**WORLESTON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Meeting held on 16th November 2023 @ 7.00pm Worleston Village Hall

**Present**: Malcolm Holman (**MH)** Helen Exley (**The Clerk**), Tommy Adams (**TA**), John Schofield (**JS**) (Vice Chair) John Thomasson (**JT**) Peter Jones (**PJ**), Vicky Higham (**VH**), Andy Hudson (Chair), Fred Percival (**FP**) Joe Foster (**JF**), Matt Evans (**ME**), Gary Basford (**GB**) Becky Posnett Borough Councillor (**BP**)

Parish members: present

| **Point**  | **Agenda point** | **Raised By** | **Action** | **Due Date** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | **Apologies** Gary Vernon (**GV**) |  Clerk | N/A | 16/11/23 |
| 2. | **Declaration of Councillors interests & Code of Conduct:** - *23/3894N – 87 Main Rd, Worleston – 2 storey Extension* ***JS****23/4100N – Barratts Cottage Removal of Cond 2 on approved application 4/5/7278* ***MH****23/3257N – Ash Paddocks, AjM – Change of use* ***TA****23/3507N – Aston Lower Hall Farm, - Erection of covered silage store* ***JT*** |  Chair | All Cllrs | 16/11/23 |
| 3. | **Approval of Minutes & Outstanding Matters:-****Please see attached checklist for outstanding matters**Minutes from 14/09/23 quarterly meeting proposed as correct by **PJ** and 2nded by **MH.** All councillors in agreement. |  Chair | All Cllrs | 16/11/23 |
| 4. | **Public Forum:-**MOP referred back to the previous minutes regarding the 20MPH proposal and what the possibility is in introducing it to the area. Many residents are willing as a community to enforce a limit. Station Road, Church Road and Dairy Lane are the worst for fast driving on unsuitable roads. Verges are in a bad state and are not passable. Many pedestrians are feeling unsafe. School have a 20MPH limit with flashing lights during opening & closing times. **ME** will ask the school to update the timings of the lights to have on for a longer time. There are not sufficient passing places for the volume of traffic. Police are generally not keen to reduce the limits in rural areas – will not review unless there is an accident, even the recent fatality in Wettenhall Road will not receive a review.**AH** will contact CEC Highways whether there is potential to review the 30 MPH boundary and what the current policy is for a 20 MPH limit.Look at working with the school to introducing the “20 is plenty” school signs.Look at working with the community speed gun and getting more members trained up.Complaints that the Police presence with the speed gun/van is very poor.**BP** said that the “20 is plenty” is being investigated in many parishes, but it is not enforceable.**PJ** feedback from the school regarding the school parking proposal. Plans were reviewed. Costs are £26.5k to complete. **JS** stated that this work should not be completed without planning. School are looking for help with undertaking the project. TPO’s need to be obtained to remove trees to carry out the work. Funding options – funding & grants, safety initiatives.The school officials will be asked to the next meeting to discuss in full the proposal and the funding options. **AH** to ask them to January meeting.**JS** -Section 106 money - is there any available? | Public |  Chair/ME | 16/11/23 |
|  5. | **Borough Councillor Report:-*** Delay in building of the school on Kingsley Fields due to legal issues
* Road will open in spring 2024
* Bluestone traffic lights – no movement in update on this as 106 agreement was so long ago and costs have increased considerably.
* No update of footpaths around Kingsbourne.
* Green space review – consultation in CEC identifying land around Village Hall & playground. WDPC maintain the playground. CEC do no maintenance at all in the parish. It is all self-maintenance.
* Finances on CEC are £18.6m in the red – everything is being reviewed – libraries, leisure centres, green spaces.
* CEC SENS Children & Families budget is £43m overspent and will be at £86M by the end of 2024.
* Main Road drains have been jetted. **ME** has stated that they have only been partly done. If a Drain has collapsed it needs to be logged. **ME** to send photos to **BP** for her to chase.
* New CEO of CEC is in interim position. CEC have advertised post.

**JS** asked why B&Q building was purchased with taxpayers money – why not sell it to pay the debt? | Chair | BP | 16/11/23 |
| 6. | **Planning Matters: -*****Pending applications****23/3894N – 87 Main Rd, Worleston – 2 storey Extension – No comment**23/4100N – Barratts Cottage Removal of Cond 2 on approved application 4/5/7278 – No comment**23/3257N – Ash Paddocks, AjM – Change of use – No comment**23/3507N – Aston Lower Hall Farm, Dairy Lane - Erection of covered silage store – no comment**23/3902N – Reaseheath House Cinder Lane – Side & Rear 2 storey Extension – no comment****Past Planning****23/2737N – Ash Paddocks, Main Rd, AJM – Certificate of Lawful existing use/Development**23/2504D – Worleston Lodge – Main Rd, Worleston, Discharge of Conditions on approval 20/4793N - Approved**23/1414N – Poole House Farm, Poole – single storey side extension (resubmission of 22/4528N) Appd with Conds**23/0331D – Poole Hall Barn, Cinder Lane, Poole – Discharge of Conditions - undecided**22/0208N- Building adjoining Barons Rd, discharge of conds on 19/0773N - undecided**22/1522N – Highfields House AJM - Erection of wooden garage - undecided**22/0557N – New Start Park, Change of Use and erection of 2 amenity buildings - Undecided**22/0517N – Poole Hall Barn, Cinder Lane, Poole – Discharge of conditions on 21/27291N application - undecided**22/0836D – Poole Hall Barn, Cinder Lane, Poole Discharge of condition 21/2726N application, undecided**21/5898N – Land off Main Road, Worleston – outbuilding see above application 22/3505N**20/2517N – Land at Dairy Lane, AJM. Planning for 2 dwellings – not decided**20/2085N - Church Rd, AJM – single storey rear extension. – not decided*It was stated that any member of public can comment of any application directly on the CEC planning website, rather than through the PC.  |  |  |  |
|  | **BP** stated that a resident had contacted her regarding application *23/3894N – 87 Main Rd, Worleston – 2 storey Extension* stating that the drawings were incorrect, but these have now been changed.  **JS** commented (with permission) that new plans have been submitted – an oversight by the architect.Applications are still very behind in CEC with backlog. Some planning is being pushed through quickly if they are not complex. |  |  |  |
| 7. | **Clerks Report:-** * *Communication regarding Food bank donation*. Clerk updated that she has only just had a reply to email sent after last meeting. Nantwich Town Council are happy for WDPC to pay donation directly to the Trussell Trust. Clerk will action.
* *80th D Day celebrations*. Discussion deferred to January 2024 meeting.
* Noticeboard has been renovated -thank you to **FP**
* Sale of Coronation mugs – money to be collected from sale **GB** & ask school if they want the surplus mugs? It was agreed that the money go to Riding for Disabled Association. Proposed by **AH** & **MH**
 | Clerk | Clerk | 16/11/23 |
| 8. | **Fibre broadband update:-**No further update apart from the general circulation of e mails from Airband.**AH** gave Airband 6 postcodes to look at 6 months ago to whether the fibre would reach these addresses, but until it goes live, they were unable to confirm. | Chair | Chair | 16/11/23 |
| 9. | **Worleston Village Hall:-**The hall have a surplus of funds from the original build and funding from the lottery. They want to help fund local projects. **AH** will speak to WVH and find out what the level of funding would be. | Chair | Chair | 16/11/23 |
| 10. | **Playground Matters:-***Update on Playground safety report* - annual report improvements – **ME*** Roundabout has now been repaired by **JS**. It will be painted next year.
* Tree by the pedestrian gate that is obstructing – Alan Ackerley will remove.
* Carparking area needs to be addressed – surface is poor. Look at getting some plainings.
* **AH** discussed putting in the height restriction bars into the car park to deter unwanted vehicles. It was felt that this wasn’t necessary.
 | Chair | ME/JS | ongoing  |
| 11. | **Parish Compacts:-** No comments  | Clerk |  Chair | ongoing |
| 12. | **Road Safety Matters:-*** Flooding issues - Jetting issues still to be addressed on Main Road. Flooding issues elsewhere in the parish and residents to report any issues directly with Highways.
* Update on Road conditions- see point 5 **MH** stated that there are many incidents of “unseen” walkers & riders – the need for visibility is vital for safety. Poster on the noticeboard??
 |  Chair |  Chair/ Clerk | Ongoing |
|  | * Kingsbourne Road opening - scheduled for May 2024
* SIDs update – Now have gone to Acton PC. Payment has not been made – Clerk to check and report back.
* Footpath Study – **AH** discussed the feasibility of extending the footpath from Barons Lane to Station Road. Spoken to **BP** and asking Highways whether it is possible - Asking for a quote. This would be a huge benefit for the local pedestrians. It would be a longterm project and would be huge benefit to the village for the future. **AH** to contact CEC Highways to start a discussion.
* Discussion about a 1 way system around the school. How feasible?
 |  |  |  |
| 13. | **Payment of accounts & Financial Matters :-*** Setting of Precept for 2024-5 Proposed budget circulated to Cllrs. If Precept is kept at current rate, the resident Council tax bill will show a lower figure. It was proposed that the current level be maintained at £4617 by **FP** and seconded by **ME**
* Review of Clerk’s salary to current rate of £15.02/hr in line with recommended rates– Proposed by **VH** & 2nded by **AH**
* Proposed Change of Bank account – Clerk stated that there have been issues with Barclays and communications. They have threatened to close the account even though 4 forms have been sent back. Clerk proposed that the account would be changed to Unity Bank. This was proposed by **FP** and seconded by **JS.** Additional signatories would be added to the account.

 Current bank balance 07/11/23 = £7,431.72 To include: * *Clerks fee £882.78*
* *WVH hire costs £32.00*
* *Alan Ackerley – Play area maintenance & mowing £392.70*
 |  Clerk | Clerk | 16/11/23 |
| 14. | **Dates of meetings for 2024:**18th January, 14th March, 9th May, 11th July, 26th September, 14th November | Clerk | Clerk | 16/11/23 |
| 15. | **Items for next agenda**:- 80th D Day celebrations. | clerk | Chair | 16/11/23 |

Meeting closed at 20.20 hrs

--------------------------------------------------------------------Chairman----------------------------------------------------Date

**Action list from 16/11/23 minutes**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Point** | **Agenda item** | **Who to complete** | **Actioned by** |
|  | OUTSTANDINGHedges to be looked at in Poole.State of verges by the school to be repaired.Gritting route consultation with Craig Brown – Contact PAPlayground safety report issues –to organise**. ME** to organise other repairs | MH AH JT FP ME   | January |
|  4. | * School traffic calming Lights – reset timings speak to school
* Speak to CEC Highways about speed limits
* Ask school resps to attend next meeting to give an update on the parking plans & funding
 | MEAHAH | January |
| 5. | * Photos to be sent through to BP regarding drainage issues again on Main Rd
 | ME |  |
| 7. | * Food bank donation – Letter to be responded to & donation made now that details have been supplied.
* Coronation mug money – to be collected & paid to RDA
 | ClerkGB/Clerk | January |
| 9. | * Village hall to give feedback on level of funding available & what projects it could be used for
 | AH | January |
| 10 | * Repairing of playground carpark – plainings?
* Removal of obstructing tree
 | JS/FP/Clerk | January |
| 12 | * Footpath study – look into feasibility and costings from CEC
 | AH | March 2024 |
| 13 | * Action bank account closure/opening to Unity Bank
 | Clerk | January |