

A meeting of Wistow Parish Council took place on Tuesday 30th March 2021 at 7.30pm by video call with the Chair located at Church Street, Wistow, Cambs.

03.21.01 Present:

Cllr. R Waller (Chair) Cllr. C. Leaton, Cllr. N. Simms and Cllr. J. Wiltshire.

In Attendance

Mr. M. Woolhouse – Clerk to the Council
Cllr. G. Bull - HDC
Mr. L. Cook - County Broadband

03.21.02 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Bradford and Gregory and Cllr Rogers (CCC).

03.21.03 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were noted for all Parish Councillors as Trustees of the Village Hall. Save as stated there were no pecuniary interests to declare in respect of any business to be transacted at the meeting.

03.21.04 Public Participation:

03.21.04.01 There was no participation from the public or any Councillor declaring a prejudicial interest in any matter to be discussed.

03.21.04.02 Mr L Cook - County Broadband

The meeting received a presentation from Mr L Cook of County Broadband, who explained their proposal to implement a fibre to the premises (FTTP) network across Wistow and surrounding villages. The plan was at an initial stage trying to establish interest in having FTTP and if there was an expressed interest of 45%-50% detailed presentations would occur and if that resulted in a minimum 25% pre order commitment the plan would proceed, subject to County Broadband capital investment criteria being met.

Residents would not make any payments until the property was connected and operational with monthly charges starting currently at £28pcm.

Mr Cook explained that it was possibly likely for both the Village Hall and Pub to be provided with free 300mb FTTP.

Cllr Waller explained that the council could not endorse commercial organisations but was willing to circulate a letter to every property explaining what County Broadband was planning. Social media sites relevant to Wistow residents were mentioned and Mr Cook felt it would be helpful to publicise the project if the company was to join them. The Clerk agreed to draft a letter for the Chairman to review before County Broadband considered it prior to distribution.

03.21.05 **County and District Councillor reports**

03.21.05.01 **Cllr. G Bull (HDC)**

Recycling 2021

Cllr Bull offered to circulate details of the HDC recycling performance in 2020.

Town Centres

HDC had secured funds to assist in reinvigorating town centres, with Ramsey due to receive an allocation.

Electric vehicle charging points

Electric vehicle charging points were to be introduced in St Ives.

One Leisure

Outdoor leisure activity facilities had re started.

Warboys Ward

Mr. M. Haines had been selected to be the Conservative Party candidate to contest the bye election following the sad demise of Jill Tavener.

03.21.06 **Approval of minutes of meeting held on 26th February 2021**

03.21.06.01 The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and **it was resolved unanimously that the minutes be and are approved and that they be signed by the Chair of the Meeting.**

03.21.07 **Matters Arising or carried forward from previous meetings**

03.21.07.01 Street lighting

The Clerk reported that there had been no further contact with Balfour Beatty and it was agreed to wait until July 2021 (post lockdown) before making an official complaint to Balfour Beatty regarding the delays in completing the lighting upgrade.

03.21.07.02 Flooding

Cllr Wiltshire reported that he held meetings with representatives from Bury and Broughton to understand the problems in those villages as well as with a member of staff from the CCC flooding dept. There appeared to be a number of issues that may have aided the flooding and further investigations were necessary. The next step was to invite CCC to the village to view the affected areas and so better understand the wider problems.

The Meeting felt that individual property occupiers had principal responsibility to protect their properties against flooding, eg sandbags or removable flood bunds. The meeting agreed that gully emptying vehicles should be booked for the post-harvest period in late autumn to ensure that gullies were empty at the start of the winter period.

03.21.07.03 Road conditions

Whilst it was acknowledged that road conditions nationally were in a poor state, some local problems were being addressed, notably Wistow Fen Lane and Ramsey Road, the Raveleys. Cllr Waller reported that the Local Highways Officer had a budget of only £4,000 per month to deal with local matters in his area. Cllr Leaton reported that the bends on the road between the village and the Broughton crossroad had a number of loosely filled potholes which have been would soon deteriorate.

Cllr. Bull and Mr Cook left the Meeting

03.21.07.04 Defibrillator

Cllr Simms reported that BHF was not interested in providing a second device and agreed to cost the project based on a purchased device and green energy in time for the June 2021 meeting.

03.21.07.05 2021 Elections

Cllr Waller reported that he had displayed notices for the various elections in the bus shelter and **the Clerk agreed to publicise the elections on social media.**

03.21.07.06 Garden Reclaim

The Clerk reported that he had not heard from Mr Sargant since writing following the February meeting and it was agreed to remove the matter from future agendas unless he responded.

03.21.07.07 Grass Cutting

The Meeting considered that Mr Jackson had made a good initial impression with his work and diligence. The fallen tree in the playground had been removed.

-1406-

03.21.08 **Planning**

03.21.08.01 There had not been any applications to review since the previous meeting.

02.21.09 **Finance**

02.21.09.01 The meeting approved the accounts for payment: 30th March 2021.

Date	Ref No	Payee	Description	Amount £
30/03/2021	Online 1			
30/03/2021	Online 2	Mr. M Woolhouse	Net salary and expenses	265.69
30/03/2021	Online 3	Mrs. C Leaton	Reimbursement of purchases	7.32
30/03/2021	Online 3	HMRC	PAYE re Mr. M Woolhouse	295.65

03.21.09.02 The meeting noted bank charges for the month 15.00

03.21.09.03 **Income and Expenditure Account**

The Meeting noted the income and expenditure account for March 2021.

03.21.09.04 **Bank Reconciliation**

The Meeting noted the bank reconciliation for the month.

03.21.09.05 **Bank Balances**

The Meeting noted account balances as at 23rd March 2021.

03.21.10 **Traffic, Highways & Road Safety.**

03.21.10.01 The meeting noted the previously circulated correspondence and the highways issues dealt with above.

Cllr. Simms reported that new traffic calming measures including wider "speed humps" but which did not restrict farm traffic were installed on the Pidley to Oldhurst road.

03.21.13 **Correspondence and Communications**

03.21.13.01 The Meeting noted the previously circulated correspondence and the Clerk reported that he had not received any further correspondence from Mr. Whales.

03.21.14.01 **Website and filing**

The Clerk reported that the website would be updated to reflect the Clerk's new telephone contact. He added that he was reviewing the council's records and establishing which files would be destroyed, retained or archived and would send the Chairman a list in due course prior to any final decision being made.

03.21.14 **Verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising from their portfolio responsibilities**

03.21.14.02 **Litter /Playpark**

ClIr Wiltshire reported that he had received a request from the WI regarding the building of a sensory garden in the playground. This was a WI national initiative but added that there was little detail available at present and the Council was not requested to make a decision but to consider the matter in principle. It was likely that a request for a financial contribution would form part of the formal request. The Meeting doubted whether the playpark was the best venue because children enjoying the facility may not distinguish between the play area and the sensory garden; however it considered that an area of the village green in Bridge Street/Manor Street may be more appropriate. It was agreed to consider the matter more fully once the WI submitted a detailed request.

03.21.14.03 **Village Hall**

ClIr Waller reported that revised plans had been submitted to HDC in respect of the proposed Village Hall works, which had been prepared by an architect who had recently moved to the village.

03.21.14.04 **Trees/Grass**

It was reported that the trees on the Village Green were in need on some attention and **the Clerk was requested to contact Mr. Jackson and obtain a schedule of work and a price.**

03.21.15. **Monthly Audit**

03.21.15.01 ClIr Simms volunteered to be Auditor for April 2021.

03.21.16 **Items for discussion at the next meeting**

03.21.16.01 No items were raised for discussion.

03.21.17 **Dates of next meetings:**

03.21.17.01 It was agreed that the next meetings would take place as follows

- a) Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 27th April 2021 at 7.30pm via video conference.
- b) Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 25th May 2021 in the Village Hall at 7pm
- c) Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 25th May 2021 in the Village Hall at 7.15 pm or as soon thereafter following the Annual Parish Meeting

-1408-

- d) Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 25th May 2021 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm or as soon thereafter following the Annual General Meeting.