WORLESTON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held at WORLESTON VILLAGE HALL 7.00pm 26th May 2022

present: Andy Hudson (Chair), John Schofield (Vice Chair), Fred Percival, Peter Jones, Malcolm Holman, Mark Astbury, John Thomasson, Joe Foster, Gary Basford.

**1.Introduction & Welcome:-**

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the Annual Meeting.

**2.Annual Report of the Parish Council by the Chairman, Worleston & District Parish Council.**

I’d like to summarise our main activities from 21/22 and set out some of our key objectives for the coming year.

COVID has continued to affect day to day life through 21/22 and caused a noticeable slowdown in the function of local government such as planning etc.

From a planning perspective, we have seen a consistent volume of applications for residential development and extensions and a few commercial developments such as Reaseheath College and the redevelopment of The Royal Oak. CEC continues the struggle with turnaround times on planning. The PC is very pleased to see the successful opening of The Royal Oak as it is such a key focal point for the parish, and we wish them every success.

Kingsley Fields progress means that the A51 rerouting is now scheduled for 2022 although the date is shifting. Some concern still exists over the footpath routes around the new A51, underpass and pedestrian crossing.

Regarding travel and transport, highways have made some surface improvements to minor roads such as Dairy Lane and Station Road. The PC and residents remain concerned about the state of Wettenhall Road and parts of Church Lane and Dairy Lane. Requests to use the ward budget on Main Road for jetting and flood prevention are still outstanding.

St Oswald’s School has abandoned any plans to try and address a car park area for now. The PC will re-engage should the school request it.

CEC have conducted a Town and Parish Council Review and have determined that the boundary of WDPC will change along its’ southern border with Nantwich to follow the line of the existing A51.

Our Key Objectives for the coming year.

* Reach an approved Neighbourhood Development Plan
* Resolve the road safety concerns around the new A51 route

Thank you to all councillors for their time, knowledge and dedication.

Thank you to our Clerk Helen Exley for her continued guidance and support.

**3.Statement on the Parish Council accounts for Year ending 31 March 2021 by the Clerk to the Parish Council.**

The expenditure for the financial year increased on last year’s expenditure and so the total payments for the year were £8072, largely due to the purchase of the playground bench at a cost of £1520. The closing reserve balance for the year ending 31/03/22 was £6798.

The annual Light Source grant of was paid totalling £1914. There have been no applications again in this financial year for sponsorship, of which part of this grant is allocated to. We hope to see more applications this coming year and Precept was increased by £495. We continue to receive the Parish Compact Grant at £1,150 which covers the cost of the Lengthsman.

Thank you again to the Chair for his continuing support and to the Councillors for their help with Parish matters.

**4.To invite the public to raise any matters of interest**. – None stated,

Meeting closed @ 7.10pm

……………………………………………………….Chair…………………………………………..Date