MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTON-JUXTA-KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 24TH JANUARY 2019 AT NORTON PARISH HALL, LITTLEWORTH

See Appendix 2 for public question time discussions.

1. Apologies for Absence: D. Kelly, H. Turvey, M. Reeves. These apologies, and the reasons for them, were accepted and approved.

Attending: K. Fincher (Chairman), C. Dawson, D. Lucas, M. Pollard, P. Richmond, Cllr. R. Adams (District and County Councillor), Mrs. J. Greenway (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer).

2. Changes to Membership

The application received for co-option as a Parish Councillor was considered. Mr C. Arrow was co-opted as a Parish Councillor, as proposed by Cllr. Lucas, seconded by Cllr. Dawson and agreed by all. One Parish Councillor vacancy remains.

3. Declarations of Interest

- a) Reminder and requirements noted.
- b) c) d) None

4. Minutes

a) Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 November 2018 were approved. Proposed Cllr. Dawson, seconded Cllr. Richmond and agreed by all. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29 November 2018 were approved. Proposed Cllr. Lucas, seconded Cllr. Richmond and agreed by all.

b) The minutes action summary was reviewed and will be updated following the meeting. Action: Clerk

5. 2019/1 Reports

a) Cllr. R.C. Adams (District & County Councillor)

Cllr. Adams provided a report including A4440 bridge crossings, Wychavon DC grants and awards, Sentry statue New Homes Bonus funding, Worcs CC libraries consultation and County and District funding levels for 2019/20. Cllr. Adams will make enquiries to clarify timescales and the chronology of events relating to the Parkway Station, the Norton element of the Active Travel Corridor and the South Worcester Urban Extension (SWUE).

Action: Cllr. Adams

b) Finance

- (i) Balances: current account £51,393.35 (10 January), deposit account £31,825.55 (2 January, after transfer shown in current account balance). Balances including outstanding items of payment (e.g. car park resurfacing invoice of £43,494 incl. VAT) were also reported. 2018/19 S.137 expenditure is currently £448.94.
- (ii) The monthly accounts and bank reconciliation to 31 December were noted.

c) West Mercia Police

A summary of reported crimes and an update on ongoing anti-social behaviour issues were received.

d) St. James the Great Church, Norton

Rev'd Badger's apologies were noted along with his report.

6. 2019/2 2019/20 Budget and Precept

a) The draft budget figures circulated in advance of the meeting were considered, including a review of cost/benefit, costs associated with risk management, income generation (other than via the precept) and affordability for residents. The increased budget reflects costs relating to development of the Council's tree management strategy (including provision for professional tree surveys and tree maintenance work) and expenditure to assist in managing the impact of large scale developments which will affect the Parish and its residents (e.g. Worcestershire Parkway Station and SWUE).

It was proposed by Cllr. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. Lucas and agreed by all to submit a budget requirement of £57,558 to Wychavon DC (£56,291 precept and £1,267 Grant), which equates to a

£5.19 (9.9%) per annum increase for Band D Council Tax. The Clerk will submit no later than 1 February. **Action: Clerk**

b) Parish Hall playing field maintenance costs were considered. New Farm Grounds Maintenance will be instructed for the 2019 and 2020 growing seasons, at a fixed cost of £75.80 per playing field cut and £17 per perimeter cut. Proposed Cllr Lucas, seconded Cllr Richmond and agreed by all. Action: Clerk

7. 2019/3 Annual Appointment of Internal Auditor

Existing internal audit procedures were considered. Appointment of Iain Selkirk, as independent Internal Auditor for 2018/19, at a cost of £100, was proposed by Cllr. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. Dawson and agreed by all. The Clerk will instruct. **Action: Clerk**

8. 2019/4 Annual Insurance Renewal

- a) The Zurich Insurance renewal proposal was reviewed with cover agreed as adequate. The Clerk will arrange for renewal of the policy, under the second year of the 3 year long term agreement, as proposed by Cllr. Pollard, seconded by Cllr. Dawson and agreed by all with a 2019 renewal cost of £2,728.87 including Insurance Premium Tax.
- b) The draft risk assessment for the Parish Hall car park resurfacing will be circulated to members for comment. An update on the allotments risk assessment will be sought from Cllr. Kelly. **Action: Clerk** Risk management procedures continue to be reviewed and formalised on an ongoing basis.

9. 2019/5 Data Protection Regulation Changes – The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

An update was received including completion of GDPR Parish Councillor training sessions, progress setting up new dedicated Parish Councillor Gmail addresses and progress with review/archiving/secure destruction of Council papers. The GDPR action plan continues to be progressed as quickly as possible.

Action: Cllr. Kelly/Clerk

10. 2019/6 Planning

a) Current Planning Applications - the following applications were noted.

Approvals - None

Ref: W/18/02209/LB

Boulterley Cottage, Broomhall, Norton Alterations and improvements to the bathroom and guestroom

Refusals - None

Awaiting Decision

Land to the south of the City of Worcester, Bath Road. Malvern Hills DC Ref: W/13/00656/OUT

Welbeck Land

Outline planning application, including approval of access (appearance, landscape, layout and scale reserved) for a mixeduse development with local centre to the south of Worcester. Approved with s106 agreement outstanding.

Land adj. to Lobelia Close, Cranesbill Drive, Broomhall Green & A4440 Worcester City Ref: P13A0617 St. Modwen Developments

Erection of pedestrian/cycle bridge over A4440 Broomhall Way to facilitate access to a mixed use development comprising of up to 255 dwellings and employment (B1) (b and c), B2 and/or B8, on land between Taylors Lane and the A4440 Broomhall Way.

Middle Battenhall Farm Worcester City Ref: P13B0632 **Miller Homes**

Outline planning application for the construction for up to 200 dwellings, open space, new vehicular junction and access and associated infrastructure.

1 Hatfield Cottages, Mornington, Hatfield Lane. Ref: 18/02459/HP

Proposed dormer extension and conservatory. Parish supports subject to comments

Three Bob Yard, Woodbury lane

Ref: 18/02509/FUL

Material change of use of land for stationing of caravans for residential occupation with associated shed on existing builders yard.

Parish does not support

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1 Closes Cottage, Hatfield Bank

Ref: 18/02381/HP

Side extension and alterations to form attached annexe for dependent relatives. Parish supports subject to neighbours' views

The Briars, 48A Wadborough Road, Littleworth. Ref: 18/02555/HP

Single storey rear extension and conservatory. Parish supports

subject to neighbours' views

<u>Internal Consultation</u> - None <u>Other</u> - None <u>Appeals</u> - None

It was agreed for Cllrs Lucas and Pollard to attend a Wychavon DC Planning Enforcement Summit on 31 January.

b) A general update was received regarding the SWDP/SWUE. A report on the EnviroSort meeting attended by Cllrs Lucas and Pollard was received. A summary report for the Parish Council newsletter will be prepared and sent to the Clerk by 1 February.

Action: Cllr Lucas

11. 2019/7 Reports of Anti-Social Behaviour

Feedback from residents was considered, including a request for additional street lighting. It was agreed to forward this request to Worcs CC for consideration and residents will be updated. Action: Clerk

12. 2019/8 Parish Hall Car Park Resurfacing

An update was received, including project refinements, with costs to date confirmed at £36,245 plus VAT. Following consideration of options for a 'knee rail', installation of concrete bollards was agreed at a cost of up to £900 plus VAT including fitting. This increases proposed project costs to £37,145 against the £40,000 project budget (all figures excl. VAT). Proposed Cllr. Richmond, seconded Cllr. Dawson and agreed by all. It was agreed for Cllr. Pollard to liaise with the Hall Manager regarding timing of the work and the contractor regarding bollard positioning. Provision of reflectors across the Hall site will be considered, including addition to the concrete bollards.

Action: Cllr Pollard A draft risk assessment has been produced as discussed under agenda item 8b.

Feedback from a Parishioner regarding the LPG tank and recently installed fencing was considered.

Feedback from a Parishioner regarding the LPG tank and recently installed fencing was considered. Following review of research regarding HSE guidance, contractor and LPG tank supplier views and Trustee's maintenance of the fenced area around the tank, it was agreed that risks have been mitigated. Other feedback received, covering a range of matters, was reviewed, with improvements to drainage of Hall site considered to reduce the risk of flooding.

13. 2019/9 Parish Hall Recreation Facilities and Outside Space

Investigations regarding the proposed new anti-slam, self-closing play area gates have highlighted installation issues. Further gate options will be explored for consideration. Action: Cllr Dawson Locations for the new grit bin and 2 new bike racks were considered and agreed. The Clerk will liaise with the groundsman to arrange installation and to request that the entrance to the car park and the Hall entrance areas are gritted when there is an ice or snow risk (subject to the groundsman being able to travel to the Hall site). A spreader will be left in the grit bin to allow Hall Trustees/volunteers/users to access grit should further applications be required. Action: Clerk Investigations regarding drainage of the area by the entrance to the Hall car park have highlighted that the highway is higher than the entrance area, resulting in the potential for puddles to form in the entrance area pending slow drainage. A cost effective solution to this situation has not currently been identified and it was agreed to flag this location with the groundsman for cold weather gritting. Action: Clerk

14. 2019/10 NJK CE First School

See Appendix 2 - public question time discussions.

15. 2019/11 Parish Council Website

A volunteer has been identified to assist with development of the website. It was agreed to arrange a

meeting between the volunteer and the Assistant Clerk to discuss website design and developments, with the aim for the Assistant Clerk to undertake ongoing future maintenance once the website has been revised.

Action: Clerk

16. 2019/12 Norton Pre-school

Revision to the wording and timescale included within clause 4 of the draft lease, as suggested by the Council's solicitor, was considered and agreed. A revised draft lease will be sought for consideration by Norton Pre-school.

Action: Clerk

17. 2019/13 Worcester Parkway Station

An update was received regarding the revised proposals for the Norton element of the Parkway Active Travel Corridor and the availability of plans to reflect these. Following public question time discussions, an enquiry will be made regarding access to land/properties within the proposed traffic light controlled section of Woodbury Lane.

Action: Clerk

In view of the delay in receipt of the revised proposals, it was agreed to include a briefing session within the Annual Parish Meeting. It was noted that despite efforts to incorporate 'Norton' in the Parkway Station name, plans remain for the station to be known as 'Worcestershire Parkway Station'.

18. 2019/14 Southern Link Road (SLR) Improvement Works and Crossing Points

An update was received regarding SLR improvements and crossing points. Cllr. Adams is exploring the timing of bridge installations as discussed under agenda item 5a.

19. 2019/15 Public Open Space/Verge Maintenance, Highways and Drainage Matters

The s106 application relating to a second phase of works to further improve the Hall playing field drainage has been finalised for submission as agreed. A timescale is being sought from Worcs CC for finishing off the area following removal of the hedge to the rear of 1 Salamanca Drive.

20. 2019/16 Neighbourhood Plans

An update was received including working group membership, current activities and next stages. Terms of reference will be discussed at the next working group meeting. To cover incidental costs associated with the Neighbourhood Plan process, it was agreed for the working group to incur expenditure of up to £100 on up to 3 occasions, with supporting receipts to be obtained. This authorisation will be incorporated within the working groups terms of reference. Proposed Cllr Fincher, seconded Cllr Richmond and agreed by all.

21. 2019/17 Employment Matters

The Clerk left the meeting at 10.15pm, returned at 10.20pm, and was requested to record that it had been unanimously agreed to adopt the National Joint Council for Local Government Services pay scales for 2019-2020 for implementation from 1 April 2019.

22. 2019/18 Allotments

An update was received. Use of The Probation Service by Norton College to assist with clearance/maintenance of the allotment rented from the Parish Council was agreed, based on the detailed proposal and risk assessment received. Local residents and allotment tenants will be notified of this arrangement.

Action: Cllr Kelly/Assistant Clerk

23. 2019/19 Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

No update was available.

24. 2019/20 Bus Services/Littleworth Bus Shelter

An update on bus services was received and the Council expressed thanks to Mr Hughes for his continued involvement in bus services matters. An incident involving a bus damaging the Hall car park gates/fencing was noted, with a claim to be pursued via the bus operator once a quote for repair has been received.

Action: Clerk

25. 2019/21 Parish Hall

An update was received including continued success of the coffee shop, the community events programme, bathroom refurbishment, heating/insulation matters and electrics 'mapping'.

26. 2019/22 The Norton Worcestershire Regiment Group (NWRG)

The New Homes Bonus Sentry Statue funding application has been approved by the Wychavon Localism Panel and is awaiting final approval by the Wychavon Executive Board. Enquiries will be made regarding future statue maintenance needs and whether another information type board is planned to highlight the background to the statue and the reason for its installation. Action: Cllr. Lucas Once the statue has been installed, it was agreed in principle for this to be handed over to the Parish Council, upon completion of the project to a standard acceptable to the Council, subject to a risk assessment being produced by the NWRG for consideration by the Council prior to handover. The NWRG will insure and maintain the statue for the first year after installation, with handover to the Council agreed in principle from the second year, when the Council will take on insurance and maintenance responsibilities. Proposed Cllr Richmond, seconded Cllr Lucas and agreed by all.

27. 2019/23 Worcester Norton Sports Club (WNSC)

No further news. It was agreed to submit an application for the Cricket Club site to be re-registered as an Asset of Community Value and for Cllr Pollard to draft the application. Proposed Cllr Lucas, seconded Cllr Dawson and agreed by all.

Action: Cllr Pollard

28. 2019/24 Parish Council Owned Lands

An update was received.

29. 2019/25 Wychavon DC Taxi Consultation

It was agreed not to submit a response.

30. 2019/26 Worcestershire County Council Minerals Local Plan Consultation

It was agreed not to submit a response.

31. 2019/27 Parish Council Newsletter

Items for the spring newsletter to be submitted to the Clerk by 1 February.

32, 2019/28 Parish Council Election Timetable

Discussed and noted.

33. 2019/29 Wychavon Community Recognition Awards

Nomination of Cllr Howard Turvey was agreed. Cllr Fincher to draft a nomination for review by Cllr Pollard for submission by 1 February. Proposed Cllr Pollard, seconded Cllr Richmond and agreed by all.

Action: Cllr Fincher and Cllr Pollard

34. 2019/30 Finance

a) It was proposed by Cllr. Pollard, seconded by Cllr. Dawson and all were in agreement that the accounts presented to the meeting, as summarised below, be approved for payment/confirmation. <u>Accounts for Confirmation:</u>

Category of	Detail	Amount £
Expenditure		(incl. VAT
		where
		payable)
Staff Costs	December 2018 payroll - Clerk & Assistant Clerk honorarium &	2,684.69
	groundsman & litter picking work (all gross incl. expenses via payroll),	
	NEST pension contributions, quarterly PAYE tax/NI payment	

Administration	Society of Local Council Clerk annual membership fee	175.00
	Allotments water bills	227.68
	Local Council Administration 11 th edition	110.99
Grounds	Clearance of fallen tree debris	264.00
Maintenance	Resurfacing and associated works to Norton Parish Hall car park	43,494.00
	Servicing of mower and repair of strimmer	151.06
	TOTAL	47,107.42

Accounts for Payment:

Category of	Detail	Amount £
Expenditure		(incl. VAT
		where
		payable)
Staff Costs	January 2019 payroll - Clerk & Assistant Clerk honorarium &	2,195.78
	groundsman & litter picking work (all gross incl. expenses via payroll),	
	NEST pension contributions	
	Annual charge for emptying & cleansing 3 dog/litter bins	267.30
Administration	Annual insurance renewal	2,728.87
	Expenses reimbursement to Clerk	98.54
	Chairman's Allowance payment	28.23
	Number puzzle prizes winter newsletter	15.00
	TOTAL	5,333.72
	GRAND TOTAL	52,441.14

35. 2019/31 Correspondence for Information

See Appendix 1 for a list of correspondence received and noted.

36. 2019/32 Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions and Expenditure Delegations since the Last Meeting Removal of tree debris from the area around the Littleworth bus shelter at a cost of £220 plus VAT. Proposed Cllr Pollard, seconded Cllr Dawson and agreed by all

37. 2019/33 Items for Update to Local M.P.

Items for discussion are being considered.

38. 2019/34 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda

None.

39. 2019/35 Date of Next and 2019 Meetings

28th February, 28th March, 25th April, 23rd May (Annual Parish Council Meeting), 27th June, 18th July, 26th September, 24th October and 28th November.

Action: All Members

Annual Parish Meeting: Date being reviewed for agreement.

The meeting closed at 11.12pm.

Correspondence Received for 24th January 2019 Parish Council Meeting			
Sender	Subject		
CALC	• Updates on various matters and training sessions, including Updates on various matters and training sessions, including Elections Briefing, Street Lights in Stoulton, Return on Investment, Welcome to the Natural Networks Programme, Worcestershire County Council Budget Engagement Meeting 23 January, Get to know your Safer Neighbourhood Team, 2019 Tryangle Awards, Superfast Worcestershire Winter Newsletter, Section 137 Limit 2019/20, PCC Draft Budget Consultation, County Council Budget Engagement Meeting, Tree Management, Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement, Elections 2019, Merry Xmas from the ICO, Paul Robinson – WCC Chief Executive visits, UK Non Compliance Register, Welcome to the Natural Networks Programme, Superfast Broadband, 2019–20 Salary Scales, Internal Audit, Latest Email Scam, Community Engagement Workshop, Annual Playground Inspection, Wychavon Area Meeting, 6th December – Grants and Funding for Parish Councils, reminders from CALC, news from NALC, dates for the diary, training opportunities, vacancies (to Parish Councillors)		
Clerks & Councils Direct	Wychavon Area Meeting 6 December Magazine January 2019		
CPRE	Campaigns updates, village green applications, Winter Fieldwork magazine		
Eureka Direct	Brochure – first aid, hygiene and safety related products		
Glasdon	Product brochure		
Highways England	Notice of work: M5 J6 to J9 lighting upgrade – overnight works 28 Jan to 3 May		
Resident	Drainage matters, car park resurfacing connected matters, replacement trees, traffic/		
Resident	parking management schemes relating to the Parkway Station		
Resident	Appreciation for removal of hedge at the entrance to Salamanca Drive		
Resident	SCAM information		
Resident	Hedge and pavement maintenance Church Lane		
Resident	Anti-social behaviour updates		
Resident	Woodbury Lane road closure information		
Resident	Parking issues		
Resident	Parking issues		
Resident	Speeding traffic Vimiera Close		
NALC	Newsletters, Spring Conference, Chief Exec's bulletin, open letter to councillors		
National Allotments Society	Allotment officers' forum in West Midlands		
NBB Ltd	Brochure – outdoor shelters and cigarette litter disposal products		
Police & Crime	PCC Newsletters, Budget Consultation, Extra Officers		
Commissioner			
Rural Services Network	Bulletins: Rural opportunities, Rural Vulnerability Service, Rural News Digest		
Soc. Local Council Clerks	National Pay Award 2019/20, The Clerk magazine January 2019		
West Mercia Police	Rural and Business Crime Update Dec 2018		
	Reported crimes in the Parish		
	Changes to local Policing team		
Western Power Distribution	Winter Resilience Committee to help protect customers in vulnerable situations		
Worcs CC	• Temporary signals on Temeside Way		
	• Invitation to Natural Networks Launch Event - 31st January - scheme offers		
	funding to individuals and groups to implement improvements for wildlife		
	• Invitation to budget engagement meeting on 23 January - 6pm		
	Bus Scrutiny - Findings and Report		
	• Temporary closure Woodbury Lane expected 7 January for 5 days		
	• Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan: Fourth Stage Consultation And Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document: Proposed Site Selection Methodology (closing date 8 February)		

Wychavon DC	Supporting communities events
	Evesham Leisure Centre extension opened by local Paralympian
	Wildlife mindlessly killed in fire at Avon Meadows
	Prospective/existing councillors candidate seminars
	• May 2019 elections timetable
	• Residents can help shape future of high streets – SWDP survey
	• Annual community grants scheme - focus on individual projects with the theme
	of 'Community Engagement'
	Music workshops in Wychavon
	W-Factor auditions
	• Wychavon's parks set for £200,000 revamp
	Community Recognition Awards
Council Tax Base information	
	Invitation to Planning Enforcement Summit 31 January
	Annual police trophy awarded to PCSO Droitwich Safer Neighbourhood Team
	Christmas greetings
	Wychavon Chairman visits Royal Mail staff
	• Eco business provides theme for 23 January breakfast meeting
	• 'Festive Fun on Westlands', Droitwich, on Friday 21 December from 4pm to 7pm
	• Taxi and Private Hire Licensing - Consultation on the Introduction of Disability
	Awareness Training and Practical Driver Assessments (closing date 1 March)
	Natural Network Programme event
	Archdiocese of Birmingham Funding Update
	Music workshops in Wychavon
Wychavon DC Planning	Agenda and minutes for Planning meeting 10 January 2019
	Minutes for Planning meeting 13 December 2018

Public Question Time Discussions

Four members of the public attended the public question time session, one (NJK CE First School Chair of Governors) in relation to a change of age range for NJK CE First School and three in relation to proposals for the Norton element of the Parkway Active Travel Corridor. Discussions are summarised as follows:

Change of age range for NJK CE First School:

- 2 new classes are being added; year 5 from Sept 2019 and year 6 from Sept 2020.
- The pupil admission number has reduced from 40 to 30 pupils, resulting in a maximum pupil number of 210 across the 7 years from Reception to year 6. Previously the maximum pupil number was 200 (5 classes of up to 40 pupils).
- The impact upon traffic and parking in Littleworth has been considered and in view of the small increase in maximum pupil numbers, it is believed that this will be manageable, particularly as many pupils will be siblings and a number walk within the village of Littleworth.
- School is keen to continue to aim to reduce congestion in Littleworth and continues to remind parents about the need to park considerately and that the Parish Hall site and The Retreat offer car parking facilities. Suggestions of a 'shuttle' service from the Hall car park, and whether there is potential for use of the Methodist Church car park, will be raised with the school governing board by the Chair of Governors. Whilst a walking bus from the Parish Hall previously ceased due to a lack of volunteers, this type of scheme continues to be considered.
- No school building works are required to accommodate the additional classes.
- The Chair of Governors will provide an article for the spring Parish Council newsletter to communicate the changes, and the potential impact upon traffic/parking, to residents.
- Concern was expressed that there have been traffic/parking problems with pupil numbers at 120 and therefore a longer term solution needs to be sought in preparation for school operating near to its capacity of 210 (anticipated by 2022).

Proposals for the Norton element of the Parkway Active Travel Corridor:

- Clarification regarding the detail of the proposals was sought. An overview was provided of the draft proposals that have been shared with the Parish Council, with the caveat that these are being revised by Worcs CC and it is understood are being discussed with affected local landowners.
- The Parish Council is due to receive an update on proposals following the Worcs CC engagement with local landowners and once the revised proposals have been received a community briefing session will be arranged.