

# WICK PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT WICK CLUB

WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019 AT 7.00PM

Present: Councillors David Scott - Chairman  
Lynne Raymer – Vice Chairman  
Jill Williams  
Rosemary Kings  
Mark Baker  
33 Electors

1. Apologies were received from Cllr T Rowley and Malcom Meikle
2. Declaration of members' interests. No interests declared.
3. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 18th April 2018 were approved and the Chairman signed the minutes.
4. Parish Council Report
  - Finance Review 2018/19 – Provisional year end accounts and a financial review were made available to Cllrs and parishioners in attendance. Cllr Scott advised that *grants received* were less than last year due to the fact that the previous year included the Transparency Code grant to enable us to set up our own website and purchase of a laptop. This was reflected in the expenditure during 2018/19. Currently the parish council holds unrestricted funds of £12,000. It was suggested by Cllr Scott that a reserve from these funds, be set aside for *elections costs*, if ever there was a case for an election. Also a further £5,000 as an emergency *legal* fund. This is a CALC recommendation. To be discussed further at the next parish council meeting. There were no concerns raised on the accounts from parishioners or Cllrs.
  - Footways / highways update – Cllr Williams reported on the new footways in Main Street. There were mixed feelings with regard the new kerbing laid, but Cllr Williams advised that this had been chosen by WCC. A question raised from parishioners was whether there could be more consultation between the parish council and WCC when the next stage is carried out, as to the type or kerbs used or whether any new ones were actually needed. A further question asked as to whether any further re-surfacing will extend into Cooks Hill. This will not be known until allocated funds have been agreed by WCC. It was also reported that there had been substantial re-surfacing carried out in Cooks Hill, School Lane and Yock Lane. Cllr Williams paid particular thanks to Gerry Brienza (WCC Highways) for all of his help and support in enabling the works to be carried out. Gerry Brienza has now left WCC, and Barry Barnes is the new engineer. A point raised by a parishioner, that he had cause to report pot-holes on the WCC website, and he commented how simple the procedure was, and the issue was actioned very quickly. Full copy of Cllr Williams' report is attached
  - Playground – Cllr Kings reported that last years Picnic in the Park had been a great success with £175 raised. The Winter Warmer in December raised a further £1,200 towards playground funds. Volunteers help with clean up days, inspection of the playground and defibrillators. There is now a small sub-committee who meet up to discuss future projects before reporting back to the parish council. Currently under consideration are steps to the side of the slide and a double baby swing – both suggestions made by users of the park. New cricket stumps have been purchased, as well as a new basket ball back board. Some re-painting is needed and will be carried out shortly. The moss on the cricket pitch is an ongoing problem and as steam cleaner is to be used. This will cost approx. £40 to hire. Approval was given for this expenditure. The Picnic in the Park is scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> June with the Winter Warmer for 7<sup>th</sup> December. Thanks were paid to all involved. Fully copy of Cllr Kings report is attached.

- Flood Alleviation – Cllr Scott reported that the sandbags had been re-bagged and everything is in place, should the need arise, for distribution by volunteers.
- Website – Cllr Raymer presented the new website to those in attendance, explaining the need for one to comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code. This was financed by a grant from the Transparency Code fund for the full amount and included technical IT support. The website allows the parish council to display minutes, agendas and financial information (a legal requirement), as well as details for village groups. Any information which is needed to be included on the website should be forwarded to the clerk. Comments made were that the website was very good.
- Broadband – Cllr Raymer reported that both cabinets were now up and running and capable of supplying faster broadband, although the responsibility lies with the householder to make their own arrangements with their provider. Thanks were paid to County Cllr Hardman (WCC) and Robert Stepniewski for all of their help and support with the funding of this project.
- Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Raymer advised that the email notification system works well. Anyone requesting their details to be updated, removed or added should contact Cllr Raymer. A recent visit by the *Nottingham Knockers* was reported to the police and an increased police presence in the village had been noticed. She has attended a number of PACT meetings on behalf of the parish council and priorities raised at the meetings are sent to the police for action and support. A request was made by a parishioner for notices/stickers for windows. Cllr Raymer would action this. PACT report attached.
- New Homes Bonus – Wick has approximately £7,000 of NHB available. A suggestion for Information / History Boards had been discussed with officers at Wychavon District Council, as to the eligibility for NHB. This had been considered to be suitable and was given support from WDC. A sample ‘mock up’ of a board was on display for parishioners to view, as well as a digital presentation. This was well received by those in attendance. A private donation towards the cost of the boards has been promised to the parish council, and it is estimated that a further £4,000 of NHB will be applied for towards the costs. This will leave approx. £3,000 left over – suggestions made for possible expenditure re-marking of footpath, bus stop and an option to contribution to preferred kerb stones. Some of these would routinely be covered by WCC, but will be considered once the Information / History Boards project has been finalised. Thanks were paid to Cllrs Kings and Raymer for all of their assistance on the project.
- Elections – Cllr Scott advised that the size of the parish council has now increased to 7 seats and following a call for nominations, 5 seats had been filled, leaving 2 for filling by co-option. An introduction was made to Mark Heath, who would take his seat on the parish council as from May 7<sup>th</sup>. Cllr Scott advised that he would be stepping down.

5. Confetti Fields. Mr Hudson reported that last year they were overwhelmed by the success of the event and the sheer volume of traffic. Lessons had been learnt following the event to enable a smoother-run event this year. This included more support staff and a larger carparking facility with gates to be opened earlier (to relieve the build-up of waiting traffic. He enormously appreciated the support from village residents and thanked everyone. It is the intention to continue to improve the running of the event. One parishioner advised that whilst he was very supportive of the event, he felt that there are problems with traffic flow at the top of Timber Down, making it extremely difficult and dangerous for residents to access and egress their own properties. Much discussion took place and it was agreed that private discussion take place with Mr Hudson after the meeting.

6. Parish Games – Another successful year for Wick. Full report / results attached

7. County Councillors Report – to follow

8. District Councillors Report - Cllr Tony Rowley is standing for election for the Fladbury Ward, which covers Wick. He was unable to attend the meeting

. Any Other Business/ Issues Raised

- Car parking on corner by playground – an ongoing problem and a suggestion made that the grass verge could have a hard-standing installed. It was agreed that this would be raised with WCC.
- Bus stops – concerns raised with regard the pickup point for passengers on the B4084 being a safety concern. This has already been raised with WCC
- Parish Plan – is there a need for a review
- Junctions – a question raised as to whether it is possible to have *cats eyes* at the junction with the B4084 to aid detection of the junctions – this would be raised with WCC

Finally, Cllr Raymer presented Cllr Scott a token of our appreciation for his support and hard work as parish Councillor and chairman.