

MINUTES

WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wick Parish Council held on Tuesday 23rd March 2021 at 7pm 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	4 Parishioners
Clerk – L Yapp		

Before the meeting started Cllr Williams reminded that it was twelve months to the day that the country went into 'lockdown' for the first time due to Coronavirus and that the day was to be remembered as a day of reflection for all the lives lost. A minute's silence was observed in remembrance.

1. APOLOGIES – None received

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Williams: 21/00060 – Wick House Close

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from meeting 26th January and 17th February 2021 were approved – proposed Cllr Heath, seconded Cllr Kings – all in favour.

4. HISTORY GROUP & NHB APPLICATION

- To clarify the position of the History Group and responsibility for the History website - Cllr Heath reported that it was formed to record and preserve the history of Wick. The Group is independent of the parish council, but the parish council do support this and other village groups / organisations. Cllr Heath further reported that they comply with correct Data Protection legislation and copyright protocols. With regard the original NHB application for the history boards, a full and detailed consultation had been carried out, with all supporting evidence being submitted to WDC with the application. Had the consultation process not been thorough enough, WDC would have rejected the application. The parish council are aware that some parishioners felt they were not made aware of the boards, but this had been detailed in Minutes, notices and meetings. Apologies were made to anyone that felt they were not properly consulted.
- New Homes Bonus Application – A letter had been hand delivered to every property in Wick with details of the proposed expenditure of the NHB. To date, one objection for the proposed extension of the History Group archives and website had been received via a telephone call, with a letter received from a second village resident asking for their photographs not to be used for the archives without their express permission. This letter has been responded to. The application will be submitted to Wychavon DC by 31st March 2021

PARISHIONERS OPEN FORUM – *Parishioners in attendance raised the following points:*

- History Board 1 (following communication from several parishioners regarding the location of board 1) – reasons for the request for the re-siting were explained and suggestions put forward for an alternative site – *the parish council fully supported the reasons for moving the board and did not want to cause any further distress for the residents impacted. Whilst this was disappointing for the History Group, it was strongly agreed that the wishes of the residents were respected, and the alternative site would be given very careful consideration. A generous offer to finance the new board was made by two parishioners (with a suitable hard standing) which the parish council appreciated to help to resolve the issues.*

- Dog Fouling – communication had been received from a parishioner regarding the serious issue of ever-increasing dog fouling – this will be addressed later in the meeting.

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT - District Cllr Rowley reported

- SWDP – Regulation 18 (sustainability of the alternative sites) is currently being consulted on. It is quite a 'weighty' document, but Cllr Rowley encouraged Cllrs to read it (maybe to start at the back of the document!) – *the link to the document has been circulated to Cllrs.*
- Sites for Traveller / Travelling Show People will be out for consultation from May 10th, for seven weeks. Additional pitches have already been approved for the sites in Crophorne and Wychavon now has a five-year supply of pitches for travellers.
- Boundary Commission – reviewing the shaping of 'Wards' – it is likely that the number of Cllrs will be reduced for Wychavon DC
- Planning Committee continues to meet and there are no issues affecting Wick.
- Purdah – the period of 'purdah' started on 22nd March and will run until after the elections on 7th May.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT: County Cllr Hardman reported:

- There have been no new reported cases in the County in the last seven days.
- Recorded cases in the acute hospitals have now reduced to 42, although north Worcestershire has seen an increase.
- The vaccination roll-out is slowing down because of delivery of supplies.
- Main Street footway has been included in next years (2021/22) budget.
- Cllr Hardman had kindly made funds available to the parish council to finance the broken footbridge at then end of Cooks Hill and also any additional LM costs.

6. COUNCILLORS MEETINGS – nothing to report.

7. HIGHWAYS:

- Land Drainage, Yock Lane – Cllr Rowley reported that he has not yet had an opportunity to meet with the Land Drainage officer, but feels the concerns raised by the parish council are more than a District Council issue. With regard Waylands Footpath, Cllr Rowley advised that there is just nowhere for the surface water to go.
- Orchard House – Cllr Rowley considers there is a problem, with a blockage beyond the man-hole and that he would get officers to come out to investigate. Cllr Raymer stressed that we needed to establish exactly who is responsible so that it could be resolved as soon as possible.

Cllr Rowley is meeting with officers, hopefully before the end of April. Cllr Williams advised that she had some historic maps which may shed light on the drainage issues and would arrange for copies to be sent to Cllr Rowley

- Dog Fouling – this is an ever-increasing problem. A resident in attendance reported that 'markers' had been placed by a resident to high light where dogs have not been cleared up after. It was suggested that a notice be circulated to advise parishioners what the markers are for. It was felt that although the parish council have increased the signage, this was not enough with a far stronger message needed to be sent out. Suggestions made were additional bins, and to investigate the *Green Dog Walkers* initiative set up by WDC. The parish council would investigate both of these ideas further, and maybe signage to notify dog walkers where the bins are located.
- Lay-by in front of Church – nothing to report at this time.

8. REPORTS:

- (a) Flood Alleviation – Cllr Barker reported that Charlton Parish Council have introduced 'timber dams' as a means of alleviating some of their flooding issues. Cllr Barker stressed that there were

differences between the flood issues of Wick to those in Charlton, but there may be some elements in their scheme that can be incorporated to benefit Wick. Cllr Barker thanked Vic Haines for the generous donation of new pallets for storage of sand bags, and also to Rob Kings for delivering the sand bags during times when properties are at risk of flooding

(b) Playground Report – Cllr Kings reported

- The playground continues to be well used.
- Regular inspections are carried out by the volunteers, with the RoSPA inspection due any time now.
- The goal post should be removed as it is broken although it is still usable and poses no danger. Investigations are being carried out as to the best way to replace it and will be reported back at the next meeting.
- Grass cutting – it is hoped that this will commence in the coming weeks. The moss in the cricket nets has been sprayed so hopefully this prevent any future problems. Thanks were paid to the resident who kindly carried this out. He has been reimbursed for the cost of the moss killer.

(c) Neighbourhood Watch – Nothing to report

(d) Footpath Officer – Cllr Smith reported that she had met with WCC officers with regard the footpath at the bottom of Cooks Hill. This had been confirmed as a ‘live’ path and hopes to be able to report back fully at the Annual Parish meeting.

(e) Lengthsman – Cllr Heath reported that he had been keeping up with his duties. Cllr Heath had noticed concrete grips in neighbouring villages but felt that these were probably not suitable for Wick.

(f) Website – nothing to report.

(g) Parish Plan – Cllr Heath reported that it is hoped to kick-start a review of the existing parish plan as soon as Covid restrictions have been lifted.

9. PLANNING:

- SWDP - Already covered in District Cllrs report
- 20/02874 – Little Grebe, School Lane – single storey extension / new front porch – *approved by WDC.*
- 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 – *approved by WDC.*
- 20/02894 – Pershore College – Fire safety works – *awaiting decision by WDC.*
- 21/00060 – 6 Wick House Close – 2-storey side extension and erection of porch - *approved by WDC.*

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 Williams, seconded Cllr Heath – all in favour.

	1017	Transfer of donation	30.00
	1018	Salt for Grit Bins	124.72
SO		Clerks Expenses	12.00
SO		Clerks Salary	233.44
	1019	Lengthsman January	180.00
SO		Clerks Expenses	12.00
SO		Clerks Salary	233.44
	1020	Clerks PAYE	160.20
	1021	Lengthsman February	156.00
	1022	Dog Poo Signs	42.84
	1023	Village Newsletter	20.00
	1024	Defib Lock	65.99
	155	Playground Grass Treatment	16.95

The clerk would be organising for the Internal Audit to be carried out in the coming weeks.

2021/09

11. POLICIES REVIEW – *It was agreed to defer this until the next meeting.*

12. CONFETTI FIELDS UPDATE - It was reported that last years 'timed ticket' entry worked well in conjunction with the specified route. It is hoped that this years event will take place at the end of June – subject to lifting of restrictions.

Cllr Heath reported it is hoped that Wick can arrange an 'Open Garden' event in June.

13. PLANTERS – A suggestion had been put forward for the parish council to arrange floral planters at various locations in the village. Consideration would need to be given to cost, location and on-going maintenance. Cllr Smith offered to look into this, and it would be deferred to a future meeting.

14. CORRESPONDENCE – emails had been circulated to Cllrs

15. OTHER MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION/NEXT AGENDA:

- Policies
- Planters
- 21/00524 – Land rear of Whitegates – this planning application had been received by the parish council too late to be included in the agenda for this meeting. A meeting would be held at 4pm on 13th April to discuss this, via Zoom

16. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 25th May 2021, to include Annual Parish Meeting – *It should be noted that since the meeting the Government have decided that council meetings can no longer be held via Zoom after 6th May and must revert back to Face to Face meetings. This is being challenged and as it stands, we are not sure how this will work practically. The clerk hopes to be in a position in the next couple of weeks to clarify the situation and whether there has been any change in policy.*