

# MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023

- Present** Cllrs L Stephenson (Chair), R Weston, I McCord, J Hill, N Wickens, T Robinson, L Llewellyn, J Thorne & A Curtis & Ward Cllr Pritchard.
- 5003** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** None
- 5004** 2. COUNCIL MATTERS
- a) **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Weston declared an interest in Agenda item 7.3a), Cllr Curtis declared an interest in Agenda item 8.1g) & Cllr Wickens declared an interest in Agenda item 8.1.h)
- 5005** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1 Agreement as a true record: Councillor Wickens objected to minute 7.1b) of the Minutes of meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 regarding WNS/2023/0201/RES – Wharf Lane Stables and the resulting submission to WNC. Objection due to: - Councillors did not resolve to object to the application. Concern over the size and scale of the proposed building was expressed by one Councillor, but this was not supported by the Council. One Councillor stated he preferred to see a single storey structure, but this was not supported by the Council. The statement submitted to WNC was not that of the Council. Councillor Wickens also reflected that it is the role of the Council to comment on the application before it, not to propose alternatives. This could compromise further consideration of the application.
- a) Matters arising: None.
- 5006** 4. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION:** Opened 7.20pm. Closed 7.35pm. Notes attached.
- 5007** 5. **Community Items:** It was agreed that the Annual Parish Assembly be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May in the Village Hall, prior to the Parish Council meetings.
- 5008** 6. **New Projects:**
- a) Cllr Wickens reported that a meeting of the community group considering ideas for a new play area had taken place, and there was a great deal of interest from the school and pre-school for the plans. An application to the FCC Community Action Fund for a grant towards the project was planned.
- 5009** 7. **PLANNING MATTERS** - Cllr McCord took no part in discussions.
- 7.1 Applications received:
- a) WNS/2023/0427/LBC – 8 High Street. Demolition of an existing single storey extension to the side, and replaced with a larger single storey extension. Cllr Stephenson proposed that the Council had no objections to the application but requested that any concerns raised by neighbours be addressed. Seconded by Cllr Wickens. All apart from Cllr McCord (abstained) in favour.
- b) WNS/2023/0309/OUT – 28 Warren Road. Outline planning application for new dwelling (all matters reserved except for access). Cllr Stephenson proposed the Council object to the application as it is back land development contrary to Policy GS4 of the Local Plan Part 2. Seconded by Cllr Weston. All apart from Cllr McCord (abstained) in favour.
- c) WNS/2023/0357/FUL – Potterspurty Cottage, Potterspurty Lodge. Single storey front, single storey rear/side, first floor rear extension & external alterations. Cllr Stephenson proposed that the Council had no objections to the application but requested that any concerns raised by neighbours be addressed. Seconded by Cllr Llewellyn. All apart from Cllr McCord (abstained) in favour.
- d) WNS/2022/1741.EIA – Furtho Pit, Old Cosgrove Road. Application for full planning permission for the erection of 9 x employment units – New documents received. Noted.
- 7.2 Applications approved:
- a) WNS/2022/2264/FUL – 69 Eastfield Crescent. 2 storey side extension and 1st floor extension above existing rear single storey extension. 3 conditions.
- b) WNS/2023/0029/FUL – 101 Hesketh Road. Single storey rear extension with pitched roof, side extension of existing front garage with installation of pitched roof. 3 conditions.
- c) WNS/2023/0125/FUL – Kingfisher Marina – Demolition of existing barn and replacement with a Marina manager’s residential flat and office building. 8 conditions.
- 7.3 **Other Planning:**
- a) Potterspurty Road Solar Farm – No further information.
- 5010** 8. **Finance Matters**
- 8.1 **ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:**
- a) Clerk’s salary Mar 23 = £533.50 (001595).
- b) PAYE Tax = £133.40 (paid by direct debit)
- c) Correction to PAYE Tax = £7.60 (paid by direct debit)
- d) BT Broadband = £34.40 (paid by direct debit)
- e) Mrs Schumacher – caretaking of play areas – Mar 23 = £50.00 (001596).
- f) DNH Contracts – dog bins Mar 23 - £82.50 + £16.50 VAT = £99.00 (001597)
- g) Yardley Gobion Village Hall – room hire - £20.00 (001598)
- h) Mr N Wickens – reimbursement for annual cost of Wordpress website = £36.00 + £7.20 VAT = £43.20 (001599).
- i) CPRE – Annual subscription = £36.00 (001600)
- j) Mrs T Tarry – reimbursement for cost of installation of additional water supply at the allotment site = £94.74 (001601)
- k) Connolly Accountants & Business Advisors Ltd – Payroll y/e 31/3/23 - £127.50 + £25.50 = £153.00 (paid by direct debit)
- l) LC Hedging & Grass Maintenance Ltd – mowing contract - £1,000.00 + £200.00 VAT = £1,200.00 (001602)

m) E.on plc – lighting maintenance - £134.23 + £26.85 = £161.08 (001603)  
Proposed by Cllr Stephenson and seconded by Cllr Weston.

**8.2 Receipts:**

- a) Allotment rent = £30.00
- b) Goat field rent = £120.00

**8.3 OTHER**

- a) Bank balances as at last statements – Lloyds - £25,744.68 (30.3.23) SW - £2,092.62 (1.1.23).
- b) Goat Field lease – This had been signed on behalf of the PC. Cllr Wickens proposed that unless the proposed tenant had objections to the lease that he be given 30 days to sign or be given 12 months’ notice of termination. Seconded by Cllr Thorne. Cllr Stephenson would take advice from the solicitors to ensure this course of action was in order. Cllrs Curtis & Weston abstained – all others in favour
- c) Internet Banking – The card reader and PIN for the Chair were awaited.
- d) Request for consideration of a donation to cover the cost of 2 banners to be displayed on the railings around the play area to raise awareness of the fund raising. After discussion Cllr Llewellyn proposed that a grant be approved up to £100.00 + VAT. Seconded by Cllr Robinson. All in favour.
- e) Funding for public consultation information in connection with future burial provision for the village. After discussion, Cllr Weston proposed that as Councillors were in principle supportive of the suggestion of a leaflet drop around the village an indication of the leaflet being considered be provided, together with projected costs, prior to approval of funding. Seconded by Cllr Curtis. All in favour.
- f) Approval of renewal quotation for PC insurance policy for 23/24 in the sum of £602.87. Cllrs delegated approval to Cllr Stephenson after satisfactory review.

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**9. Councillor Reports:**

- a) Street Lighting – Awaiting invoice for the final tranche of lighting refurbishment which had been carried out. The street light outside 60B Moorend Road had been reported as damaged and a quotation in the sum of £335.00 + VAT had been received. Cllr Weston proposed this be accepted. Seconded by Cllr McCord. All in favour.
- b) Village Trees – The village tree survey was awaited. Complaints had been made concerning the encroachment of the hedge along Budge Road and the Clerk was asked to request that this be trimmed within 28 days.
- c) Allotments – Cllr Curtis advised that the work to install an additional water supply had gone well. However, a complaint had been made from a plotholder concerning the roots of willow trees in the adjoining goat field, which were extending into and encroaching on his plot. Cllr Stephenson proposed that the Clerk write to the tenant of the goat field advising them that the roots from their willow trees were continuing to damage neighbouring allotments and request that they take steps to alleviate this problem and ensure the roots were contained. Seconded by Cllr Curtis. All in favour.
- d) Village Hall – Cllr Curtis reported the AGM would be held in May. There would be notification in The Old Mail, Facebook, on noticeboards and via a leaflet drop as at present there was no Chair and no Treasurer. If no one came forward at the AGM the Hall might have to close.
- e) Recreation Centre – Cllr Weston noted that the building had suffered some wind damage, which was being repaired. More Committee members were needed.
- f) Playing fields – no problems to report.
- g) Highways – The Clerk was asked to escalate the matter of the damaged wall at the Coffee Pot to WNC Highways.
- h) Mowing – Cllr Thorne advised that 2 cuts had been carried out, with no reported problems. He mentioned that the daffodils at the entrance to the village looked very good.

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**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- a) **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**  
**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 – 7.15pm in the Village Hall**  
**Followed by**  
**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 8pm followed by**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Meeting closed 8.40pm.

**PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

As Ward Councillor, Cllr McCord advised that the Furtho Pit application was being worked on. There were public consultations open on Taxis and Home/School transport from September 24. WNC was proposing to reduce the number of Planning Committees from 4 to 3 – instead of Strategic, Daventry, Northampton & South Northants, there would be Strategic and 2 others. At present the balance of Council and area was represented, but it appeared that this would not be so in the new Committees. It had also been suggested that there would be no substitute Members.











