

**Minutes of Worton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at Worton Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:**

Cllr Barry Devine (BD) (Chair)  
Cllr Suzanne Bonfield (SB)  
Cllr Malcolm Powell (MP)  
Cllr Nick Stokes (NS)  
Cllr Christopher Collins (CC)  
Cllr Robert Goss (RG)  
Cllr Richard Slack (RS)  
Cllr Patricia Goodenough (PG)  
Cllr Tamara Reay (TR)

**Apologies for absence:**

The Chairman received apologies for absence from:

Cllr Dicky Parsons (DP)

**Also present:**

Tom Sheppard – Newland Homes  
3 x Members of the public

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
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| <b>01/23/24</b> | <b>Apologies for absence</b><br>The Chair received apologies for absences.<br><br>Cllr Dicky Parsons (DP)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| <b>02/23/24</b> | <b>Declaration of members interests:</b><br><br>None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| <b>03/23/24</b> | <b>Minutes of meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022:</b><br><br>Proposed as true and accurate by CC<br>Seconded by MP<br><br>Signed as true and accurate by BD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|                 | <b>The Chairman declared that the meeting be 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.</b><br><br>Bed mattress left on pavement at Watleys Close – need to raise with Housing Association.<br><br>Attending resident (Chris Nixon) queried widening of footpath as a village strategy for High Street pedestrian safety. Widening footpath at the narrowest point will cause the physical road width to be too narrow to allow larger vehicles to pass each other. As a viable plan this has not been fully thought out yet, but |  |

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|  | was a suggestion of the engineer attending from Wiltshire Council highways department. |  |
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| 04/23/24 | <p><b>Wiltshire Councillor's Report</b></p> <p>TR reports:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Potholes an issue due to heavy weather. TR says to report potholes on MyWilts app.</li> <li>2. Council has directed that parish stewards are to focus on repairing potholes.</li> <li>3. £2 bus fare national cap. 3 month period until end of March.</li> <li>4. £200 oil payment/subsidy from Gov to be paid in Feb via electricity providers.</li> </ol> <p>Discussion by NS re the Gov Levelling Up plan and how it relates to the Council's own 5-year housing plan. If no suitable plan in place then village runs the risk of housing being approved that might otherwise be against local village planning intent. TR confirmed that Wiltshire Council does have a housing plan that would protect Worton from undesirable development.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 05/23/24 | <p><b>Tom Shepherd attends to discuss plans submitted for Sandlease Farm housing development</b></p> <p>Planning application date extended to permit meeting by Tom with WPC.</p> <p>Cllr DP (absent) wrote to BD to raise concerns with the development layout and proposed a revised site plan to permit greater separation between houses and neighbours, including landscape buffers. Cllr DP and other residents in the Sandlease area are concerned at the potential of a rushed development to meet short-term needs but which doesn't fully take into account existing residents' vistas and concerns.</p> <p>TS confirms that documentation exists giving evidence of public consultation. TS reiterates that they value the public's views. That said, they are not obliged to engage in public consultation.</p> <p>MP queried drainage and plans to avoid excessive runoff to the brook which already is prone to flooding. TS confirms that they are in receipt of communications from Highways, Urban Design, Housing Officer, Drainage which may require them to make changes to their plans over the next few weeks.</p> <p>NS suggested that Highways should consider a speed reduction from 50 to 40 prior to the approach to the Sandlease development where it drops to 30. NS suggested that it would be helpful for Newland Homes to push this with Highways.</p> <p>Rights of Way – modest diversion required to public rights of way at development. Footpath development at Worton 13?? Needs financing @ £20,000 and WPC should include that in their response to the development application.</p> <p>NS query re the affordable housing allocation. How would the initial offer to Worton residents happen? Newland has obligation to build the affordable homes and then passes ownership to a registered provider for resale/rent to those in need. How is registered provider held to account to this 'offer to Worton first' / Wiltshire Council allocations policy?</p> |

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|                 | <p>TS made the point that Highways had actually encouraged them to <i>reduce</i> the amount of onsite parking. Something they aren't keen to do due to potential for car parking spilling on to the High Street. All Cllrs agreed that parking on-site should not be reduced and would write in that regard.</p> <p>MP to draft a response outlining WPC's concerns re the new plans including our comments on not reducing parking allotments. No objections will be made, only comments.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>06/23/24</b> | <p><b>Transport and Road Safety (RS/DP/SB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SIDS update <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Now have been added to insurance.</li> <li>Software has been tested and attempted to be configured although mixed results with connecting to the SIDS device. Further testing to be done.</li> <li>Speedwatch responsible for collecting/managing data.</li> <li>WPC responsible for installation and moving of SIDS devices.</li> <li>First one to be installed at Sandlease. Second one to be installed opposite school.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Prioritising proposals with LHFIG (update)<br/>(Local Highway Footpath Improvement Group)</li> </ul> <p>Discussion on who / what department is responsible for weight limit on High Street. Issue will be that diverted traffic will add pressure to other Devises roads. TR confirmed that Cllr Caroline Thomas (cabinet member Highways) be contacted re this issue, give context re other LHFIG issues addressed. SB to undertake contact of Cllr Thomas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency work at bridge near Marston (behind church) due to flooding being considered by Wiltshire Council but not a priority as not a risk to property.</li> </ul> |
| <b>07/23/24</b> | <p><b>Leisure Facilities, Appearance and Environment (MP/NS/RG/CC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to Semington Brook (via Croft Farm)<br/>Ongoing issue, many years. Environment agency won't pay for it. TR has asked for report on long-term solution and cost.</li> </ul> <p>Issue is that trees are overgrown and general lack of maintenance over the years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on maintenance issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planter box. Has been moved and work is being undertaken to repair and reinstall it.</li> <li>Benches. Consider further later. Potential for relocation to a more suitable site.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Issue with shed building and general dumping on Village allotments. Is planning permission needed for erection of sheds?</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 08/23/24      | <p><b>Update on clerk appointment</b></p> <p>BD had one query re the position but did not advance. Discussion on different strategies for recruiting: employment agencies, chamber of commerce, accounting firm training.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 09/23/24      | <p><b>Planning (DP/NS)</b></p> <p>a) To discuss the following applications:</p> <table><tr><th>App number</th><th>Address</th><th>Description</th></tr><tr><td>N/A</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>b) To note the following decisions:</p> <table><tr><th>App number</th><th>Address</th><th>Description</th></tr><tr><td>PL/2022/09448</td><td>THE OLD MILL, 7 MILL ROAD, WORTON, DEVIZES, SN10 5SF</td><td>[Approved] Willow - Prune back from building, remove inner growth and deadwood</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> | App number                                                                     | Address | Description | N/A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | App number | Address | Description | PL/2022/09448 | THE OLD MILL, 7 MILL ROAD, WORTON, DEVIZES, SN10 5SF | [Approved] Willow - Prune back from building, remove inner growth and deadwood |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| App number    | Address                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Description                                                                    |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N/A           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| App number    | Address                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Description                                                                    |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PL/2022/09448 | THE OLD MILL, 7 MILL ROAD, WORTON, DEVIZES, SN10 5SF                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | [Approved] Willow - Prune back from building, remove inner growth and deadwood |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 10/23/24      | <p><b>Community &amp; Learning (BD/Clerk)</b></p> <p>Nil</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11/23/24      | <p><b>Communications (BD/Clerk)</b></p> <p>a) To review Risk Management Policy MP to draft new section on SIDS</p> <p>b) Complaints on Facebook re parking at Sandlease. Bollards installed by Housing Association when extra parking would be a better solution. BD to contact Roger who may still have contacts with ASTER.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12/23/24      | <p><b>Finance (MP)</b></p> <p>a) To consider the appointment of an internal auditor for the 2022/2023 accounts (two quotes received):</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                |         |             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |            |         |             |               |                                                      |                                                                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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|          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Auditing Solutions Ltd - £250 + VAT</li><li>• David Owen - £500 + VAT</li></ul> <p>Agreed that we should first try to recruit from within the village. MP to advertise in the Bridge and consider further.</p> <p>a) To authorise the following payments:</p> |                      |               |             |               |
|          | <i>Payable to</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                      | <i>Net</i>    | <i>VAT</i>  | <i>Gross</i>  |
|          | HMRC/E M Starling                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Administration costs | 116.00        | 0.00        | 116.00        |
|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |               |             |               |
|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |               |             |               |
|          | <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                      | <b>116.00</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>116.00</b> |
|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |               |             |               |
|          | Inter account transfer:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                      |               |             |               |
|          | <i>Date:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                      | Amount        |             |               |
|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |               |             |               |
|          | Approval of finances / accounts proposed by RG, seconded by SB.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |               |             |               |
| 13/23/24 | <b>Items to be considered for the agenda for the next meeting and questions to the Council</b><br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. SIDS update</li><li>2. Tree planting</li><li>3. 2023 maintenance items</li></ul>                                                                       |                      |               |             |               |
|          | <b>Date of next meeting:</b><br><br>Monday 6th February 2023, 7.30pm in Worton Village Hall                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                      |               |             |               |
|          | <b>Key messages</b><br><br>SIDS to be installed in both locations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                      |               |             |               |

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