

MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 5th December 2017

- Present** Cllrs Mrs L Wolstenholme (Chair), A Curtis, J Hill G Phillips, & residents Mr (later Councillor) Richard Weston, Mrs Westlake & Mrs Shepherd.
- 4383 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Novakovic & County Cllr Walker.
- 4384 2. COUNCIL MATTERS**
- a) Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Curtis declared a personal interest in Agenda items 6.1j) & 7.3b) and took no part in discussions. Cllr Phillips declared an interest in Agenda item 7.3b)
- b) Resignation of Cllr Lance Keegan and Declaration of a Casual Vacancy.** The Clerk was asked to thank Mr Keegan for his contribution to the PC over the last few years.
- c) Co-option of new Councillor.** Mr Richard Weston had indicated his willingness to be co-opted to the Council. His co-option was proposed by Cllr Wolstenholme and seconded by Cllr Curtis. All Cllrs voted in favour. Cllr Weston signed his Acceptance of Office – witnessed by the Clerk.
- Cllr Wolstenholme welcomed Cllr Weston to the meeting and thanked him for his demonstration of community spirit.
- 4385 3. Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1** The Minutes of Meeting held 7.11.17 were approved by all Cllrs, and agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2** Matters Arising: Boundary dispute – Enterprise Inns' Estate Manager had advised that a new lease would cost in the region of £1,350.00 + VAT and asked if the PC were willing to cover these fees. The Clerk had responded that the PC was not in a position to meet those fees and was awaiting further approaches from Enterprise Inns.
- 4386 4. Open Forum:** Formally opened at 8.05pm.
Formally closed at 8.15pm.
Mrs Westlake & Mrs Shepherd leave 8.15pm
- 4387 5. Planning:**
- 5.1** Applications received:
- a)** S/2017/2660/FUL – Land to rear of 21 High Street. New dwelling. Cllrs objected to this application as follows "It is development of garden land, within the Yardley Gobion Conservation Area and detrimental to the character of the proposed setting. It is also intrusion into open land in the Special Landscape Area. The design is incongruous within its setting and would not integrate well with surrounding buildings. Access for emergency vehicles from the High Street is limited. Councillors would wish clarification as to whether any part of the application falls outside the village confines. Having regard to the decision of the Appeal dated 15/3/17 we do not see any significant changes from that proposal and the reasons behind the dismissal are still valid for this application."
- b)** S/2017/2668/FUL – Annexe, 3 Grafton Road. Part garage conversion to create ancillary dwelling. Cllrs had no objections to the application.
- c)** S/2017/2674/FUL – The Poplars, 4 Chestnut Road. Replacement single storey side extension, single storey rear extension, re-roof existing garage, replace some ground floor windows inn front & side (south) elevations, new window in ground floor rear elevation, replacement flat roof at rear. Cllrs supported this application.
- 5.2** Amendments: None.
- 5.3** Applications granted:
- a)** S/2017/2290/FUL – 17 Eastfield Crescent. Single storey rear extension. 3 conditions.
- b)** S/2017/2347/CON - Potterspurty Lodge School – Discharge of conditions 4,5,6 & 7.
- 5.4** Applications refused: None.
- 5.5** Applications withdrawn: None.
- 5.6** Outstanding Applications/Other planning. None.
- 4388 6. Finance Matters**
- 6.1** ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:
- a)** Clerk's salary Nov 17 = £355.14 (001029).
- b)** Clerk's expenses Nov 2017 – stamps = £5.04 (001030).
- c)** A H Contracts – dog bin emptying Nov 17 = £64.56 + £12.91 VAT = £77.47 (001031).
- d)** Mrs Schumacher – caretaking of play areas and pocket park – Nov 17 = £50.00 (001032).
- e)** BT – broadband - £25.00 – (paid by direct debit.)
- f)** YGRC – contribution to Senior Citizen's party = £250.00 (001033).
- g)** SLCC Membership = £100.00 (001034).
- h)** Ladywell Accountancy Services – PAYE Operation & RTI Filing = £42.00 (001035).
- i)** C J Rooney Electrical Services – Fitting cabinet for defibrillator - £359.31 + VAT £71.86 = £431.17 (001036).
- j)** Mr A Curtis – Allotment gate padlock replacement = £21.99 (001037).
- k)** E.on – electricity invoice - £1,297.17 + £259.43 VAT = £1,556.60 (001038).
Proposed by Cllr Hill and seconded by Cllr Phillips. Authorised by all Councillors (except 6.1 j) which Cllr Curtis took no part in).
- 6.2** PAYMENTS RECEIVED:
- a)** Allotment deposit = £40.00.
- 6.3** OTHER

- a) Bank balances as at last statements – Lloyds - £28,183.95 (15.11.17) SW - £2,087.62 (1.10.17).
- b) Workplace Pension scheme. The Clerk did not wish to be placed in a Workplace Pension scheme.
- c) Budget & Precept 2018-2019. The Clerk was asked to prepare and circulate a spreadsheet showing the breakdown of costs for the current year.
- d) Review of PC Grant aid. After discussion Cllr Curtis proposed and Cllr Hill seconded that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 142 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, was in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and would benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure – a donation of £400.00 to The Old Mail. The other grants were then discussed and following proposals from Cllrs Curtis and Hill the Council, in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, agreed to incur the following expenditure which, in its opinion, was in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and would benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure – Royal British Legion - £100.00, Willen Hospice - £250.00, Macmillan Cancer Care - £300.00 Warks & Northants Air Ambulance - £400.00. All in favour. The Council would also be happy to consider any other suitable good causes.
- 4389** 7. Committee Reports:
- 7.1 HIGHWAYS/R.O.W./MOWING/STREET LIGHTING
- a) Overhanging vegetation. None noted.
- b) Street Doctor – some work had been carried out in Moorend Road.
- c) Letter from Grays Lane residents expressing their concerns with regard to dangerous access. The Clerk had referred the letter to NCC Highways and was asked to forward their response onto the residents concerned.
- d) Northamptonshire Highways – Urban Highway Grass Mowing 2018. The Council decided to continue mowing the village via a contractor.
- 7.2 PLAYING-FIELD/VILLAGE TREES
- a) Monthly play area inspection reports. No problems reported – although there was a lot of rubbish in School Lane field.
- 7.3 ALLOTMENTS (TC)
- a) There was now only 1 vacant allotment. Cllr Curtis was still researching how to deal with the mouse problem. He also planned a newsletter with information for ploholders. **TC**
- b) Allotment rent review. Cllr Hill proposed the rent remain at £15.00 per plot for 2018. All in favour apart from Cllr Curtis who abstained.
- 7.4 POCKET PARK (JH)
- a) The Park itself was looking fine, with no problems reported although it was quite untidy in the ‘den’ area with cans and crisp packets.
- 4390** 8. Y G VILLAGE HALL
- a) The Committee were looking at replacing the heating system.
- 8.1 Y G RECREATION CENTRE
- a) Cllr Weston would attend the next Committee meeting. **RW**
- 4391** 9. COMMUNITY ITEMS
- a) Police & Crime Commissioner meeting 20th December 7pm at Wootton Hall. Interested Cllrs to contact the Clerk.
- b) Update on village defibrillator provision. The defibrillator and cabinet had been placed on the wall at the Village Hall on Monday 13th, and training for any residents who were interested would be provided in the New Year. A location for the second was being researched.
- c) Closure of Potterspur Road from 3rd January – 2nd February to replace water main. Cllr Phillips would publicise these road closures. **GP**
- d) Yardley Gobion Wellington Crash memorial plaque. An email had been received by the Clerk which advised that a relative of one of those commemorated wished to sponsor a replacement plaque in time for Remembrance Day 2018 as some of the names of the crew were spelt incorrectly. After much discussion the Clerk was asked to respond as follows ‘Councillors discussed the War Memorial at length and whilst in principle they are sympathetic to your wish to correct the spelling of your uncle’s name on the plaque, other discrepancies have been brought to their attention, and these would also need to be investigated and corrected at the same time. Prior to any changes taking place the WMT recommend a high level of research should be carried out, for example by looking at a combination of military and local records to ensure spellings of names are correct. We understand this could be particularly challenging as the WMT are aware of some cases where the details recorded by the CWGC are incorrect based on how the records were scanned or because the individual did not spell their name correctly when they signed up. The WMT advise obtaining corresponding birth/marriage/death certificates for each individual on the memorial to ensure the proposed spelling is correct. However, unfortunately, the Parish Council does not have the resources to carry out this research on your behalf. Councillors would also draw your attention to the age and condition of the memorial itself and regrettably have to advise that you would be responsible for the costs if any alterations were to cause damage to it.’
- e) Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Service Review 2017 Consultation – closing 13th January 2018. Response deferred until January meeting.

10. Date of next meeting:

- a) 9th January 2018 – 8pm at Chestnut Road Chapel, preceded by the Annual Allotment Holder's meeting at 7pm.

Meeting closed 9.45 pm.

Open Forum

Mrs Westlake noted a street light that required repairing outside the Village Hall, and also provided the original paperwork for the installation of the plaque on the War Memorial in 1997. Ms Shepherd expressed the concerns of many residents about the possible loss of the 90 bus service.

County Cllr Walker advised by email that he was working hard to retain the 90 bus service, however savings were planned and it was likely that the subsidised bus service would go which would have a serious effect on any residents wanting to travel to Stony Health Centre.