



Minutes of the Wickersley Full Parish Council Meeting 18th January 2021, held remotely due to the Covid 19 situation, commencing at 18.30pm

Members: Cllrs:-S Ellis (in the Chair) J Barber, A Bates , E Boswell, P Beighton, M Godfrey, C Grimes, B McNeeley, M Scott, R Postlethwaite and P Thirlwall

Also, in attendance C J Lavell, Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to clerk the meeting, S Fletcher, Deputy Parish Clerk to manage remote access and any issues arising and A Naylor, Assistant Clerk, admin, and finance to observe.

No members of the public in attendance

The Chair welcomed the Councillors to the virtual meeting of Wickersley Parish Council. The need having arisen due to the Covid 19 pandemic and the Government advice that actual face to face meetings should not be held. The Chair outlined the protocol for holding and managing remote meetings.

Previous matters of the Council since lock down commenced in March 2020, have been managed by the Delegated Powers Committee. Full Council meeting resumed on 21st September 2020 this is a Full council virtual meeting with audio link up for anyone requiring this option. All Councillors have been provided with electronic copies of relevant papers for the meeting.

6002/21 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr K Phillips for work commitments, Cllr N Judah for family matters and Cllr A Gibson.

6003/21 To note any declarations of interest on items to be discussed at this meeting.

No declarations of interest declared.

6004/21 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)

It was **RESOLVED** to move agenda item 13, Update on legal cases into confidential and thus exclude members of the public and press.

6005/21 To note any issues from members of the public in attendance.

No members of the public in attendance

It was raised that there had been problems identified by members of the public relating to 2 separate incidents where trees have fallen blocking paths in The Gorse and Wickersley Woods. The Clerk reported that both incidents have been dealt with promptly over the weekend by the handymen.



6006/21 To approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16th November 2020.and the Full Council meeting -Budget and Precept held on 11th January 2021.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16th November 2020.and the Full Council meeting -Budget and Precept held on 11th January 2021 are approved as a true record

6007/21 To note any matters arising from the minutes of the last Council Meeting 11/01/2021 and Full Council meeting 1611/2020

No matters arising from the meeting on 11/01/2021.

Meeting on 16/11/2020

It was questioned as to the response received from RMBC relating to the complaint submitted regarding planning. This had not been actioned due to a misunderstanding therefore it will be addressed as a high priority.

It was clarified that correspondence from the Council must go from the Parish Clerk to ensure full Council records are maintained.

The Clerk clarified that she had obtained Principal Membership of SLCC and not Level 2 CILCA as stated.

Clarification was sought as to the expectation of the Parish Council regarding the maintenance of the church yard at St Albans church as part of their grant conditions.. The conclusion was an improvement of the appearance of the graveyard with grass verges cut, trimmed and debris removed rather than left to rot. An overall improvement of appearance and upkeep was stated as required.

6008/21 To consider financial matters including:

- a) **The authorisation of payment of accounts since the last meeting**
- b) **To receive the Quarterly report**
- c) **To receive the bank reconciliation statement for December 2020**

The authorisation of payment of accounts since the last meeting

RESOLVED unanimously to approve the authorization of payments for January and note the payments made in December.



To Receive the Quarterly report

The Parish Clerk presented the Financial Statement and explained that the content was as discussed in detail at the Budget and precept setting meeting held on the 11/01/2021 when a full narrative summary was presented with the papers.

A request was made for a short briefing paper detailing expenditure on the Christmas lights and details of which budget heading covers which type of expenditure. This is to be presented at the February Full Council meeting.

RESOLVED to receive and approve the financial report.

To receive the bank reconciliation statement

The Parish Clerk presented the full bank reconciliation detailing all of the Parish council bank accounts.

RESOLVED unanimously to receive and approve the bank reconciliation for December 2020.

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WICKERSLEY PARISH COUNCIL		
BANK RECONCILIATION - 31/12/2020		
ACCOUNTS		
Current Account	£	£
Brought Fwd from 30/11/2020		£ 73,533.35
Add: Receipts	£32,920.63	
Less: Payments	£20,090.90	
ACCOUNT BALANCE 31/12/2020		£ 86,363.08
Add deposits at bank (excl curren	£ 198,737.36	
New Total		£ 285,100.44
BANK		
Bank Balances at date shown		Statement Date
Current Account	86,363.08	31-Dec-20
Clerks Imprest Account	226.68	31-Dec-20
Business Select Deposit Account	113,341.43	31-Dec-20
14-Day Account	0.4	31-Dec-20
Public Sector Deposit Fund	£ 85,168.85	
TOTAL BANK BALANCE 30/09/2019		£ 285,100.44
RECONCILIATION		
Less: Unpresented Cheques		
Current A/C -		£0.00
		£0.00
ACCOUNT BALANCE - 31/12/2020		£ 285,100.44
Difference		-£ 198,737.36
ther bank accounts not including the current account.		



6009/21 To note any updates following the Budget and precept planning meeting on 11/1/2021.

The Clerk presented the updated budget for 2021-22 with the precept figure agreed at the meeting on 11/01/2021 of £188,000 showing a balanced budget.

The updated spreadsheet also showed the agreed £20,000 figure to be allocated from reserves for small projects.

Clarification was sought as to the bidding process for the new monies. The Chair responded that existing small projects should be completed first (these have been ratified by Full Council in previous years). If a project is no longer considered to be viable by a Committee, this should be reported to Full Council. The Chair stated that new projects could be bid for, prior to existing projects being completed, providing that the original projects would be completed within the year.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to accept the updated Budget papers.

6010/21 To receive the 2021 dates for Full Council meetings.

Full council meetings are to continue being held on the 3rd Monday of the month as in previous years, with no meeting in August and the December meeting being held on the 2nd Monday due to Christmas.

The dates are as follows.

Monday 18th January 2021
Monday 15th February 2021
Monday 15th March 2021
Monday 19th April 2021
Monday 17th May 2021
Monday 21st June 2021
Monday 19th July 2021
Monday 20th September 2021
Monday 18th October 2021
Monday 15th November 2021
Monday 13th December 2021

It was RESOLVED unanimously to accept the Calendar of Dates.

6011/21 Parish Council Updates on Committees and Parish matters

HR matters and appointment of new Assistant Clerk.

Cllr Thirlwall welcomed Amy Naylor to the Parish Council and congratulated her on her recent appointment as Assistant Clerk Admin and Finance. He explained that there had been a very good response to the job advert, a shortlist of 6 high calibre candidates were interviewed in December and the interview panel were pleased to appoint Amy following her interview. Amy is now following a comprehensive induction and training programme.



Environment

Cllr Beighton updated Councillors on the work of the Environment committee including a meeting held on 12/01/2021.

Two new benches are being located within the village, one on the junction of Morthorn Road and Wood Lane and the other is in Wickersley Woods, a carved wooden bench incorporating wood carvings of an insect as part of the sculpture trail. (The wooden bench is purchased by the Woodlands committee)

The signage project is awaiting information from RMBC regarding permissions and acceptable signs for different locations.

The maintenance contract for the hand washing units at Tanyard toilets has been initiated for the next twelve months.

A licence application will be submitted for the enhancement of the land adjacent to the Coop store once the design is finalised to incorporate new seating and planters in agreement with Highways.

The Gardening and Landscape contract is up for renewal and is being looked at jointly with the ground's maintenance contract (Recreation committee) to rationalise areas of working including grass and hedge cutting.

A Parish wide tree survey in conjunction with RMBC is being looked at, to aid identification of trees and owner (WPC or RMBC)

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Godfrey reported that the formal consultation period for the Neighbourhood plan had commenced on 7th December 2020 and will close on 29th January 2021. This is 2 weeks longer than the minimum statutory period to allow for the Christmas holiday period. All houses and businesses in the Parish have been individually leafleted with a leaflet inviting residents and business owners to share their views on issues relating to the Plan.

Statutory consultees have also been invited to comment.

The next stage will be to submit the Plan to RMBC.

Update on WCCA and Community Centre-Cllr K Phillips

In the absence of Cllr Phillips, the Clerk updated members that a WCCA meeting is to be held on 26/01/2021. Works are due to commence on the library early February and it is hoped moveable shelves will be part of the scheme to maximise use of the library area.

Cllr Thirlwall commented that the task and finish group (determined pre-March 2020 Covid lockdown) regarding WCCA needs to be arranged and this should also cover the library lease. It was suggested that Cllr Thirlwall due to his extensive knowledge of the history of the lease would make notes for the file to help future proofing.

Recreation Grounds

Cllr Bates explained that there had been an informal meeting of the Recreation Committee to commence future planning in December, this will feed into the Recreation Committee planned for 9/2/2021.

Solar lights are being explored for Wickersley Park following an offer from RMBC.

Winthrop

The Grounds Maintenance contract is up for renewal and work is ongoing to prepare it for the tendering process including working closely with Environment committee as the



Gardening and Landscape contract is also up for renewal and it is envisaged rationalising of services may be possible.

Preliminary works are being looked at for stabilizing paths in both the Park and Recreation grounds.

Finally, Cllr Bates expressed his pleasure seeing how well used the new play equipment at Wickersley Park is and the positive feedback from local people regarding the new facilities.

Winthrop

Cllr Ellis stated that though there had not been a meeting recently, much activity had been going on at Winthrop. Festive afternoon teas and craft stalls (socially distanced) have proved very popular. The afternoon teas are still being offered with a Valentines/special occasions theme for the next few months.

Concerns have been expressed at the worrying state of the fabric of the buildings at Winthrop, several areas are showing signs of deterioration.

Anna Chester the Winthrop organiser has worked hard to bring the finances of Winthrop to showing a small surplus, an achievement that was recognised by the Parish Council as well as concentrating on communicating regularly with all the volunteers especially those having to remain at home during the current Covid situation. It was stated that this link on a regular basis has been invaluable to many volunteers and their families.

It was requested that a formal thank you is recorded to Anna Chester in these minutes for her hard work in achieving this.

Woodlands

Cllr Scott reported that the sculpture bench bearing the sculpted image of an insect is to be delivered this week and positioned in Wickersley Woods..

The bridge in the Gorse has been identified as "of concern" there have been several emails/comments of concern regarding it reported to the Parish Clerk by members of the public. This has been considered by the Woodlands committee at their December meeting and resolved that it would be repaired by the Woodland volunteers. However, as Cllr Scott reported, due to the current lockdown period which commenced early January it is no longer possible for the volunteers to undertake this task and as lockdown is not expected to finish until possibly mid/late march it is considered the bridge needs repairing sooner than that. A price has been obtained for a contractor (who built the other bridge in the Gorse) and it was stated this is a route to consider. Following discussions, it was determined the Woodlands committee would consider this further either by an email exchange between members or calling an Extraordinary meeting.

Cllr Scott reported that the number of fallen trees experienced this year is putting pressure on the budget.

6012/21 Planning and Licensing applications update Cllr M Godfrey (during this period all applications are being considered and managed by Cllr Godfrey, with email conversations with Councillors where required as per minute 5963/20)

Cllr Godfrey referred to 2 planning applications which required the views of Councillors.



Planning appeal by Green King brewing and retailing limited at the Masons Public House, Bawtry Road, Wickersley.

Application to remove condition no (no external music to be played)

Imposed by RB2016/1286

Appeal reference AP/P4415/W/20/3263370

A planning application was submitted to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council to remove condition 4 of planning application RB2016/1286 which prohibited the playing of external music outside the Masons Public House.

Wickersley Parish Council objected to that application on the grounds of noise nuisance that would be likely to arise which would be detrimental to the amenities of the occupiers of nearby dwellings.

A number of residents also objected to the application as well as local ward councillors and the application was subsequently refused by Rotherham MBC on the grounds that it would have a detrimental impact on the living conditions of nearby residents by reason of unrestricted music being played outside of the premises contrary to the provisions of Policy SP52 Pollution Control.

First, regarding the Masons Public House, the question was posed whether the Parish Council wished to reaffirm their original decision to object to the application. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to do so.

Secondly the proposed extensions at Holly Mount were discussed.

Application RB2020/1928 6, Holly Mount, - two story and single storey front and side extension and erection of a detached garage/gym to rear.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to submit the below objection to this application.

Wickersley Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that the scale and design of the extensions are inappropriate for and out of keeping with this area. Furthermore, it is located far too close to properties in Dene Close and the sun terrace will overlook the rooms and gardens of those properties as well as resulting in noise nuisance.

.The two-story garage and gym are also located very close to the rear boundary of No 2, Beacon Close resulting in unacceptable overshadowing of the rear garden area and an unacceptable outlook.

It was **RESOLVED** to extend Standing Orders for an additional 15 minutes.

Confidential agenda item

6013/21 To receive an update on legal cases.

Councillors were updated on legal cases being considered.



6014/21 The date of the next Full Council meeting is to be Monday 15th February at 18.30pm.

Future Full Council Meetings at 18.30 via Teams platform

- Monday 15th February 2021
- Monday 15th March 2021
- Monday 19th April 2021
- Monday 17th May 2021
- Monday 21st June 2021
- Monday 19th July 2021
- Monday 20th September 2021
- Monday 18th October 2021
- Monday 15th November 2021
- Monday 13th December 2021

WCCA	18.30	26 th January 2021
Recreation	18.30	9 th February 2021
Woodlands	18.30.	23 rd March 2021
Environment	18.30	13 th April 2021

The meeting closed at 20.40.

SignedChairman Date.....

PUBLIC NOTICE

PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL AND ARE PERMITTED PARTICIPATION IN THE ITEM “To note any issues from members of the public in attendance”, BUT NOT IN THE DECISIONS ON OTHER AGENDA ITEMS, SPEAKING ONLY WHEN SPECIFICALLY INVITED TO DO SO BY THE CHAIRPERSON