**-1327- WISTOW PARISH COUNCIL**

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

A meeting of Wistow Parish Council took place on Tuesday 29 October 2019, in the Village Hall, with Cllr Waller in the Chair.

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| **10.19.01** | **Apologies for Absence**  Cllr. G. Bull.  **Present:**  Cllr. C. Bradford, Cllr. J. Gregory, Cllr. C. Leaton, Cllr. G. Macinnes, Cllr. G. Smith, Cllr. J. Wiltshire and Cllr. R. Waller.  **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    1 member of the public was present |
| **10.19.02** | **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. |
| **10.19.03** | **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. |
| **10.19.04**  **10.19.04.01**  **-1328-**  **10.19.04.02** | **District Councillors and County Councillor reports:**  Verbal reports were received from Cllrs Tavener and Rogers as follows.  Cllr Tavener – HDC   1. Copies of the Warboys village magazine- Warboys Diary - were tabled. 2. HDC had resolved financial issues at Sawtry Leisure Centre by HDC providing funding for the next 2 years. 3. The planned business area in Ramsey would proceed and was hoped to create about 1000 jobs but the planning application had yet to be submitted. 4. There had been some discussion and enthusiasm for extending the Cambridge bus metro to Ramsey, which if it happened would improve the bus service in the area around Wistow. 5. The recent Parish Forum had been well attended and there was a desire to improve the Ramsey to Huntingdon bus route. Stagecoach’s MD had expressed a willingness to provide 2 vehicles but many operational and financial questions had to be resolved before this enhancement could proceed.   Cllr T Rogers – Cambs. CC   1. The annual accounts were delayed in being passed to Ernst Young and this had caused a knock on in the audit timetable but it was anticipated that the accounts would be signed off week commencing 5 November 2019. 2. The net cost of services provided had been £417.5m, a rise of 24% year on year, a major land transaction had not completed in 2018/9 as budgeted but would complete in the current financial year and the in house catering/cleaning company had been closed because it was uncompetitive compared to the private sector, resulting in £0.5m charge. 3. The number of children in care had risen from 715 to 768 during the year, placing additional pressure on an already stretched budget. This was exacerbated by the increasing number of elderly persons also needing support. 4. Cambs CC pension fund, which included a number of other participating employers, had received a clean audit and the funds were £3.2bn. |
| **10.19.05** | **Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 24 September 2019:**  The previously circulated minutes were **unanimously agreed** as a true record of the proceedings. Cllr. Waller proposed and Cllr. Smith seconded that the minutes be accepted for signing by Cllr. Waller. |
| **10.19.06** | **Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting.** |
| **10.19.06.1**  **10.19.06.2**  **-1329-**  **10.19.06.3**  **10.19.06.04**  **10.19.06.05** | Street Lighting  Lighting Upgrade  The Clerk reported that confirmation that their revised quote of £10,540.57 plus VAT had been submitted to Balfour Beatty but which had yet to respond.  Electricity Supply  The Clerk reported that UK Power networks had provided the UMS certificate and had been passed to ESPO, a procurement organisation concentrating on the public sector for analysis by TGP, both ESPO and Cambs. CC current provider. A response was anticipated shortly with details of the likely costs.  Winter Gritting  Cllr Smith reported that the information seeking winter gritting volunteers had been placed on the village social media pages and whilst there had been very few volunteers it would be continued. The meeting **agreed** that at the next meeting it would consider the practical ramifications of introducing the scheme, such as where to store the equipment and supplies, training and where to grit.  Cyber Security  The meeting discussed cyber security training and **it was** **agreed** that Cllrs Waller and Smith would bring a proposal to the next meeting.  Defibrillator  It was confirmed that whilst the defibrillator was operational it was necessary to keep its battery warm during cold weather and Cllr Wiltshire suggested that a solar panel and battery be installed to provide the required power for this purpose. **It was** **agreed** that Cllr Macinnes provide costings to the next meeting. |
| **10.19.07**  **10.19.07.1** | **Notification of planning items.**  Erection of 2 bedroom bungalow SW of Mill Farm Cottage, Mill Road.  The Meeting noted the letter sent to the Planning Inspectorate setting out the Council’s concerns against permitting the development. |
| **10.19.08**  **10.19.08.1** | **Finance**  To approve accounts for payment: 29th October 2019 |

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| **Date** | **Ref No** | **Payee** | **Description** | **Amount £** |
| **29/10/2019** | **420** | **Cambridge Water** | **Water supply** | **19.20** |
| **29/10/2019** | **421** | **Mr. M Tew** | **Salary** | **200.00** |
| **29/10/2019** | **422** | **Mr. M Woolhouse** | **Net salary September** | **230.55** |
| **29/10/2019** | **423** | **Mr. M Woolhouse** | **Net salary October** | **291.95** |
| **29/10/2019** | **424** | **Mr. M Woolhouse** | **HMRC re PAYE** | **112.45** |
| **29/10/2019** | **425** | **Wistow Warbler** | **Grant** | **50.00** |

Cllr C. Waller proposed that the accounts be approved for payment. Cllr R. Bradford seconded the proposal. **It was unanimously** **resolved to do so**.

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| **10.19.08.2** Income | Income  Members noted the income received in the month. |
| **-1330-**  **10.19.08.3** | Garden Reclaim  Cllr Waller explained that in addition to the original cheque having been issued in the name of the wrong payee, Barclays Bank had refused two subsequent cheques because the signatures had not matched those shown on the mandate. |
| **10.19.08.04** | Income and Expenditure Account  Members noted the income and expenditure account. |
| **10.19.08.05** | Bank reconciliation  Members noted the bank reconciliation for October 2019 addressing the previously reported discrepancy. |
| **10.19.08.06** | Bank Balances  Members noted the current and savings account balances of £25,291.69 and £15,858.09 respectively. |
| **10.19.08.07** | Banking Arrangements  Cllr Waller explained of his unease at the level of service provided by Barclays Bank, such as dishonouring cheques as well as the faced when changing the mandate due to the change of Clerk and asked members for their views on whether the Council should change its bankers. Members agreed that this should be explored and Cllr Waller agreed to investigate alternative facilities in Huntingdon and the Clerk agreed to contact Warboys Parish Clerk to seek his opinions on alternative bankers. Cllr Smith requested that any alternative bank should offer electronic payments. |
| **10.19.08.08** | Draft Budget  Members considered the draft budget for 2020/21. The principal item related to the play ground and the increasing need to renovate or replace items of equipment. Cllr Macinnes agreed to bring costings for these works to the next meeting. He added that only 27 responses had been received from the c200 sent out relating to village facilities. **It was agreed** to consider the budget in more detail at the next meeting. |
| **10.19.09**  **10.19.09.01**  **10.19.09.02**  **-1331-**  **10.19.09.03** | **Traffic, Highways & Road Safety.**  The meeting considered the previously circulated reports from Warboys and Bury Police and noted that was nothing of particular relevance to Wistow. In addition the Members noted the application for a temporary closure at the bottom of Oaklands Avenue for up to a week in early 2020 in order to provide a gas feed to a house.  The meeting considered the efficiency of the speed camera which, despite having new batteries fitted was proving unreliable, and it was felt that recalibration would overcome the problem. Cllr Wiltshire agreed to make the necessary arrangements  and Cllr Macinnes agreed to arrange for a Speed Watch exercise to be undertaken.  It was reported that the potholes had been filled and repaired. |
| **10.19.10**  **10.19.10.01** | **Village Maintenance**  Play Area Grass Cutting  It was reported that the contract had yet to be finalised. |
| **10.19.11** | **Policing Matters:**  No incidents in the village of Wistow were reported with all alerts posted to the Parish Council’s Facebook page / Neighbourhood Watch page. |
| **10.19.12** | **Correspondence and Communications** |
| **10.19.12.01** | The meeting noted the previously circulated correspondence which members confirmed that they had read. |
| **10.19.12.02**  **10.19.12.03** | Trees - Cemetery  Cllr Smith reported that HDC required photos of the state of the trees that the Council wished to fell to confirm that they were dead and that he would action this request.  Countryside Volunteers  It was agreed that Cllr Smith and the Clerk would add the request for volunteers to village social media pages. |
| **10.19.13**  **10.19.13.01**  **-**  **10.19.13.02**  **-1332-**  **10.19.13.03**  **10.19.13.04**  **10.19.13.05**  **10.19.13.06** | **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  It was reported that the gate needed to be re-hung and Cllr. Macinnes agreed to request Mr. G Burton’s assistance to repair and secure the gates.  Countryside Cllr Bradford  Cllr Bradford confirmed that there was nothing to report.  Village Hall Cllr. Bradford  It was reported that plans for future use and facilities in the village hall were being developed.  Website Cllr. Smith  Cllr Smith confirmed that he had been unable to attend the planned meeting with Mr Tew but he and the Clerk would meet to establish the Council’s ability to use the website and social media.  Trees/Grass Cllr. Smith  Cllr. Smith reported that he had contacted HDC regarding the encroachment of trees on to the cemetery. See minute 10.19.12 .02 above.  Highways Cllr. Bradford  Cllr. Bradford confirmed that relevant matters had been already raised during the Meeting. |
| **10.19.14** | **Monthly Audit**  Cllr. Wilshire volunteered to be the Auditor for November |
| **10.19.15**  **10.19.15.01**  **10.19.15.02**  **10.19.15.03**  **10.19.15.03**  **10.19.15.04**  **10.19.15.05** | **Matters for future consideration:**  Defibrillator solar power  Playground gates  Playground equipment costs  Winter gritting  2020/21 Budget  Cemetery trees |
| **08.19.16** | **Date of next meeting:** 26 November September 2019, Wistow Village Hall, 7:30pm |