

# MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021

- Present** Cllrs N Wickens (elected Chair for the meeting), L Llewellyn, J Hill, I McCord & R Weston & residents Mr & Mrs Westlake, Mrs Sharp & Mr Roche, & visitors from Solar2.
- 4821** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs J Thorne, A Curtis & L Stephenson.
- 4822** 2. **COUNCIL MATTERS**
- a) **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Llewellyn declared an interest in Agenda item 5.1a) and took no part in discussions.
- 4823** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1 Agreement as a true record: The Minutes of Meeting held 7.9.21 were approved by all Cllrs, and agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 4824** 4. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION:** Opened 7.17pm. Mrs Powell enters 7.29pm. Notes attached. Closed 7.43pm.
- 4825** 5. **PLANNING MATTERS** – Cllr McCord took no part in discussions or voting.
- 5.1 Applications received:
- a) WNS/2021/1441/TCA – 6c High Street. Removal of section of cherry tree and reduction of overgrown plum tree. Cllrs had no comments.
- 5.2 Applications approved:
- a) WNS/2021/1010/FUL – 15 High Street. Two detached dwellings with garages. 17 conditions. Cllrs expressed their surprise at this decision.
- b) WNS/2021/1186/TCA – Jubilee Cottage, Mount Pleasant. Fell 3 trees.
- c) WNS/2021/0788/FUL – 20 Mount Pleasant. Single storey rear extension. 2 conditions.
- d) WNS/2021/1006/FUL – 15 High Street. Detached garage with hobby room to rear. 3 conditions.
- 5.3 Other Planning:
- 4826** 6. **Finance Matters**
- 6.1 **ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:**
- a) Clerk's salary Sept 21 = £345.60 (001433).
- b) PAYE Tax = £86.40 (paid by direct debit)
- c) BT Broadband = £31.73 (paid by direct debit)
- d) Mrs Schumacher – caretaking of play areas – Aug 21 = £50.00 (001434).
- e) DNH Contracts – dog bins Aug 21 - £64.56 + £12.91 VAT = £77.47 (001435)
- f) The Ground Care Company – mowing contract - £1,300.00 + £260.00 VAT = £1,560.00 (001436)
- g) Information Commissioner – Data protection renewal fee = £35.00 (paid by direct debit)
- h) E.on – lighting maintenance - £93.16 (001437)
- Proposed by Cllr Hill and seconded by Cllr Weston.
- 6.2 Payments received
- a) HMRC – VAT refund = £2,372.17
- 6.3 **OTHER**
- a) Bank balances as at last statements – Lloyds - £35,985.66 (15.9.21) SW - £2,088.37 (1.7.21).
- b) Emergency Plan – A draft plan had been produced and was publicised on social media. No comments had been received and now more detail was required – e.g., names of people who could be called on in an emergency like first aiders or farmers.
- c) Goat Field lease – The draft lease would be sent to the proposed tenant for him to consider.
- 4827** 7. **Councillor Reports:**
- a) Street Lighting - the order had been placed for the remainder of the village lights to be upgraded. The light in Grays Lane was not working and the maintenance engineers requested that the hedge be cleared in order for them to replace the lantern. Cllr Weston volunteered to visit the residents concerned to request the area around the column be cleared.
- b) Village Trees – the tree safety survey had been received and noted no urgent work was necessary. It was agreed that a quote be requested to reduce the impact of the Norway Maple in School Lane field on the residents of 4 Lime Road.
- c) Allotments – No report.
- d) Village Hall – The AGM had taken place on 16<sup>th</sup> September and new Committee members had come forward. New blinds had been fitted to the windows and groups were gradually returning.
- e) Recreation Centre – Cllr Weston reported that the Recreation Centre was extending its opening hours, and hoping to expand to a full week. In order to deal with recent problems with the cleaning this would now be carried out twice a week. The AGM would be held on Tuesday 12th October.
- f) Playing fields – no issues reported.
- g) Highways, including concerns about safety in Moorend Road. The Clerk had received emails from a resident concerned about safety along Moorend Road and had contacted WNC Highways with suggestions for improving the safety of the road including improved signage indicating sharp bends and a narrow road, and the cutting back of the verges, which were encroaching and made the road look narrower than it was. Unfortunately, Highways were not willing to carry out any further work on the road, and requested that problems with overgrown hedges and verges be reported to Fix my Street.
- h) Cllr McCord noted problems with footpaths SH 18,19 and 20 and the Clerk was asked to make contact with the Parish Path Warden.
- i) Mowing – no issues reported, apart from comments made in Public Open Time (see below). The contractor would be asked to remove the undergrowth mentioned.
- 4828** 8. **Community Items**

- a) Position of memorial bench. Cllr Wickens advised that the Insurance Certificate provided by the proposed contractor did not cover public work, only private, and permission was conditional on receiving the correct insurance certificate covering public works installations. The Clerk would confirm this to Mr Roche. It was agreed that once the old bench had been removed it should not be placed where the public could access it, and Cllr Weston volunteered to house it in his garden.
- b) Oxford Cambridge ARC – The consultation closes on 12<sup>th</sup> October and the Clerk would respond on behalf of the PC.
- c) War Memorial plaque – due to the requirement for approval from the PCC and time constraints, Cllr McCord proposed that a budget of £150.00 + VAT be set for the preparation and engraving of a bronze plaque and affixing it to the Memorial. This would enable the PCC to carry out the work without further reference to the PC. Seconded by Cllr Llewellyn. All in favour.

4829

- 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
- a) 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, 7.15pm in the Village Hall

Meeting closed 8.30 pm.

#### PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

Mrs Sharp expressed her concerns about Asana Lodge and asked for the support of the Parish Council in objecting to the planning application. Cllr Wickens read out the PC's response to the Planning Inspector which strongly objected to the application for change of use.

Mrs Westlake asked about the proposed wording for the plaque to commemorate the installation of the War Memorial in 1921, and advised that she was not in favour of the plaque being attached to a wooden plinth and would prefer it to be attached to the memorial itself.

Mr Westlake complimented the mowing contractors on the recent cut of the village but noted that footpath SH9 had not been cleared all season.

Mr Roche advised that the bench had been delivered, and that the existing concrete slab requiring replacing. He would be unable to refurbish the existing bench within the month but would deal with it as soon as he could.

Representatives from Solar2 advised they were considering a 63 hectare solar farm along the Yardley Road on land owned by Oxford colleges. This would be a 40 year project. They planned to work with the community with a full public consultation from November 2021.

As Ward Councillor, Ian McCord advised that WNC were consulting on the refresh of the Local Plan part 1 and highlighted two sites of interest, namely near the Old Stratford Roundabout and near Towcester Racecourse.





