**-1340- WISTOW PARISH COUNCIL**

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[**www.wistowvillage.info**](http://www.wistowvillage.info)

A meeting of Wistow Parish Council took place on Tuesday 28 January 2020, in the Village Hall, with Cllr Waller in the Chair.

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| **01.20.01** | **Present:**  Cllr Leaton, Cllr C. Bradford, Cllr J. Gregory, Cllr G. Macinnes, Cllr G. Smith,  Cllr R. Waller and Cllr. J. Wiltshire  **In Attendance**  Mr. M Woolhouse – Clerk to the Council  Cllr J Tavener – HDC councilor for the Ward  Cllr T Rogers – Cambs. CC councilor for the Ward    No members of the public were present. |
| **01.20.02** | **Apologies for Absence**  There were no apologies for absence. |
| **01.20.03** | **To receive Declarations of Interest:**   1. All Parish Councillors as Trustees of the Village Hall. 2. Cllr Bradford and Cllr Macinnes, as members of the Village Hall Committee. |
| **01.20.04** | **Public Participation:**  There was no public participation of any members of the public or from Councillors declaring a prejudicial interest to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted at the meeting. |
| **01.20.05** | **Approval of minutes of meeting held on 26 November 2019**  The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and Cllr R. Waller proposed that the minutes be approved and Cllr G. Smith seconded the proposal. I**t was resolved that the minutes be approved and that they be** **signed by Cllr Waller.** |
| 0**1.20.06**  **-1341-**  **01.20.06.01**  **01.20.06.02** | **District Councillors and County Councillor reports:**  Verbal reports were received from Cllrs Tavener and Rogers as follows.  Cllr Rogers – Cambs. CC  The Council’s deficit was estimated to be £4.5m for the current year but with the introduction of Fair Funding Formula it was unclear how the Council’s financial position would change over the next few years. This uncertainty was exacerbated by the likelihood of business rates being reviewed and possibly changed in the short to medium term.  Major influences on the budget were rising adult care costs (due to people being increasingly unable to pay for their care) with falling child care costs (substantially driven by emigrants leaving the country and taking children in care with them).  The Parish Forum had met recently with 8 parish councils being represented who received a very good planning presentation from HDC. It was explained that the HDC council area had adequate residential properties, both actual and planned, to meet anticipated demand and central government targets. The Forum discussed the decline in rural bus services and the measures that could be taken to protect and provide these services.  Cllr Macinnes notified the meeting that earlier in the day, CCC had cleaned the gulleys in the village, including those in the recently flooded Bridge Street.  Cllr Tavener – Huntingdon DC  HDC action to upgrade the area’s leisure centres was continuing with Ramsey centre upgraded with a new swimming pool.  The Huntingdon flyover, which forms part of the former A14, was to be removed in order to prevent rat running with demolition to essentially take place at night.  Cllr Tavener requested that she be notified of the Spring Clean date when agreed. |
| **01.20.07** | **Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting.** |
| **01.20.07.01**  **-1342-**  **01.20.07.02**  **01.20.07.03**  **01.20.07.04**  **01.20.07.05**  **01.20.07.06**  **01.20.07.07**  **01.20.07.08** | Street Lighting  It was reported that the new lights affixed to telegraph poles were not working and the Clerk agreed to notify Balfour Beatty. The Clerk also reported that the Council had yet to be invoiced for the work.  The Clerk explained that the previously circulated analysis of electricity supply charges showed that costs could halve following the change to ESPO. The final price had yet to be confirmed but a green energy quote had been requested.  (Secretary’s note: subsequent to the meeting the green quote had been received but because it was wildly different to the original brown energy quote a corrected brown quote received). The result was that there was little or no difference between Cambs. CC and TDG.)  Winter Gritting  Cllr Macinnes reported that the equipment and grit had arrived so that the Council could grit pavements. The pub landlord had expressed interest in volunteering with grit spreading but there was some concern that the Council could pay for gritting private commercial premises.  Speed Sensor  Cllr Wilshire reported that the sensor was working and proposed that a solar panel be purchased at a cost of £18 to charge the battery. **It was unanimously resolved** that the proposal be agreed.  Defibrillator  Cllr Wiltshire explained that the solution to the problem keeping the battery warm had been implemented and proposed that a solar panel be installed to charge the battery. The cost was about £18 and **it was unanimously agreed** that the proposal be agreed subject to the project cost remaining within the previously agreed £100.  Village Hall Broadband  It was noted that broadband was now available in the village hall.  Dog Fouling.    Cllr Macinnes reported that the literature and signs had been received and it was agreed to erect them on council owned lampposts. Some comments had been received concerned that the imagery was threatening or threatening.  Bridge Street Flooding  As noted previously, earlier in the day CCC had emptied the gullies in the village.  Climate Emergency  Cllr Wiltshire explained that the report commissioned by CC was long (c90 pages) but well constructed, identifying the issues facing villages in the county and steps needing to be taken. Cllr Wiltshire agreed to update the Village Plan with the measures being taken by the parish council (copy provided by Cllr Smith) and the Meeting further agreed that Climate Emergency (including emergency planning) be added to each monthly meeting agenda. |
| **01.20.08**  **01.20.08.01**  **-1343-**  **01.20.08.02**  **01.20.08.03**  **01.20.08.04** | **Notification of planning items.**  Church Street – Appln. 19/026/PIP - Application for permission in principle for between 2 and 5 bungalows to be built in the field in Church Street.  Councillors noted that the deadline for comments as determined from the date of the HDC letter of 8 January was before the date of this meeting. Because of this deadline the clerk had written to HDC opposing the application. Cllr Waller declared an interest because he lived directly opposite the field and explained that in his private capacity he had opposed the application. Mr Green, who lives next to the field, had written to the councillors and other villagers copying them with his objections to the application. It was explained that contrary to belief the existing building was not listed.  It was noted that the field was the last open land in the village envelope and previous applications to build were rejected. More detailed reasons to oppose the application were noted **and it was unanimously agreed** that the Clerk would write to HDC setting out its reasoning to oppose the application in more detail.  Cllr Rogers explained that his interest in the matter was, as a councillor, to support the majority view.  Cllrs Tavener and Rogers left the Meeting  7 Kingston Way – Appln. 19/02485/HHFUL – full permission for first floor side extension, garage conversion with replacement of flat roof to garage and front of property, replacement windows and doors.  The meeting noted the application which it did not oppose.  Three Horseshoes PH – Appln.19/02558/LBC. – replace the front door and door frame of the cottage part of the building.  The meeting noted the application which it did not oppose.  Responses to planning applications.  **It was agreed** that should applications be received which needed a response before the council would next meet, the Clerk would circulate the application to councillors for comment and respond to HDC based on the majority view. |
| **01.20.09**  **01.20.09.01** | **Finance**  To approve accounts for payment: 28th January 2020 |

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| **Date** | **Ref No** | **Payee** | **Description** | **Amount £** |
| **28/01/20** | **429** | **Mr. M Woolhouse** | **December/ January net salary** | **330.20** |
| **28/01/20** | **430** | **HMRC** | **PAYE re Mr Woolhouse’s salary** | **76.70** |
| **28/01/20** | **431** | **Mr. R Waller** | **Reimbursement of payment by Mr. Waller to Mr. R Sargent following the bank rejecting cheques due to alleged signature irregularities.** | **545.00** |
| **28/01/20** | **432** | **Cambs. CC** | **Lighting power supply 10/18 to 9/19 inc.** | **570.30** |
| **28/01/20** | **433** | **Ross Sargent** | **Grass cutting invoice dated 27/01/2020** | **630.00** |

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Cllr R. Waller proposed that the accounts be approved for payment; Cllr R. Bradford seconded the proposal. **It was unanimously** **resolved** that the payments be approved.

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| **01.20.09.02** Income | Income  The Meeting noted the income received during the month. |
| **01.20.09.03** | Garden Reclaim  The meeting noted the continuing difficulty incurred in reimbursing Cllr Waller due to the bank refusing to honour cheques because of alleged signature irregularities. |
| **01.20.09.04** | Income and Expenditure Account  The Meeting noted the income and expenditure account. |
| **01.20.09.05** | Bank reconciliation  The Meeting noted the bank reconciliations for December 2019 and January 2020 |
| **01.2009.06** | Bank Balances  The Meeting noted the current and savings account balances as at 27 December 2019 of £24983.35 and £15866.00 respectively. |
| **01.20.09.07** | Banking Arrangements  The meeting considered the previously circulated paper from the Clerk outlining potential alternatives to Barclays. The Clerk declared an interest in that he knew the manager of the Metro Bank Cambridge branch. He explained that basic accounts did not incur a fee but it was likely that business accounts involving internet banking and multiple authorized payers would do so but thought that the fee would be modest. **It was unanimously agreed** to open accounts with Unity or Metro Banks as selected by the Clerk. |
| **01.20.09.08** | **IT Issues**  The Meeting discussed IT issues experienced with the current laptop. **It was unanimously agreed** to replace the lap top at a cost of not more than £500 and the Clerk was requested make the necessary arrangements. |
| **01.20.10** | **Traffic, Highways & Road Safety.**  Save as previously noted in correspondence there was nothing to consider. |
| **01.20.11** | **Village Maintenance**  It was noted that there was nothing to report. |
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| **01.20.12** | **Policing Matters:**  No incidents in the village of Wistow were reported with all alerts posted to the Parish Council’s Facebook and Neighbourhood Watch pages. |
| **01.20.13** | **Correspondence and Communications** |
| **01.20.13.01**  **01.20.13.02** | The meeting noted the previously circulated correspondence which members confirmed that they had read.  The Clerk agreed to circulate matters of importance and exclude those which were for information such as e cops bulletins. |
| **01.20.14**  **01.20.14.01**  **01.20.14.02**  **01.20.14.03**  **01.20.14.04**  **01.20.14.05**  **-1346-**  **01.20.14.06** | **Verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising from their portfolio** **responsibilities.**  The Meeting received verbal reports from Councillors on matters arising from their portfolio responsibilities  Litter /Play area Cllr Bradford / Cllr Macinnes  Cllr Macinnes referred to the previously circulated quotes from Wicksteed relating to the reestablishment of a zip wire and associated works in the playground**. It was unanimously agreed** to proceed with the works at a cost not exceeding £12250.24 and to mitigate these costs by the Council doing some of the associated works such as tree stump removal and bark relocation.  Countryside Cllr Gregory  Cllr Bradford reported that an issue of concrete slabs protruding onto public land had been resolved satisfactorily.  Village Hall Cllr Bradford  Cllr Bradford reported that the survey as to the use and benefits of the village hall had been circulated and results were being analysed. A meeting to settle the grant application to HDC was to be held.  Website Cllr Smith  Cllr Smith reported that he and the Clerk both had access to the website and that work would be undertaken to update the content.  Trees/Grass Cllr Smith  Cllr Smith reported that he had yet to officially hear from Wistow parish church regarding the trees overhanging the cemetery but explained that the matter was being considered by the Diocese of Ely. He had been informed informally that the church would be responsible for the removal of the overhanging trees.  Highways Cllr Bradford  Cllr Leaton raised the state of the road heading towards the Broughton cross road where, in places, the edge was crumbling. Cllr Leaton agreed to take photos of the damage and forward them to the Clerk who would submit details of the damage to  Cambs. CC. |
| **01.20.14.07** | **Monthly Audit**  Cllr Bradford volunteered to be the Auditor for February. |
| **01.20.15** | **VE 75 commemoration**  The meeting considered whether the parish council should contribute, organise or participate in any event to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the second world war in Europe. It was agreed discuss the matter at the next meeting and to consider proposals. |
| **01.20.16** | **Spring Clean 2020**  It was agreed that the Spring Clean would take place on Saturday 4th April. |
| **01.20.17** | **Date of next meeting:**  It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 29th February 2020 at 7.30pm inWistow Village Hall. |