

Minutes of Worton Parish Council held on Monday 6 June 2022 in Worton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Barry Devine (BD) (Chair); Cllr Suzanne Bonfield (SB); Cllr Robert Goss (RG); Cllr Malcolm Powell (MP), Cllr Dicky Parsons (DP)

Also present: Sarah Devine (acting clerk SD), Cllr Tamara Reay (Wilts Council TR); Patricia Goodenough (PG) (applicant for co-option), 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Richard Slack (RS) (Vice Chair), Cllr Chris Collins (CC), Cllr Nick Stokes (NS)

36/22/23	Apologies for absence: The Chairman received apologies for absence.	
37/22/23	Declaration of members interests: None	
38/22/23	Minutes of meeting held on 9th May 2022 <u>Resolved</u>: It was proposed by MP, seconded by SB and agreed by all that the minutes were an accurate record. The minutes were duly signed.	
39/22/23	Acceptance of office: To receive the Acceptance of Office from Councillor Slack	
40/22/23	Co-option to Parish Council Vacancy; The clerk has received an application for the vacancy from Patricia Goodenough. <u>Resolved</u> It was proposed by BD, seconded by SB and agreed that Patricia Goodenough be co-opted unanimously to Worton Parish Council. PG signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invited to take office.	
	The Chairman declared that the meeting was temporarily suspended to allow for an open session for 15 minutes where members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of the business on the agenda. There were no comments. There were no further comments from the public therefore the Chairman closed the Open Session.	
41/22/23	Wiltshire Councillor's Report: TR reported that Wiltshire Council's Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, has published its annual report - having investigated many important issues for Wiltshire throughout the year. The committee, made up of a number of non-executive councillors, ensures that council decisions are taken on sound evidence. It is focused on what it looks at so that it can add value to the most important services provided by the council, its partners and contractors. Wherever possible it helps to shape policy through early discussions as well as scrutinising proposals before they are finally agreed. The 2021/22 annual report highlights a number of the key projects it has worked on throughout that period. They include: • Wiltshire Council's Business Plan - detailed comments were provided • Finances - the council's budget and opposition amendments were fully scrutinised to ensure they were sound, and reviewed the impact on services • Area Boards - provided scrutiny to proposed changes and how they should function in the future	

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	As well as the overall Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, there are three specialist select committees that cover health and social care, the environment, and children and families. Last month, the Council published the results of independent reports by Anthesis Group of a detailed technical assessment of progress towards the climate change ambitions for the Council and the County to be carbon neutral by 2030. On its ambitions for the organisation itself to be carbon neutral by 2030, Anthesis found that Wiltshire Council is in a very strong position to meet its carbon neutral commitment by 2030. The main focus of the report was on the council's direct emissions, and it showed that the council has reduced its carbon footprint by 81% since 2014/15, and the projects currently in the pipeline should help get that to a 90% reduction by 2030. With further investment in offsetting, the council should reach its carbon neutral target by 2030. Anthesis also reviewed the county's overall ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030. The report clearly demonstrated that although Wiltshire Council will play a key role in helping the county to be carbon neutral, everyone from individuals, organisations, businesses and central government will need to play their part and step up to provide support. Real change can be achieved by 2030, and significant progress has already been made, but within the current national policy and funding constraints it's highly unlikely the county will be carbon neutral by then. Climate strategy - Wiltshire Council Traffic and Road Safety in Worton – I arranged a meeting for Cllr Suzanne Bonfield and I with Gareth Rogers, Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineering Manager when a detailed discussion was held on a range of possible interventions to improve traffic and road safety. This will be discussed in more detail in the next item on the Parish Council meeting agenda. A resident enquired about the Joint Solar Fund initiative, specifically in relation to siting of batteries which Cllr Reay said she would seek clarification on.
42/22/23	Transport and Road Safety (RS/DP/SB) a) To include brief feedback on traffic issues raised at Annual Parish Meeting Cllrs Bonfield and Devine, reviewed the issues concerning residents that had been highlighted at the recent Parish Meeting. Problems with Hedges overgrowing onto pavements from properties on the High Street had been raised as an issue - cutting required on several properties along the high street. Action BD to mention in Bridge Prepared letters to be sent (pro forma believed to already exist) SB suggested pavement widening might be a way forward where money could come from many sources. Other ideas of interest included requesting that the faded road markings at village entries (change of tarmac colour) be renewed, request for speed limit roundels be painted at suitable locations, the provision of 30mph stickers for bins and displaying "20 is better" at suitable locations Seeking a change to the weight limit. Action BD to discuss with RS. SB to find information from Stowford village. MP suggested putting all the ideas together and present to Gareth Rogers to establish which items would be possible legally and realistically TR to follow up with the school taking action on school programmes, this will need to be incorporated into the Parish Council plans Actions RS to contact Matt Perett (Highways) to request road coloured surfaces to be reinstated

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	Signs in garden, BD to write in Bridge 20 is plenty signs- look at campaign- BD to advise in Bridge 30mph stickers to be purchased (DP, SB) Resolved: MP proposed allocating £100 to purchase stickers, seconded by DP. Unanimously supported. BD to include information about 30mph stickers in Bridge article as well as idea of "20 is plenty". SD agreed to investigate the production of "20 is plenty" signs that could be made available. SB to re-price the Auto speed watch devices plus add ons to set up and run. Confirm that police are going to carry this forward. b) To provide an update on the Speed Indicator Device (SID) Donna Kelly has been in contact with RS waiting to allocate resources. Funds have been committed. Awaiting a site visit. Action: BD to contact RS for an update.
43/22/23	Leisure Facilities, Appearance and Environment (MP/NS/RG/CC) a) To include feedback on the Parish Plan following the Annual Parish Meeting b) WORT 11/MARS 9 update Quote for Worton 11 and Mars 9 footpath. The increased quote had been accepted following agreement of a majority of councillors. Liz had informed Paul Millard to accept the quote with work expected to start in July MP broke down costs: Area board grant - 3379.40 Patricia Goodenough- £1000.00 Community Fund £1455.37 Cllr Parsons reminded the meeting that he had expressed concern at the time about the very large increase in the price quoted and the lack of opportunity to discuss properly. He suggested that representations could still be made even at this stage. action BD to discuss with RFO. MP proposed to retrospectively accept the quotation from PB Services (Wiltshire) Ltd for £7,923.50, being the Worton share of the resurfacing of the bridlepath from Raybridge to the Church. The funding for which will be split between the parish council, grants and fundraising. £5,834.77 has already been raised leaving a shortfall of £2,088.73. The Parish Council will allocate £1,000 from the Footpath Project reserves with the remaining £1,088.73 to be raised by a village fundraising campaign. The Parish Council agrees to underwrite any shortfall in that fundraising up to a maximum of £1,088.73. Resolved: Proposed by MP, Seconded PG and unanimously accepted Resolved: Proposal -MP Parish Council to use to make good the shortfall Seconded PG. Agreed unanimously PG informed the council of her on-going efforts to raise money to support the project. The Chairman thanked her for all her efforts. It became apparent that there was a lack of clarity on the part of Marston Parish Council with regard to the change in quote which will need to be investigated. Action BD will contact Liz Starling for clarification.
44/22/23	Planning (DP/NS) The following decision was noted. PL/2022/02850: Roslyn, 168 High Street Worton SN10 5SE Proposed removal of single story side extension. Creation of two storey side extension. Wiltshire Council Decision: approve with conditions.

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45/22/23	Community and Learning: a) Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event - BD thanked David Johnson and his team for the excellent work done in relation to the event and served as a timely reminder of the strong community spirit in the village. He invited David to share feedback that may inform future events. DJ reported that the free community event for residents of Worton and Marston was a success. It was self-funded by donations and there was no cost to the tax payer or Parish Council. <u>Village Hall 10am -12am</u> Decorate a cake with a "Jubilee" theme competition and prizes. Also craft stalls tea and coffee. This raised £92.00 in donations for the Village Hall funds. <u>Five Lanes school field 2pm- 4pm</u> "Jubilee stakes" Hobby Horse races. And many free games for all age groups with prizes and family picnic. This raised £25 in direct donations. Most of the hobby horses were also donated to the school. They will either use them at future school sports days or auction them to parents to raise additional funds. <u>Free live music in the Rose and Crown in the evening</u> Music kindly provided by local band "Done and Broke." This raised £90 for Alzheimer's society in Devizes. <u>Local sponsors:</u> Prestige Pine Worton. Old Forge Garage Worton. The Ham's family Worton. The Goss family Worton. <u>Supported by:</u> Worton Parish Council (Jubilee Working Group). Five Lanes Primary School. Many thanks to school secretary Louise Williams for her help, support. Worton Village Hall committee for the free use of facilities. Potential car parking issues at Whatley's Leaze were raised. (It was noted that there could be problems in this respect during the Open Gardens event. SB agreed to mention this at the Gardening Club's next planning meeting), b) Community Fund - to consider the following application: An application has been received from Worton and Marston Village Hall Trustees for a grant of £1,600 towards the village hall kitchen renovation. The rules of the community fund allow for a maximum grant of £1,455.37. Resolved Proposed by DP, and seconded by SB that a grant of £1,455.37 be paid. Unanimous decision
46/22/23	Communications: a) Correspondence: none received that needed further action b) To consider the purchase of a basic printer for the use of the future Clerk it was decided that this was not necessary at this stage but could be considered again when a new clerk is appointed c) To review the following policies and protocols: i. Bullying and Harassment Protocol ii. Dignity at Work (Bully and Harassment) iii. Disciplinary Procedure iv. Equal Opportunities v. Grievance Procedure vi. Internet Banking Policy vii. Member/Officer Protocol Resolved: BD proposed and SB seconded that the above policies that had been circulated before the meeting should be received and noted. Accepted without reservation.

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47/22/23	Finance: a) To review the Parish Council Insurance for 2022/2023 - Second year of 3 year long term agreement due from 1 June. It was agreed BD explained that he had taken responsibility for continuing with the current insurance arrangements. b) Accounts to be paid: Resolved: Proposed by MP, seconded by DP and agreed by all that the continuation of the insurance arrangements and the following payments should be authorised: <table><tr><th><i>Payable to</i></th><th><i>Net</i></th><th><i>VAT</i></th><th><i>Gross</i></th></tr><tr><td>HMRC/E M Starling</td><td>310.97</td><td>0.00</td><td>310.97</td></tr><tr><td>Worton & Marston Gardening Club</td><td>116.00</td><td>0.00</td><td>116.00</td></tr><tr><td>Community First Trading Limited (paid 25/5/2022)</td><td>360.74</td><td>0.00</td><td>360.74</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>787.71</td><td>0.00</td><td>787.71</td></tr></table> <table><tr><td colspan="4">Inter account transfer:</td></tr><tr><td>25 May 2022</td><td></td><td></td><td>200.00</td></tr></table>	<i>Payable to</i>	<i>Net</i>	<i>VAT</i>	<i>Gross</i>	HMRC/E M Starling	310.97	0.00	310.97	Worton & Marston Gardening Club	116.00	0.00	116.00	Community First Trading Limited (paid 25/5/2022)	360.74	0.00	360.74	Total	787.71	0.00	787.71	Inter account transfer:				25 May 2022			200.00
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48/22/23	Staffing It was agreed to defer the process of appointing a new clerk until August for action in September. Cllr Devine made it clear that support would be needed from all council members in the interim. Suggestions have been made of possible arrangements in the short and medium term for which he was grateful but would need further discussion.																												
49/22/23	Items to be considered for the agenda for the next meeting and questions to the Council (a question shall not require a response at the meeting nor start a debate on the question. The chairman of the meeting may direct that a written or oral response be given) Traffic Footpath improvements SIDs update Auto speed watch update staffing update																												
	Key messages: Traffic updates on ideas from Annual Parish meeting and how the PC was moving forward on the topic need for residents to cut back growth that was obstructing pavements “twenty is plenty” WORT11/ MARS 9 update																												
	Date of next meeting: Monday 4 July 2022. This will be held at 7.30pm in Worton Village Hall.																												

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Date: