

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

1st November 2022 at 7:30pm

Meeting held at St Annes Hall, Aylesbury Road, Wendover, HP22 6JG

Present: Councillors Ballantine, Durden-Moore, Gallagher, Goodall, Thornton, Worth, Walker, Williams.

Clerk: Andy Smith

Chair: Councillor Durden-Moore

Members of Public: 2

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC22/284 Apologies were received and **ACCEPTED** from Councillors Walker, Lloyd-Evans and Bulpett

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

PC22/285 None declared

3. MINUTES

PC22/286 The minutes of the meeting of 4th October 2022 were considered. The minutes were **RESOLVED** as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

PC22/287 Letters of thanks have been sent to the two councillors who have recently left the council. We welcome Councillor Thornton. Canal works are starting to be undertaken, discussed later in the meeting. The clerk has passed the ILCA. We have had correspondence regarding a winter warmth scheme, Warm Welcome. This provides spaces for people who are struggling to heat homes as well as suffering from social isolation. NOTED that due to construction work the Library is not available to fulfil this role. Councillors are requested to assist and Councillors Worth, Williams and Gallagher volunteered to take this project on and report back to the next meeting.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PC22/288 A member of the public updated the Council on HS2 matters – It was NOTED that the situation with HS2 now is that it seems to be back up for review. The Government is looking for significant savings for the November 17th Budget statement and that could include HS2. The member of the public stated that it may be beneficial to Wendover residents to build on momentum from previous lobbying. Council was asked to consider contacting the lobbyists the Council works with to restate the council case to change the project in the interests of Wendover Residents.

6. REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLORS

PC22/288 There were no Councillors present

7. CLERKS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

PC22/289 The report from the Clerk was NOTED

8. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

PC22/290 The meeting notes from the meeting held by BMKALC were NOTED

PC22/291 A Meeting of the Wendover schools on the Wharf Rd campus set out a plan to enhance their environmental efforts, particularly around sustainable energy. They are progressing as a joint venture

PC22/292 Community Car – it was NOTED that this organisation has been facing a challenge since Covid because of declining usage. The meeting focused on promoting the car and relaunching. Council NOTED it is a very useful service that is cost effective. Any help from councillors is welcome and there is a driver vacancy on Friday mornings if anyone is interested.

9. FINANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

a) To consider the list of payments and sign cheques

PC22/293 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments to consider as presented

b) To note the September 2022 I&E, EMR and Balance Sheet

PC22/294 The September 2022 I&E, EMR and balance sheet was NOTED.

10. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

a) To note the draft minutes of the meeting on 18th October 2022

PC22/295 The draft minutes of the meeting on 18th October 2022 were NOTED

b) To resolve the quote for lilies on Hampden Pond

PC22/296 It was NOTED that the lilies expand every year and will eventually take over the pond. The cutting of the lilies had been originally agreed by committee; however it was felt that it was better value for money to remove them by the root. Amenities has not considered this new quote as there is a time sensitivity around the water levels in the pond currently being at their lowest. It was NOTED that only one quote had been obtained due to the highly specialised nature of the work and the difficulty finding suppliers. It was further NOTED that council had no benchmark for the price of this work, and it felt expensive. It was **RESOLVED** to obtain further quotes, if possible, to be approved at the December Amenities committee.

c) To note sale of Gator and purchase of new equipment

PC22/297 It was NOTED that an offer for £3000 had been made for the Gator and this had been accepted. The sale will be used in part exchange for grounds equipment.

11. OTHER MATTERS

a) HS2 Working Group

PC22/298 The comments made in the public participation were NOTED. The response to the Lord Berkley press release (circulated by email) was considered. Normally the working group should look into a response as a matter of urgency to come back with a proposal, however it was NOTED that there is an issue of timing because of the 17th November Budget from the government.

The Council NOTED that at the previous meeting under **PC22/266**:

- the Chair had been delegated to send time sensitive communications and
- the Chair would have the authority to sign and send and copy to councillors, on issues that have already been considered by council and there is a council position on that issue.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would delegate authority to the acting Chair to liaise with our PR company for HS2 matters as to an appropriate response and that the delegated authority of the Clerk would be used to approve up to £1000 for any work based on this advice.

It was further **RESOLVED** that if required, we would temporarily draft in a former member of the HS2 group to support the council and working group, solely for the purpose of supporting our response on this issue during this specific window of opportunity.

b) Parish Plan Working Group

PC22/299 The report in the papers was NOTED. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with negotiations to take ownership of the Manor Waste, through a possession order. It was NOTED that this would rely on legal drawings of the area and that we had some already in possession so there was no need for extra expenditure on these. It was further **RESOLVED** that Marley Design be commissioned to create a visual identity for the Parish of Wendover, building on the work of the new website Welcome to Wendover.

c) Transport Working Group

PC22/300 The terms of reference as presented in the papers were considered and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these new terms.

PC22/301 The group asked Council to consider the relaunch the Speedwatch initiative – this is currently required to prove there is a speed issue to be dealt with. The immediate focus would be on South Street. It was NOTED that Buckinghamshire Council; have a published criteria for moving on speed related issues and that involves collecting data that is acceptable to them and the Thames Valley Police. It was NOTED that our current MVAS equipment can be used to generate the information required, although this may require additional equipment to download the data and generate reports. It was further NOTED that Halton has just purchased equipment to do this reporting and it may be possible to liaise with them on this issue. The Council **RESOLVED** support this project from the office within the resources that are available.

PC22/302 The Council considered the near miss reporting tool on the website as part of evidence gathering it was **RESOLVED** that the Working Group needed to identify the format of this reporting to be useful as evidence. It was further **RESOLVED** that this would be passed to the office to develop the tool on our website.

d) Update on the parking review

PC22/303 The parking review working document in the papers was considered and NOTED. It was NOTED that Council was now looking to next steps and actions based on the report. It was RESOLVED to accept the recommendations in the report, and it was NOTED that Councillor Goodall would provide further background with a report on the recommendations set out by Buckinghamshire Council.

e) Work on trees

PC22/304 It was NOTED that some emergency works had been authorised for trees with immediate H&S issues. Whilst the contractor inspected those trees the Grounds Team requested a quote for other works covering trees of concern, given the timing of the meetings this has not been discussed at Amenities yet.

It was NOTED that we have a preferred contractor, but part of the quote is over £1000. It was **RESOLVED** to seek other quotes and bring to Amenities in December.

f) Clock Tower Initiative

PC22/305 The paper was considered and NOTED. The Council was supportive of the efforts and recognised that the Lionel Abel Smith Trust would need to be able to support the proposal for it to progress. The library development as also NOTED as there could be crossover in objectives. It was **RESOLVED** to support this project and Council would be kept updated with progress.

g) Haddington Play Park Update

PC22/306 It was NOTED that there will be an opening ceremony on Sat Nov 12th.

12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

PC22/307 To note the next Parish Council meeting Tuesday 6th December 2022, 7.30 p.m.

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

PC22/308 The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 makes provision for excluding the public by resolution when confidential business is being considered or there are other special reasons and publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest. It was **RESOLVED** to move into a confidential session.

a) Haddington Park Lease

PC22/309 It was NOTED that there was no premium on it – therefore no consideration. It was **RESOLVED** to seek clarification and proceed on the legal advice as it was unlikely to change the nature of the contract.

If the contract needs redrafting it was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to either Councillors Worth or Williams to sign the new lease.

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING

PC22/310 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 8.25pm

Signed by *Councillor Bulpett*
Chair to the Parish Council

Date Tuesday 13th December 2022