



Minutes of the Wilbarston Parish Council Meeting Held remotely on  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom, meeting ID 831-2085-1817**

**Councillors Present:**

N Richards (Chair), K Walkling, A Smith, R Willatts, A Dowling, D James, T Kelly, County Cllr A Matthews, Borough Cllr D Howes

**Clerk:** Becky Jones

**Announcement**

The Coronavirus Act 2020 received Royal Assent on 25 March 2020 and made provision for the Secretary of State to bring forward regulations on local authority meetings, including the ability to hold them virtually. The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 came into force on 4 April and allow parish and town councils to meet virtually on a platform such as Zoom.

Minute No.		ACTION
21/40	<b>Apologies received</b> – Cllr L Dale <b>RESOLVED:</b> The apologies were accepted	
21/41	<b>Declarations of Interest by Councillors</b> – Cllr A Smith expenses - minute ref 21/49 b	
21/42	<b>Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th February 2021</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting	
21/43	<b>Representations from Members of the Public</b> – One member of the public joined the meeting	
21/44	<b>Matters from previous meetings, to receive updates and determine future actions on the following;</b>	
21/44 a	<b>21/6 a - appointing a Police Liaison Representative to act as a single point of contact with Northamptonshire Police</b> In progress, the article went into the chronicle, the appointment will be made in May	ALL
21/44 b	<b>21/6 b - applying for a grant from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's fund, for the purchase of a more refined VAS sign or camera</b> The application was successful, funds had been transferred into the council's bank account  <b>RESOLVED:</b> It was <b>AGREED</b> for the clerk to purchase the new VAS sign (TruSign 30CR) from Truvelo UK Ltd at a cost of £3260 + VAT	Clerk/AS
21/44 c	<b>21/26 c - funding for the planting of wildflowers in the parishes open spaces</b> Update received. Planting materials had been ordered	AD

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21/44 d	<p><b>21/26 d – fencing (removal and replacement) along the northern boundary of the playing field</b> Purchase order had been placed with the contractor to commence the works Cllr Richards to notify the Village Hall about the commencement of works The £500 grant towards the cost of the fence had been received from Borough Councillor D Howes</p>	NR
21/44 e	<p><b>21/26 e – Neighbourhood Plan and participants for the steering group</b> Ongoing</p>	
21/44 f	<p><b>21/26 f – Emergency Planning</b> Councillors to review the draft document and feedback to Cllr James and Cllr Willatts. Formal agreement of the emergency planning document to proceed after the Annual Meeting</p>	ALL
21/44 g	<p><b>21/31 - plan of action to promote the elections in May including an update on police advice on ‘essential’ activity during the course of the election</b> Update received Cllr Richards volunteered as a representative who will collate and submit any nomination papers to the electoral office on behalf of candidates that may find this helpful. Papers must be formally submitted <u>by hand</u> during the nomination period which starts on 25<sup>th</sup> March and closes at 4pm on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021. An appointment system will be in operation at the electoral office for the formal submission of nomination papers. If a candidate or their representative arrives to deliver nomination papers that does not have an appointment they may be asked to wait in turn. Cllr Willatts to post a notice about the forthcoming parish elections online on the “nextdoor” app</p>	RW
21/44 h	<p><b>21/32 – replacement of salt for the grit bins</b> Wilbarston Parish Council owned bins had been topped up with the salt that had been purchased. The Council is awaiting an update on the filling of the Northamptonshire County Council owned bins</p>	Clerk/KW
21/44 i	<p><b>21/35 – Local Government Reorganisation</b> Update received. The provision of services will continue as usual for the time being</p>	
21/45 21/45 a	<p><b>Covid-19: To receive an update and consider any possible actions in response to current guidelines –</b> <b>Committed works to provide a solar powered irrigation system at the parish allotments</b> Cllr Smith gave an update. The business owner is still recovering from long covid but will notify the council when they are able to resume works</p>	AS/Clerk
21/46	<p><b>To receive an update and to consider any action regarding the Welland Wanderer bus service</b> Report received. The service was suspended on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021</p>	

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	Cllr Richards to receive feedback from participating parishes for possible service resumption date	NR																				
<b>21/47</b>	<p><b>To consider the purchase and planting of a community sponsored tree in the parish</b></p> <p>The council <b>AGREED</b> that the planting of a tree was a good way of thanking Cllr Dale for the 37+ years of service to the community</p> <p>An estimate of £300-£500 was suggested to cover the cost of a tree, tree guard and thank you plaque</p> <p>Discussion was had over the location of the tree planting, the proposed location was the green area at the corner of Carlton Road and Queens Road.</p> <p>Council to discuss the proposal with Northamptonshire Highways and Kettering Borough Council with regards to procurement and planting</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> A maximum budget of £500 was <b>AGREED</b> for the purchase of a tree, tree guard and plaque</p>	AS																				
<b>21/48</b>	<p><b>To consider and discuss the implications of the councils GPC status pending the outcome of the parish elections in May</b></p> <p>The Clerk gave an update on the General Power of Competence</p> <p>For the Council to qualify the following criteria must be met at the annual meeting in May:</p> <p><i>At the time of resolution, councils must have a qualified clerk who holds the recognised professional qualification(s) <u>and</u> passed the relevant training on GPC, and at least two thirds of the council must be elected. A council must resolve its eligibility at a full meeting of the council and reaffirm each subsequent relevant annual meeting that it meets the conditions stated above. Eligibility remains in place until the next relevant annual meeting even if the conditions have changed.</i></p> <p>GPC is a power given to local authorities and eligible local councils, it gives them “the power to do anything an individual may generally do” and it’s a power of first resort, meaning a council no longer needs a specific power to act if no other legislation prohibits it.</p>																					
<b>21/49</b> <b>21/49 a</b>	<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p><b>To receive the finance report, bank statements &amp; reconciliation for February.</b></p> <p>Reports received:</p> <p><b>Receipts:</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Paid into Current A/C</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Received from</th> <th>Reason for Payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5/2/21</td> <td>£20.00</td> <td>Weston by Welland / Ashley</td> <td>VAS sign contribution</td> </tr> <tr> <th>Paid into Welland</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Received from</th> <th>Reason for Payment</th> </tr> <tr> <td>18/2/21</td> <td>£1413.91</td> <td>Northamptonshire CC</td> <td>Welland Wanderer contribution</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23/2/21</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td>Brampton Ash</td> <td>VAS sign contribution</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Paid into Current A/C	Amount	Received from	Reason for Payment	5/2/21	£20.00	Weston by Welland / Ashley	VAS sign contribution	Paid into Welland	Amount	Received from	Reason for Payment	18/2/21	£1413.91	Northamptonshire CC	Welland Wanderer contribution	23/2/21	£10.00	Brampton Ash	VAS sign contribution	
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**Monthly Bank Reconciliation – Current Account Balance £16,366.45 Welland Wanderer Account Balance £6,841.41 Reserve Account Balance £4,756.24**

**Bank Statement & Bank Reconciliation 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

<b>Bank Accounts</b>	<b>Unity Trust Current A/C</b>	<b>Welland Wanderer A/C</b>	<b>Unity Trust Reserve A/c</b>	<b>Bank Rec Balance per Statement U/p Cheques</b>	<b>28-Feb-21</b>
Balance 1 Apr 19 per statement	£11,607.00	£0.00	£4,756.24	<b>£16,366.45</b>	
Outstanding Receipt Reconciled balance 1 Apr 19	£11,607.00	£3,355.72	£4,751.50		
Receipts	£12,907.76	£9,127.62	£4.74		
Payments	£8,148.31	£5,641.93			
U/p Cheques					
Transfer Current to Reserve a/c					
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>£16,366.45</b>	<b>£6,841.41</b>	<b>£4,756.24</b>		
				<b>Reconciled Balance</b>	<b>£16,366.45</b>

21/49 b

**To consider and approve the accounts for payment**

**Accounts for Payment:**

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason for Payment</b>	<b>Statutory Power</b>
Standing Order	£276.93	Clerk	Salary February 2021	s.112 LGA 1972
IB	£4.50	Cllr Andrew Smith	Travel Expenses – VAS sign transportation	s.111 LGA 1972
IB	£105.00	Cllr Andrew Smith	Village Maintenance - gravel & grit salt	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9&10
IB	*£1200 maximum tbc	Lawson’s of Corby Ltd	February Welland Wanderer charges	GPC
IB	£3912.00	Truvelo (UK) Ltd	VAS sign	GPC

LGA = Local Government Act

\*Subject to receipt of the invoice, it was **RESOLVED** that the ongoing monthly payment to Lawson’s of Corby will be processed, up to a maximum amount of £1200.00 for the February Welland Wanderer charges

**RESOLVED:** The above payments were **AGREED**

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21/50	<p><b>To consider the request for funding from North Northants First Responders (a voluntary group qualified to provide an emergency response to 999 calls within the local area) to assist with the continuation of their service</b></p> <p>Cllr Smith gave an update. It was noted that a resident from Wilbartson had been training and is waiting to be provided with the emergency kit costing in the region of £2000. It was proposed that the parish council supports the request for funding and agrees to a contribution of £500. It was reported that two other local parishes had also resolved to contribute</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> A contribution of £500 was <b>AGREED</b> to assist the continuation of the North Northants First Responders voluntary service</p>	AS/Clerk
21/51	<p><b>Planning Applications</b> – Consider response to any planning consultations received: none</p> <p><b>Kettering Borough Council has approved permission for the following applications:</b></p> <p>KET/2020/0828 – West Lodge Rural Centre - Desborough - Full Application: Single storey extension to provide a butchers counter and associated cold storage</p>	
21/52	<p><b>To receive the monthly Playing Field inspection report and consider action in response to any proposals</b></p> <p>It was reported that the outstanding repairs itemised at the full council meeting in February had now been put in progress by Kettering Borough Council</p>	
21/53	<p><b>To receive the weekly Defibrillator/Telephone Kiosk inspection report and consider action in response to any proposals</b></p> <p>Report to follow</p> <p>Cllr Walkling to provide East Midlands Ambulance Service with the Clerks details as a secondary contact on the council</p>	KW
21/54	<p><b>Date of the next Meeting:</b></p> <p>The meeting will be held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.30pm remotely via Zoom unless restrictions for all gatherings have been lifted by the Government</p>	
	<p><b>Meeting Closed:</b> 8.52 pm</p>	

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**Appendix A**

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