

MINUTES

WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wick Parish Council held on Tuesday 26th January 2021 at **held via Zoom**

PRESENT: Chair L Raymer Vice Chair J Williams Cllr R Kings
Cllr M Heath Cllr C Smith Cllr N Barker
District Cllr T Rowley County Cllr A Hardman Clerk – L Yapp

1. **APOLOGIES** – None received
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None declared
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from meeting 24th November 2020 were approved – proposed Cllr Heath, seconded Cllr Kings – all in favour

Parishioners Open Forum – Nothing to report

4. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT** - District Cllr Rowley reported
 - Planning Committee – Next meeting for WDC Planning Committee is 4th February – no issues affecting Wick
 - SWDP – next stage is Regulation 18, an additional procedure to enter into which included looking at any alternative sites – a requirement as part of the sustainable appraisal, but not a review of the whole plan. Consultation starts on 1st March for seven weeks. Gypsy and Traveller sites will also be included in the consultation. Cllr Rowley suggested that a representative from the parish council attends a forthcoming briefing/course on this.
 - Minerals Local Plan – Examination in Public – this was concluded just before Christmas and now awaiting the Inspectors Report to WCC, which is expected later this year.
 - Car Parking is still free in Pershore.
 - Fly Tipping is currently a problem between Charlton and Crophorne which the police are investigating.
5. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:** County Cllr Hardman reported:
 - WCC are out to consultation re their budget and proposing a 2.5% increase in council tax
 - Covid 19 is still dominating the County expenditure. WCC website now includes more detailed information on Covid rates for the area (search under *Dashboard*). The new variant is causing considerable concerns across the county. All care home residents in care homes within the County have been vaccinated.
 - Flooding early December – a lot of road closures and flooding around the hill. Cllr Hardman is putting together a report but was not aware of anything that affected Wick – this was agreed by Cllr Barker.
 - Countryside Services – Cllr Hardman has been lobbying for extra funds to be made available for Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and Countryside Services, with more walkers than cyclists at the moment. Cllr Hardman kindly offered to finance the cost of the footbridge / fitting. To liaise with AH / WCC PRoW
 - Yock Lane – covered under Highways below.
5. **COUNCILLORS MEETINGS** – nothing to report

6. HIGHWAYS:

- Yock Lane – Cllr Williams reported Cllr Hardman has taken a look at Yock Lane. Some small potholes have been attended which sadly seems to have been a waste of money and really needs a proper re-surface carried out, a sentiment agreed with by Cllr Hardman. He agreed to look into this further with WCC H/W, but did advise that this would be an expensive scheme for just a few houses and the farm. However, he was in agreement that a decision had to be made sooner rather than later. Drainage continues to be a problem both in Yock Lane and Waylands. Whilst there were no major problems during the last bouts of heavy rainfall, the issues seem to be that there is no longer a 'working ditch'. Photographs have been taken and these have been passed to the Land Drainage officer at WDC, who had replied that the '*case was closed as no evident ditches. Such ditches need to be proven and have an identifiable outfall*'. A suggestion was made that a further site meeting be held. Cllrs Williams and Heath offered to meet him on site to discuss both issues. Cllr Williams further reported that the barrier Waylands / Yock Lane has been replaced.
- Dog Fouling Signs – Cllr Williams referred to the problems with dog fouling, and that the situation is now worsening, particularly now that more people are out dog walking. A suggestion was made that signage should be placed at the entrance to the village. Whilst most people did clear up after their dog in the centre of the village, this was less evident down Yock Lane, School Lane and Cooks Hill. A question was asked as to whether the current signage was effective or not. The clerk advised that she had purchase some alternative signs for another parish and would send the design to Cllrs Raymer and Williams
- School Lane Road Surface – Cllr Heath had reported the poor road surface in School Lane. A response had been received and scheduled for repair in April.

7. REPORTS:

- (a) Flood Alleviation – Cllr Barker reported that vigilance is still the key. All of the new equipment purchased is stored at Wick Club along with donations of sleeping bags. The last major reported problem occurred on Christmas day. Cllr Barker advised that he receives regular updates on river levels. Thanks were paid to Cllr Barker.
- (b) Playground Report – Cllr Kings reported
 - The playground the playground remains open until such time as we are asked to close it by the government. Volunteers continue to inspect on a rota basis. Reports back seem to focus on rubbish, petty damage or fallen branches but a small clean-up has been carried out by Rob and Rosemary Kings
 - Winter Warmer Collection – the Clerk reported that a total of £965 had been received in donations for the playground funds as a result of the Christmas card sent out at the beginning of December. This was as a replacement to the usual Winter Warmer event which was cancelled due to Covid. Cllr Barker paid thanks to Cllr Kings.
 - Playground Inspection is scheduled for March.
- (c) History Boards – Cllr Kings reported that Board 2 outside the Church needs a slab in front of it to make it easier to look at. A lot of positive feedback has been received. Cllr Kings reported that they are looking at grasscrete to be put in the grass in the areas where the grass is at risk of being damaged. The clerk would put the link to the History Boards website on the parish council website. Cllr Rowley reported that the boards had reached Facebook! With regard the History Board website, and moving forward with additional information being put on, there may be additional costs that we would need to consider.
- (d) Neighbourhood Watch – Nothing to report
- (e) Footpath Officer – There was no report from the Footpath Warden, but Cllr Smith reported: re the path at the bottom of Cooks Hill, she had a meeting with WCC PRoW just before Christmas – the path at the very end of the lane was still in use and had not been deleted from the Definitive Map.

Options are either to speak to the landowner and ask for a 2-gate system to be fitted (the existing gate is not usable), or to have a kit-form bridge, which WCC will provide with the parish council to pay for the fitting. Cllr Raymer enquired as to how much the fitting costs would be – Cllr Smith thought about £200. This is something that need rectifying, particularly at the moment with the increase in numbers of walkers but having no current access to the path. Cllr Harman indicated he would be willing to fund this out of his Members Budget.

- (f) Lengthsman – Cllr Heath reported the LM has cleared the culvert under the driveway to Timbercroft, but because the ditch has not been dug out, the water has no where to go, and just pools. The ditch clearly needs digging out but would be the responsibility of the landowner. In addition, further on down Timber Lane, there is a wooded area which also needs the ditch clearing. With regard Yock Lane, grips near the Hydro entrance need clearing. There are several issues with no ditches for gulleys / culverts to run into. It was agreed that these issues should be raised with the land drainage officer from WDC when he makes the site visit. Cllr Heath commented that there seemed to be a lack of communication from the LM, to advise when he is working in the village. The clerk would chase this up as well as ask him to clear leaves from drains. Cllr Raymer advised that the four wooden stakes on the verge in Timber Lane are there to protect the daffodils. It was also noted that the LM has reverted back to working by the Covid Risk Assessment.
- (g) Website – The clerk to update website that the playground is open.

9. PLANNING:

- SWDP - covered in District Cllrs report
- 20/02197 – Hollyoak Nursery – *approved by WDC.*
- 20/01961 – Avon Bank Lodge – *approved by WDC*
- Taylors Cottage – Re the development / footprint – Cllr Rowley advised that an enforcement case had been opened with WDC but the general feel is that it appears to be as per plan. It was questioned whether there may have been some ‘mis representation’ with the land with the property which may be the reason behind the assumption that the footprint does not tie up with plans submitted. Cllr Rowley advises he would look into this. With regard the obstruction of the footway – this seems to have been resolved.
- 20/02874 – Little Grebe, School Lane – single storey extension / new front porch – *there were no objections to this application, but it was suggested that a condition be requested asking for all building materials to be kept within the curtilage of the property.*
- 20/02787 – 1 Dorinda Cottage, Main Street – demolish existing garage and relocate, replacement to include single storey garden room to rear and single storey orangery - *there were no objections to this application, but retain condition 6*

6. No development shall take place until a Construction Environmental Management Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. This shall include the following: a) Measures to ensure that vehicles leaving the site do not deposit mud or other detritus on the public highway; and b) Details of site operative parking areas, material storage areas and the location of site operative facilities. The measures set out in the approved plan shall be carried out in full during the construction of the development hereby approved. Site operatives' parking, material storage and the positioning of operatives' facilities shall only take place on the site in locations approved in writing by the local planning authority Reason: To prevent indiscriminate parking in the interests of pedestrian and vehicle safety

- 20/02894 – Pershore College – Fire safety works – *there were no objections to this application.*

10. FINANCE

- (a) Payments for approval / made since last meeting - Up to date accounts have been circulated to Cllrs – proposed acceptance of payments and accounts circulated Cllr Raymer, seconded Cllr Kings – all in favour

	1010		Lengthsman October	144.00
	1011		Clerks PAYE	160.40
SO			Clerks Salary	233.44
SO			Clerks Expenses	12.00
	1012		Defib. Fridge Magnets	131.40
	1013		Minerals Exp. Contribution	157.00
	1014		Lengthsman November	150.00
SO			Clerks Salary	233.44
SO			Clerks Expenses	12.00
	1015		Sixth Share Clerks Training	50.00
	1016		Lengthsman December	164.00

(b) Draft budget had been circulated to Cllrs for the forthcoming financial year 2020/21 – there were no objections to the proposals put forward, and it was considered that there was no reason to increase the precept and to keep as it was last year. Acceptance of the budget proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr Williams, all in favour.

11. CORONAVIRUS UPDATE – It was reported that village and community support is still available to those that need help.

12. POND – WEST OF VILLAGE - It was agreed that this previously proposed project, using the remaining NHB funds, would no longer be going ahead. The clerk would write letters to those who would have been affected if the project had progressed.

The parish council would speak to WDC with regard any possible way forward to use up the remaining funds before the end of March - a suggestion was made that whilst the parish council may have to 'lose' the remaining funds, there may be scope to put together a different project and be able to access the more general Community Legacy Grant funds - *since the meeting a proposal has been put forward for consideration by the parish council*

13. CONFETTI FIELDS UPDATE - Nothing further to report but it was agreed to keep as an agenda item. A question was asked with regard whether there were any plans for a 'change of use' for the sheds, to be turned into a café. It was considered that this would only be a temporary arrangement.

15. CORRESPONDENCE – emails had been circulated to Cllrs

16. OTHER MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION/NEXT AGENDA:

- Orchard House – Cllr Raymer referred to communication she had received regarding clarification of responsibility of the inspections chambers at Orchard House, in particular with the risk of flooding. This has been referred to the local authority.
- Ashmore Park – there had been no further action from the Environmental Health regarding the issues reported last year. Clerk to chase.

17. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 23rd March 2021 by Zoom