the Council to have sound financial management in place.

The Council hold General Reserves of between 4 and 6 months of the annual precept.

In addition, funds are built up for larger projects within the Parish.

The reserves policy confirms the commitment of the Parish Council to the major projects of committing £92,000 to Wickersley Park Development with the final £10,000 being sourced from grants and £15,000 towards professional fees for the Winthrop Gardens development.

Cllr Barber proposed and Cllr Bates seconded that the Proposed allocation figures on the reserves policy be approved.

It was **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to approve the proposed allocation taking into consideration the below figures.

Proposed Allocation	2019/20	2020/21
General Reserves	£74,954.00	£50,000.00
Wickersley Park Development	£50,000.00	£92,000.00
Winthrop Gardens Development	£0.00	£15,000.00
Winthrop Gardens Development	£30,000.00	£15,000.00
Winthrop Gardens Surplus 2016-17	£10,821.00	£10,821.00
Winthrop Gardens Surplus 2017-18	£2,430.00	£2,430.00
Winthrop Gardens Surplus 2018-19	£12,050.00	£12,050.00
Winthrop Gardens Surplus 2019-20	£0.00	£15,000.00
Staff Development Plan	£15,000.00	£0.00
Football Bonds	£900.00	£900.00
Supplement 2019/20 Budget	£26,132.00	£0.00
Future Developments, small projects	£0.00	£42,860.00
Total Reserves	£222,287.00	£256,061.00
Future Developments from 2021 Total		£82,452.00
Total Reserves		£338,513.00

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It was confirmed that the Parish Council will continue to line up funding to finance the Winthrop Gardens Development. The Parish Clerk to produce a paper for a future Council meeting regarding the land (car park) at Wickersley Park.

5910/20 To agree the small project list for 2019-20

RESOLVED (unanimously) to allocate £23,000 to fund these projects, revised to £24,500 including the previously allocated £1,500 woodland sculpture from base budget.

The individual project allocations will be determined at the February meeting. Chairs will be asked to present their project requests at this meeting.

5911/20 To note the new minutes protocol for all meetings

This document had been circulated to Chairs and comments incorporated in the revised draft.

It was suggested that an additional point 9 be introduced stating

Once minutes have been ratified by Full Council they should be posted on the website and that the dates of the meetings are reviewed when planning future meeting dates to link to this procedure

RESOLVED (unanimously) to introduce the above policy with the additions detailed above.

5912/20 To consider use of Council land by Contractors

Land at Wickersley Park has been used on an ad hoc basis by contractors, on occasions causing concerns to local residents.

In Summer 2019 a formal arrangement with a contractor was made to allow use in return for a fee.

A request has been received from RMBC to use the car park on Sorby Way, stating this has been allowed previously and a key having been allocated to them

This subject is being brought to Council to establish a Council policy on the subject to ensure consistency in the future.

Councillors were not aware of any previous informal arrangements and expressed concerns at handing out keys due to the high cost of their replacement and any negative impact of use of the car park at Sorby way on the footballers who pay both to use the facilities and have to pay a bond in lieu of the keys.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that Sorby Way can be used by contractors for a fee of £150 a week and a bond of £150 payable against loss of the key the same costs to be applied to Wickersley Park car park.

The Clerk to prepare a policy on this subject

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5913/20 To consider any general correspondence and publications

Concerns raised by local residents regarding spiking of drinks and dangers to young people (covered within minute 5905/20)

Request from RMBC regarding change to school holidays, WPC to respond the traditional approach is preferred whereby Bank Holidays are incorporated within the school holidays and that both primary and secondary holidays across the Borough should have the same dates.

A request has been received for the views and written support from a drone user to use his drone in Wickersley woods and the local area to take photos. Councillors considered that as the land in question is public land used for recreation purposes and adjoining houses and gardens, if photographs were taken it would infringe on people's privacy therefore written support cannot be given.

Furthermore, the Clerk was requested to prepare a policy on this subject for adoption by the Council.

Carter Towler have been appointed as the new managing agent for the Tanyard. They are proposing a 1-way system for the car park with access from the bottom of Fairways and exit onto Tanfield Way. In principle the idea of a 1-way system was supported however the proposed route received a mixed response. Councillors wished to know the rationale behind the choice, whether any traffic surveys have been done/what supporting evidence they have to support the choice of entry/exit points.

It was requested that the Clerk arranges an open meeting between WPC, RMBC, the Police and Carter Towler to discuss the proposals collectively.

Rotherham Holiday Aid have written to thank the Parish Council for their recently awarded grant.

Wickersley Village Bowling Club have written to request permission to erect a shelter. The Clerk to respond granting permission.

5914/20 To consider as part of RMBC's next round of consultation on Licensing policy including a proposal to designate a Cumulative Impact Zone for Wickersley

The Parish Council have not received any details regarding this consultation despite an advert being seen in the local paper and the Library receiving some information. The Clerk to follow this up again to ensure the official routes are working. Cllr Godfrey was able to brief the meeting on the consultation process she has secured from research on RMBC website.

Cllr Godfrey has prepared a response on behalf of the Council, and a letter for circulating to addresses within the locality.

Councillors were asked to respond individually to the online consultation survey in addition to the official Parish Council response.

Standing Orders extended by 30 minutes (ref 1.z)

5914/20 To consider planning and licensing matters including new planning applications in Wickersley

No comment to be submitted for the below
RB2020/0046

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Conversion of dormer bungalow to create 2 storey house including rear dormer window and roof terrace, and front boundary wall and gates

Mr & Mrs Walker

Ferndown Church Lane Wickersley

<http://rotherham.planportal.co.uk/?id=RB2020/0046>

RB2019/1961

Application to vary condition 09 (hours of construction/deliveries to site - new hours requested MonFri 7:30am - 5:30pm & Sat 8:00am - 1:00pm)

Harron Homes (North Midlands)

land at Second Lane Wickersley

<http://rotherham.planportal.co.uk/?id=RB2019/1961>

RESOLVED that the following comments are to be sent to RMBC regarding this application

Wickersley Parish Council object to this application. It is clear from the number of representations by local residents that Harron Homes already flout the existing planning conditions and to allow an earlier start on site would result in even more nuisance and inconvenience to local residents than is currently experienced. If lorries arrive earlier to the site than requested by Harron Homes, an earlier opening of the gates will only encourage drivers to arrive even earlier. A variation of condition would also allow construction work to start earlier and could cause a noise nuisance at unsocial times. The current condition was imposed for good reason and should be retained and monitored by the Council.

5915/20 To note dates of future committee meetings, events and the next Parish Council Meeting

- Finance Committee 2.00pm 13th January 2020
- Full Council Meeting 7.00pm 20th January 2020
- Environment Committee 7.00pm 28th January 2020
- HR Committee 9.30am 29th January 2020
- Events 2.00pm 3rd February 2020
- Recreation Committee 7.00pm 10th February 2020
- Neighbourhood Plan 7.00pm 26th February 2020
- Winthrop 9.00am 6th March 2020
- WCCA 7.00pm 9th March 2020
- Woodlands 6.30pm 24th March 2020

The meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed(Chairman). Date: 17th February 2020