

Wendover Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on 5 July, 2010

In Wendover Library Room at 7.30 pm

Present:- Cllrs: Mrs Carroll, Mrs Hoffman, Worth, McPartland, Robinson, Mrs Toft-Hunt, Myers, Mrs Saunders,
Mrs Stamper, Mrs Ballantine. Clerk: Mrs Fiona Lippmann
3 members of the public were present

Cllr Mrs Toft-Hunt opened the meeting with the following statement:-

"We heard today that Cllr Joel Stevens has resigned due to work commitments. We must thank him for his efforts over the past few years. He was instrumental in getting major grants for the skate park and was always very supportive of the council during the difficult period just over two years ago.

I would also like to make a personal statement about the first agenda item to elect a new Chairman.

With immediate effect I am standing down as Chair of Wendover Parish Council, although remaining a Councillor for the time being. I joined the Council exactly 2 years ago as one of 9 new councillors, following the effective break up of the Council. Just two months later the Council elected me as Chair. I consider it a real honour and a privilege, then and now, to represent Wendover, which is a town of wonderful character and I have done my best to support the residents.

However, my husband and I have decided that it is time for a change of location and plan to move to Cornwall in the near future. We had thought this was a dream only, but were lucky to find the perfect house and also to be able to sell our current home (despite HS2). Certainly we will miss Wendover where we have been very happy for more than 20 years. The move is likely to be in August, so I decided to resign as Chair in advance, in order to be able to offer support to the new Chair and ensure a smooth handover.

I do feel that this is a good time for me to move on from the Council. We have established a sound framework of structure, policy and procedures that ensures open governance and democracy and guides the council in its deliberations and decision making. The Council can now move into a new phase with new leadership. The new Chair will certainly have challenges with budgets and HS2, however by using the framework, the Council can be at its most effective.

I wish to thank you all for the support I have had from residents and Councillors over the past two years and especially thanks to the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and the staff of the Council who have been wonderfully loyal and helpful throughout. I wish you all the very best of luck for the future".

There followed an expression of thanks from all the Councillors to Cllr Mrs Toft-Hunt for all her hard work over the past two years and her efforts in bringing the Council into the 21st Century, enabling the winning of a National Award.

PC11/58 Election of Chair

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Worth be offered the Chair of the Council. Cllr Worth accepted the nomination. A vote was taken and it was agreed by the Council that Cllr Worth hold the position of Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Worth took the Chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

PC11/59 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Thorne. These were accepted.

PC11/60 Declarations of Interest

- a) There were no declarations of a personal interest
- b) There were no declarations of a prejudicial interest.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public question time

The Chairman then reopened the meeting

PC11/61 Co-option of New Councillors

Requests to be co-opted from Mr R Duggan and Mr T Walsh were considered. A vote was taken and it was agreed that both applicants would be offered a place on the Parish Council.

PC11/62 County Councillor's Report

There was no County Councillor's Report to receive

PC11/63 District Councillors' Report

Cllr Richards reported on a meeting held between AVDC/BCC and most groups against the HS2 proposal and a

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proposed consultation on development in Lambe Road.

PC11/64 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 and 22 June, 2010 were agreed as a true record, following the amendments that Cllr Robinson had been present at the meeting of 7 June, and under Matters of Report, the word 'birthday' should be changed to 'anniversary', the Chairman then signed them.

PC11/65 Staffing Committee

It was reported that the application process for the position of Deputy Clerk was well under way. The Chair of the Committee proposed that the Council consider the co-option of Cllr McPartlan onto the Committee for the recruitment process. This was agreed.

PC11/66 Planning Committee

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 7 June, 2010 were received

PC11/67 Policy, Procedures and Standing Orders

a. The Market Regulations were discussed and the following changes were agreed:-

- i) Item 6. Would read 6'6" instead of '7 ft'.
- ii) It was noted that item 9 could not be changed as the Parish Council could not authorise storage on land that was not their responsibility
- iii) Item 18, would state, "Stalls may be erected and cleared at times agreed with the Clerk".

b. The proposed Policy on Play was considered and agreed.

PC11/68 Amenities Committee

The minutes of the Amenities Committee of the 22 June, 2010 were received.

PC11/69 Management and Finance Group

a. The notes were received as read of the meeting of 14 June, 2010

b. The payment list as presented was agreed

c. The outstanding balance due by the Chamber of Trade to the Christmas Lights was discussed. It was agreed that the amount of £513 + VAT be paid by Wendover Parish Council and that a letter be written to the Chamber of Trade explaining the Council's position be sent.

d. The Council were asked to consider what project the NALC award be put to.

PC11/70 Order of Business

The Chairman proposed that Standing Order 15 be suspended (order of business) due to the need to discuss item 12 (iii) Churchyard Care contract, in closed session at the end of the meeting.

PC11/71 Communications Group

There had been no meeting held.

PC11/72 Web Site Design Group

There had been no meeting held.

PC11/73 Fairtrade Town Project

No updates to report

PC11/74 Local Policing

The Chairman asked PC Andy Smith to update the Council on programmes and actions currently undertaken by the local police force.

PC11/75 Risk Reviews

No Risk Reviews were presented for updating

PC11/76 Consultations

There were no consultations to discuss.

PC11/77 Grants

a. An application for grant funding for the WAG car was considered. It was agreed to grant them £500 towards their running costs.

PC11/78 Conferences and Training Opportunities

There were no reports from any conferences attended or training to be considered.

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PC11/79 Outside Body Representation

- a. Cllr Worth reported on the current situation Wendover Health Check. It was anticipated that this would be available for consideration in the Autumn.
- b. Cllr Worth reported on meetings attended on HS2.
- c. Cllr Mrs Ballantine reported on meetings held by the Memorial Hall Committee. It was noted that Mr Mogford was still President of the Committee with Mr Belton Chairman.

PC11/80 Correspondence

The list of correspondence was noted.

PC11/81 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was noted.

PC11/82 Matters of Report

- The noticeboards were very well used, but needed tidying up
- Thanks were given to the excellent state of the play areas
- Ownership of a drainage gully outside Rumsey's queried
- The Charity Market had been very quiet
- CAB were hoping to place a mobile bureau on the Manor Waste in the near future

PC11/83 Dates of Future Meetings

Planning meetings would be held 20 July and 2 August 2010 at 7.00 pm

Parish Council meetings would be held on 2 August, 2010 at 7.30 pm

Management Group meeting would be held on 14 July, 2010 at 7.00 pm

Amenities Committee meeting would be held on 17 August, 2010 at 7.30 pm

Communications Group meeting would be held on 12 July, 2010 at 11.30 am

A Council Surgery would be held on 17 July, 2010 between 2-4 pm

PC11/84 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

Due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the meeting was closed to press and public. It was resolved to close the meeting under section 1(2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to discuss contractual issues.

PC11/85 CHURCHYARD CARE COMMITTEE

The historic funding agreement between the Parish Council and the Church was discussed. Parameters of finance were discussed in depth and it was agreed that negotiations would take place and a meeting would be set up. Cllr Mrs Ballantine refused to take part in the discussions.

PC11/86 CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm

Signed _____
Chairman

Date: _____

Public Question Time

- Cllr Mrs Toft-Hunt was thanked for her professionalism
- Cllr Worth was congratulated on his appointment
- Details were conveyed for a new support group to be held at the Christian Centre from 21 July 2pm – 3.30 pm where computers and councillors would be available to help and advise people suffering from the recession.