

WARNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 2nd December 2019 at

Lyppard Hub commencing 7:30pm.

PRESENT:

Cllrs A Cross, R Norfolk, A Taylor, D Merriman, D Carney, S Hodgson, L Hodgson, J Scrine

Also, present : Cllr A Roberts, 2 members of the public, Worcester News reporter.

APOLOGIES :

None

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST :

Cllr L Hodgson declared a non-pecuniary interest for discussions re SWDP.

Police report – email report was noted.

THE MEETING WAS SUSPENDED AT THIS POINT TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL.

A member of the public reported that one of the red bat lights was out on the bypass, Cllr Roberts will act. He also raised GTech and it was explained that Parish Council views would be discussed later.

180. The minutes of the meeting on the 4th November 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed : Cllr. Norfolk, Seconded : Cllr Scrine, all present agreed. The minutes of the Special Meeting on 25th November 2019 were also agreed, Proposed Cllr Taylor, Seconded : Cllr S Hodgson, unanimously agreed.

181. **Appointment of Clerk.**

Advert is with CALC, Facebook and recent newsletter. Advertisement will be done next week. The Clerk confirmed that there has been interest.

182. **Councillor Reports**

- Cllr. Roberts reported that he had some concern about the state of the block pavement around the SSSI site. The path is in private ownership. Once ownership established Clerk will write to them. City Council can identify owners.
- Cllr. L Hodgson presented her report, there were no questions.

183. **To receive Environmental Reports from :**

Cllr. Merriman – had no report to present due to computer problems. She verbally commented on the tree survey, she hopes to get things moving on the mapping exercise and then move onto small area detailed investigations. She said that the VEG group would be planting 30 trees in Aconbury Orchard next week and any volunteer help would be appreciated.

No further update from the City Council meeting, the Clerk has sent them an email to chase up on communication. Cllr. Merriman has logged 30 service requests to the City Council.

Invoicing for Environmental and other services were being issued late and hopefully that will improve quickly. Volunteer activity continues at two sessions per month.

Village Gateways – still waiting for County road scheme to be announced.

VAS Result – no report was available. Agreed that it should be immediately moved to a new location complete with new batteries. A report can then be prepared for the January meeting.

184. Environmental Committee.

It was agreed in principle that the Parish Council should have a committee to work on environmental issues with emphasis on greenspace engagement. The Committee should be a mix of members and public. It was agreed that a Working Party be organised in order to clarify the objectives of the proposed Committee and that terms of reference be presented to the next Council meeting. Cllrs. Norfolk, Cross, L Hodgson, S Hodgson and D Merriman will be the initial Working Party. The Clerk will arrange the first meeting.

185. Planning and Rights of Way –

Planning Applications - Cllr. S. Hodgson presented his report. Saltwood Avenue development causing some concern and has been called in. Cllr. Taylor declared an interest at this point. Purleigh Avenue details seem to have been misplaced ? Proposal to put new signs at Lyppard Shopping Centre needs attention.

Cllr Taylor spoke about the GTech applications. The PC document had not been circulated to members of the Planning Committee until 15 minutes before the meeting started, Cllrs. Taylor & Cross had both tried to influence the vote but to no avail.

The new GTech application appears to be in breach of the planning conditions, questions need to be asked. Application is due to be determined just 3 days before the planning permission expires !

An update was given on the Neighbourhood Plan progress. Brodie has completed two documents which will be circulated next week, they consist of a background paper and evidence-based paper, these should be carefully studied.

The document which Brodie is putting together on behalf of the Parish Council will be ready for comment at the end of this week.

186. Leisure and Community Affairs.

- Newsletter – has been circulated. Some copies have been dumped along with Journals. Cllr. Merriman to investigate.

- PC Facebook – some announcements added.
- Bench Strategy – deferred to next meeting.
- Unadopted Land – see Cllr. L Hodgson report for latest update.
- Allotments Update - 8 on the waiting list, one new person added to the waiting list (£10.00 deposit handed to Clerk) bracket missing. Water system has been drained down for winter.
- Website – Cllr. Norfolk presented his report. We have gone for the more expensive option and considered some drone footage to best show the Parish.
- Defibrillators – Cllr Carney said that he now had everything handed over and would shortly visit each site and meet with the people there.
- Telephone Box consultation...the PC would prefer to keep one public line available in the current phone box. The Clerk will write a response to the consultation

187. To Receive Reports from Outside Bodies.

- Lyppard Hub Management Board – No report.
- Worcester City Standards Committee – a meeting had been held on 13th November, complaints to the ombudsman had increased.
- CALC updates – nothing for the Parish.

188. Future Reports to Council.

This matter is waiting for a Working Party to meet.

189. Councillor Reports for Future Agendas.

There were none.

190. Report of the Clerk.

Budget

Preliminary budget figures have been prepared on a spreadsheet which had been circulated. The numbers for 2020/21 indicate that we will need a 3% increase in Precept in order to meet our project needs as planned. The following two years look similar.

Members were happy with the figures and agreed to go forward to the January 2020 meeting with a view to confirming the numbers. In the meantime, minor changes can be considered.

Deposit Account

After some discussion, members agreed that the Council transfers £75,000 into a Deposit Account at Redwood Bank. Proposed : Cllr Hodgson, Seconded : Cllr Taylor. All present agreed.

The Clerk presented the following accounts for payment as listed. Proposed : Cllr. Cross Seconded : Cllr. S Hodgson, all present agreed to pay those listed below.

Computer

Parish Council laptop has been fixed and we have invested in a Kaspersky Security system, both have been paid for prior to today because of the urgency required.

Approval of Accounts for Payment :

• SymsNET	Repair of Laptop	£85.00 (Retrospective)
• Kaspersky	Laptop Protection	£34.98 (Retrospective)
• Pace Print	Newsletter print	£900.00
• D Merriman	NP Postage	£4.50
• PC Websites	Down payment	£248.70

Confirmation of Cash received

• Allotment Plot	Deposit	£10.00
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Additional Bank Signatory

The Clerk suggested that the Parish Council should consider authorising another bank signatory. It was proposed by Cllr. Carney and Seconded by Cllr. Cross that Cllr. L Hodgson be added to bank mandate. This was agreed.

EMR

It was agreed that we move the EMR against allotments (£4000.00) back to general reserve as the project was now finished.

Town Council Board

Worcester City Council has asked us to put forward a member to sit on this Board. It was agreed that Cllr. Jan Scrine be elected.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Date of the next monthly meeting is 6th January 2020 at 7.30pm