

MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7th March 2023

- Present** Cllrs L Stephenson (Chair), R Weston, I McCord, J Hill, N Wickens, T Robinson, L Llewellyn & A Curtis.
- 4993** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr J Thorne.
- 4994** 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).
- 4995** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1 Agreement as a true record: The Minutes of Meeting held 7.2.23 were approved by all Cllrs and agreed/signed as a correct record with the removal of the name of Cllr J Thorne from those present as he did not attend the meeting.
- a) Matters arising: A meeting of the future burial arrangements joint working group was planned for 16th March, 10am at the Church.
- 4996** 4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: Opened 7.32pm. Closed 7.42pm. Notes attached.
- 4997** 5. **Community Items:**
- a) Bridleway SH30 (west side of canal from Drift Farm to the Wharf.) Planning permission (S/2020/2079/FUL) was granted in May 2021 for the development of a cycle track adjacent to the Grand Union Canal, with 2 conditions. Condition 2 of the decision notice said "The use of the land hereby permitted shall cease completely and the land levelled and returned to its original condition within 1 year of the date of this permission (so by 18 May 2022) unless the applicant, or their successor in title, has prior to that date secured the diversion of bridleway SH30 under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, in accordance with the proposed diversion plan received by the Local Planning Authority on 4th January 2021." Condition 6 of the decision notice said "The development (of the cycle track) ... shall at no time be used by motorised vehicles." Use by motor cycles has been reported to the Parish Council on various occasions. It is noted that the cycle track is still in place and the bridleway has not been diverted. As neither Condition 2 or Condition 6 of the planning permission has been adhered to, Cllr Wickens proposed that Cllr McCord as Ward Councillor be asked to request that WNC Planning Enforcement take action as a matter of urgency to ensure the land is levelled and returned to its original condition, and the bridleway re-instated. Seconded by Cllr Stephenson. 5 in favour, 3 abstentions. Mrs Curtis, the Volunteer Parish Path Warden was thanked for her advice on this issue.
- 4998** 6. **New Projects:**
- a) Cllr Wickens advised that a meeting of the community group considering plans for a new play area was planned for 13th March at The Coffee Pot.
- 4999** 7. **PLANNING MATTERS** - Cllr McCord took no part in discussions.
- 7.1 Applications received:
- a) WNS/2023/0245/LBC & WNS/2023/0244/FUL – 4 Mount Pleasant. Installation of a 12-panel solar Pv system to the rear roof pitch. Cllrs had no objections to the application but requested that any concerns raised by neighbours be addressed.
- b) WNS/2023/0201/RES – Wharf Lane Stables. New 2 storey dwelling in combination with redevelopment of existing unit into staff facilities. Councillors objected to this application due to the size and scale of the proposed building. It appears to be over development of the site in a special landscape area. If it is minded to approve the application then we would prefer to see a single storey structure with permitted development rights removed in order to contain the size of the dwelling.
- c) WNS/2023/0274/FUL – Land off 1 Hortonsfield Road. Variation of condition 2 S/2020/0003/FUL – attached dwelling & associated works to increase width of dwelling. Cllrs had no objections to the application but requested that any concerns raised by neighbours be addressed.
- 7.2 Applications approved:
- a) WNS/2023/0003/LBC – 7 Moorend Road. Treatment of interior beams, internal work & security system installed. 2 conditions.
- 7.3 **Other Planning:**
- a) Potterspurty Road Solar Farm – A geological survey is planned for this week.
- 5000** 8. **Finance Matters**
- 8.1 ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:
- a) Clerk's salary Feb 23 = £533.50 (001588).
- b) PAYE Tax = £133.40 (paid by direct debit)
- c) Correction to PAYE Tax = £17.36 (paid by direct debit)
- d) BT Broadband = £34.40 (paid by direct debit)
- e) Mrs Schumacher – caretaking of play areas – Feb 23 = £50.00 (001589).
- f) DNH Contracts – dog bins Feb 23 - £66.00 + £13.20 VAT = £79.20 (001590)
- g) Yardley Gobion Village Hall – room hire - £20.00 (001591)
- h) Gulliver's Tree Solutions (G.T.S.) Ltd – Tree work in School Lane field. £500.00 + £100.00 VAT = £600.00 (001592)
- i) Viking – stationery - £42.11 + £10.88 VAT = £52.99 (001593)
- j) TEEC Ltd – website hosting. £153.99 + £30.80 VAT = £184.79 (001594).
Proposed by Cllr Stephenson and seconded by Cllr Llewellyn.
- 8.2 Receipts:
- a) Allotment rent = £160.00
- b) HMRC – VAT refund = £2,893.99

- c) WNC – mowing contribution = £484.29
- 8.3 OTHER**
- a) Bank balances as at last statements – Lloyds - £27,879.96 (1.3.23) SW - £2,092.62 (1.1.23).
 - b) Goat Field lease – This had been signed on behalf of the PC. The solicitors would be contacted for an update.
 - c) Internet Banking – The card reader and PIN had arrived – the card was awaited.
 - d) Review of Risk Assessment – this had been circulated, no comments had been received, therefore Cllr Stephenson proposed they be re-adopted. Seconded by Cllr Curtis. All in favour.
 - e) Review of Code of Conduct - this had been circulated, no comments had been received, therefore Cllr Stephenson proposed it be re-adopted. Seconded by Cllr Weston. All in favour.
 - f) New Model Standing Orders – to be circulated for any comments.
 - g) To consider fee for continuing the Wordpress website for reference = £36.00 – this was considered reasonable to ensure that information on that site was not lost.
 - h) Review of earmarked reserves. £4,000 for the replaced village lights, £1,000 for energy costs, £1,000 for Coronation celebrations & £500.00 for the tree survey (this is to be compliant with insurance requirements & PC risk assessment).

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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, but no quotation for repairing this had been received. The Clerk would chase this. Cllr Weston asked that when it was repaired it was raised higher up the column. A resident had commented to Cllr Curtis that they considered that Malborough Way was too dark, with 3 lights. Councillors considered that the lighting provision was compliant.
- b) Village Trees – Work had been carried out on the Norwegian maple tree in School Lane field, and a quotation of £500.00 + VAT had been provided for carrying out the village tree survey. (See above). The new trees at the entrance to the village were beginning to bud, and Roger Weston was thanked for keeping them watered.
- c) Allotments – Cllr Curtis advised that he would inspect the allotments after the current cold spell.
- d) Village Hall – Cllr Curtis reported no major issues. A new 12-month energy contract had been entered into in an attempt to save heating costs.
- e) Recreation Centre – Cllr Weston noted that the Committee were looking at replacing the boiler and would be approaching the PC for a grant towards this.
- f) Playing fields – no problems to report. Towcester Tigers had asked for permission to play 2 matches that had been cancelled due to bad weather on 19th & 26th April. There had been no adverse comments about their use of the field which was in a much better condition due to the work they had carried out, so permission was granted.
- g) Highways – Cllr Weston would research the cost of litterpickers prior to the next PC meeting, and the Clerk was asked to request a clean of the gullies which were full of debris where the village roads were breaking up.
- h) Mowing – Cllr Thorne had advised that the first cut for the village would take place on 13th March.

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10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a) **Tuesday 4th April 2023 – 7.15pm in the Village Hall**

Meeting closed 8.40pm.

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

As Ward Councillor, Cllr McCord advised that the WNC budget had been approved. Council Tax bills would be sent out in the near future. There had been no change to the draft budget, apart from some car park charges. The Boundary Commission had published draft proposals for WNC wards and suggested 76 Councillors instead of the current 93. School places had been announced. There had been nothing further on AL5 (Furtho Pit).

