

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

2nd February 2021 at 7.30pm

Online Meeting via Zoom

Present: Councillors Walsh, Worth, Gregory, Green, Myers, Bulpett, Clayton, Washington, Jarratt, Durden-Moore, and Ballantine.

Clerk: Keith Shelley

Chairman: Sheila Bulpett

Members of Public: 4

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

P20/268 Councillor Clare offered her apologies, and they were accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

P20/269 None.

3. TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMANS RESIGNATION

P20/270 Councillor Walsh confirmed his resignation, and it was accepted. Councillor Walsh requested a proposer for his replacement. Councillor Ballantine proposed Councillor Bulpett and this was seconded by Councillor Myers.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to appoint Councillor Bulpett as Chair to the Council which she accepted.

4. TEMPORARY DELEGATED POWERS DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

P20/271 The Clerk outlined the revised arrangements resulting from the further lockdown.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to continue with the current arrangements for the delegated powers to the Clerk, and the working arrangement for the Office and Ground Team.

5. MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

Consider approval of minutes for the meetings dated 5th January 2021.

P20/272 Councillors Clayton and Clare communicated minor amendments to the Clerk which have been incorporated. The Clerk will leave a copy of the minutes in the Clock Tower for the Chair to sign.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

P20/273 A member of the public thanked the Amenities Committee and Council for their support in relocating the Rennie Grove sign. It was AGREED the member of the public will liaise with the Deputy Clerk for locating the sign within the Orchard.

P20/274 A member of the Open Spaces Working Group raised concerns about discussions to plant trees around the area of the old skate park. Councillor Worth assured the individual that whilst 3 organisations had expressed interest in the utilising the old skate park, to date no decision has been made on who will use it. The only agreement is for perimeter planting of hedgerows.

7. REPORT FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE

P20/275 No report was received and a Thames Valley Police representative failed to attend.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

P20/276 Councillor Strachan commented on the following:

Web Site. One of the advantages of creating the new Buckinghamshire Council from the County Council, and 4 districts is that everything is on only one website. www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

COVID. The Coronavirus Support and Information Section contains information about support for residents and for business. There are also details about the daily number of new cases locally. Every week Councillor Martin Tett, the Leader of the Council, issues an update on Coronavirus in Buckinghamshire which contains lots of useful information. Delivery of the vaccination programme is the responsibility of the NHS not the Council, Martin includes lots of up-to-date local details. You can find his email on the website or you can sign up for it to be sent to you in a separate email.

Flooding. With all the recent rain you might have a flooding or even a homelessness problem. Again, the website is a good place to look. Winter always leads to road surface break up and potholes. Unfortunately, only temporary repairs can be carried out until the weather improves. In the meantime, please report the problem by going to www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk. You can also report fly tipping, street light outages and a host of other problems.

Vale of Aylesbury Plan. Has reached the “Further Main Modification Consultation” stage; and the Aylesbury Gardenway, which, although primarily about Aylesbury, will impact on Wendover residents who visit Aylesbury once the whole Garden Town scheme has been implemented.

Development. We are very aware of the huge amount of development happening South of Aylesbury such as Hampden Fields, Woodlands as well as major infrastructure projects such as the SEALR and of course HS2. Please do report contractor transgressions, mud on roads and anything else either directly to the Council or through your Councillors. In Terms of HS2 Steve Bowles has forwarded the information to Cllr Nick Naylor Chair of the HS2 WG send by Tom Walsh.

Aylesbury Garden Town. Phase two of the Aylesbury Gardenway community engagement campaign commenced on Monday 25 January when a new series of online workshops launch to co-design the look and feel of the Aylesbury Gardenway, an 18km orbital park that will encircle Aylesbury and link it with surrounding villages. During this next phase of engagement people will have an opportunity to listen to some of the feedback received so far. Information gathered from the co-design workshops will be then be brought together to finalise the proposed route to provide fully accessible routes encouraging play, active lifestyles, food growing and outdoor leisure as well as being a haven for wildlife. I would encourage you to get involved when the consultation finishes there will be an online exhibition in March.

Contact Details. Residents can still contact the three of us in the usual way (peter.strachan@buckinghamshire.gov.uk, Steve.Bowles@buckinghamshire.gov.uk, richard.newcombe@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

Councillor Clayton asked a question relating to the Community Board HS2 /EWR Working Group. The concern is the group appears to be concentrating on the combined impact on Parishes in the north of the county. She suggested Wendover and surrounding Parishes should also be considered. Councillor Strachan was unaware of the group but AGREED to investigate and report back. Councillor Bulpett outlined the project to repair the canal tow path and asked if Councillor Strachan had seen the proposal. He confirmed he had and recommended to Halton Parish Council that it becomes a combined project. He also suggested the Community Board may not be able to fund the project; however, funding may be sourced from alternative authority budgets.

9. CLERK'S REPORT

P20/277 The Clerks report was NOTED. The Clerk outlined the progress of the Parking Review and requested a Councillor join him at a progress meeting to be held on 3rd February. Councillor Bulpett AGREED to attend the meeting. Councillor Clayton stated the references quoted in the Clerk's report failed to answer her question regarding the Parish Council responsibilities for Burial Grounds. It was suggested Stoke Mandeville

have recently extended their Burial Grounds so may be able to provide guidance. It was AGREED the Clerk would approach the Stoke Mandeville Clerk for advice.

10. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

P20/278 Councillor Myers attended the BALC liaison group, at which it was confirmed they are very keen for the elections to progress on the 6th of May. He also attended a WAG meeting (Community Car) at which it was confirmed they hope to reinstate the Community Car scheme on the 15th of March utilising drivers who have been vaccinated. Due to recent changes in legislation, concerns remain about the future of the scheme. Councillor Myers advised the Chair of the group to contact Councillor Newcombe.

P20/279 Councillor Durden- Moore attended a recent meeting on the Rural Market Towns Group and outlined the benefits. She reminded the Council that a decision will need to be made during March on whether to continue with the Group. The Clerk confirmed the free period for assessing the benefits has been extended until June.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

**To consider items of correspondence listed at (Appendix 1)
Parking Survey.**

P20/280 The Parking Survey was NOTED, and Councillor Bulpett previously agreed to attend the review meeting with the Clerk on the 3rd February.

12. FINANCE

a) To note the I&E report, EMR and Balance Sheet for December 2020

P20/281 The I&E report, EMR report and balance sheet for December 2020 were NOTED.

b) To consider the list of payments and sign cheques

P20/282 The list of payments was NOTED with no comments.

13. PLANNING COMMITTEE

To note the draft minutes of the meetings of 5th and 19th January 2021.

P20/283 The draft minutes were NOTED.

14. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

a) To note draft minutes of meeting of 19th January 2021.

P20/284 The draft minutes were NOTED. Councillor Worth confirmed the replacement waste bins had been installed and that the pond path re-routing would be progressed.

b) To receive any recommendations from the Amenities Committee.

i) To receive an update from Councillor Worth on the Tree Planting around the old skate park and consider current arrangements.

P20/285 Councillor Worth stated the only agreement to date was for the planting of a hedgerow around the perimeter of the park. At an on-site meeting he requested the Wendover Forest Garden Project (associated with Climate Action Wendover / Grow to Give) to submit a 5-year plan for their garden area excluding the area previously occupied by the old skate park for consideration by the Council. He also confirmed with them, if the Council agreed to the proposal, they may apply for a grant to assist with the tree planting. It was confirmed that a grant application had already been received.

A discussion then followed highlighting concerns relating to the 3 applications (Skate Park, Burial Ground and Wendover Forest Garden Project). The Clerk highlighted the issues the indecision is creating for the office in terms of managing expectations from the groups and answering their queries.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Councillor Bulpett and seconded by Councillor Ballentine and unanimously agreed that the Wendover Forest Garden Project can proceed with the perimeter hedge planting, but no further planting can proceed until a firm decision has been reached on the use of the site.

15. STAFFING COMMITTEE

To note the draft minutes of the meetings of 11th January 2021.

P20/285 The draft minutes were NOTED. Councillor Myers explained the meeting was to consider Councillor Durden-Moore's recommendations following her attendance at the Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion training. He confirmed the recommendations would be considered by the new council.

16. OTHER MATTERS

a) HS2

To receive an update and any recommendations for the working group.

P20/286 Councillor Walsh circulated a report prior to the meeting, and it was NOTED. He also highlighted the recent issues around the Small Dean encampment relating to the removal of trees during silent hours and the contractors exceeding the agreed areas. Councillor Durden-Moore asked whether the WPC HS2 WG would be joining the Parishes combined effort. Councillor Walsh stated it was too early to decide and the future mission of the Working Group will have to be considered around March. Councillor Durden-Moore also asked whether a decision had been made on utilising an external hydrologist. Councillor Walsh explained, if engaged, the individual would be established to support the work already being completed which may require funding.

b) Community Board

To consider any recommendations for the next Community Board.

P20/287 Councillor Bulpett outlined the actions relating to the funding for the canal repairs and it was NOTED. She requested Councillor recommendations for the Board should be submitted to her before the next meeting in March. Councillor Clayton highlighted a vacancy for a Parish Councillor representative on the Chilterns Conservation Board. Councillor Strachan AGREED to request Councillor Newcombe contacts Councillor Bulpett with details on the vacancy and who may apply.

c) Events for 2021

To consider the list of events and dates scheduled.

P20/288 The Clerk outlined the proposal for the year subject to C19 restrictions:

Annual Parish Meeting – Date already agreed, Thursday 29th April. Guest speaker to be proposed at next meeting.

Quiz 2021 – It was **RESOLVED** to hold the event in the Bowls Club. Councillor Myers AGREED to compile the questions for whichever event is held.

Best Kept Village 2021 – It was **RESOLVED** to enter the competition.

Easter Competition 2021 – It was **RESOLVED** to delegate the organisation to the office with a prize budget of £50.00.

Halloween Competition 2021 - It was **RESOLVED** to delegate the organisation to the office with a prize budget of £50.00.

Play Around the Parishes – It was **RESOLVED** to hold provisionally booked events on the 6th and 20th August.

Christmas Event 2021 – It was **RESOLVED** to hold the event on 1st December to align with the lights switch on. It was **RESOLVED** to hold the Carols around the Tree on 10th December. It was **RESOLVED** to hold the LPM Band on the 18th of December.

d) **Community Right to Bid.**

To consider the Red Lion, 9 High St, Wendover HP22 6DU. Asset of Community Value – Expiry of five-year listing.

P20/289. Following a discussion, it was considered appropriate to renew the listing for the Red Lion.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Councillor Walsh and seconded by Councillor Myers and unanimously agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Bulpett confirm there are no liabilities attached to the listing before re-applying and conduct a search to establish if there are any other listings agreed with WPC.

e) **Suave Food.**

To consider a request from Suave Food to locate a Themed Food Truck on the Manor Waste.

P20/290. The Clerk outlined the proposal and reminded the council of previous decisions relating to individual businesses utilising the Manor Waste. Two Suave Food applications were considered, extended their attendance at the LPM to 3.30pm and individual attendance on the Manor Waste.

RESOLVED: It was resolved not to support the two applications but allow continued attendance at the LPM within the stipulated market hours.

f) **Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting**

To confirm a date for consideration of the title Freeman / Freewoman of the village to a Wendover Group.

P20/291 It was **AGREED** the Clerk would organise an Extraordinary Meeting prior to the start of the next Full Council meeting. This will not be practical due to the already extensive agenda at the March meeting. The Clerk will circulate a poll for a meeting to be organised before the end of February.

g) **Clare Foundation – Hot Meals Provision.**

To receive an update from Councillor Walsh on the Clare Foundation hot meals provisions.

P20/292. Councillor Walsh circulated a paper prior to the meeting, and it was **NOTED**. He outlined the limited schemes active at High Wycombe and Chesham and asked whether Wendover Parish Council would consider becoming involved in a similar scheme. A member of the public, familiar with the scheme, outlined how the council may become involved and the support that would be required. Councillor Walsh reminded the council of the hygiene requirements which must be considered, and that the council would be supported by the Clare Foundation. Councillor Durden-Moore asked if a need had been identified within Wendover. Whilst it is impossible to identify exact requirements, 40-50 meals were suggested as a pilot for the first week.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Councillor Walsh that the council engage with the Clare Foundation to formally gain further information on what would be required from the council. This was seconded by Councillor Ballantine who also AGREED with Councillor Bulpett to explore the initiative further.

h) **Councillor Tablets**

To consider the use of tablets during the C19 restrictions.

P20/293. The Clerk explained the rationale for the relaxation of the councillor tablets usage during the C19 pandemic. Councillor Walsh reiterated the GDPR requirement for dedicated councillor emails addresses and tablets. It was **AGREED** that no decision should be made on replacing the tablets until the C19 restrictions are lifted.

i) **Rumseys**

To consider an approach from Rumseys to have a tree month rent holiday covering February, March, and April

P20/294. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal.

j) **Wendover Support Working Group**

To receive an update and consider any recommendations from the Working Group.

P20/295. A member of the working Group emailed the Clerk with an update on the production of the Care Group pamphlet. Two final draft pamphlets have now been presented to the Working Group for consideration before printing.

k) Commemorative Stone

To consider installing a new commemorative stone at Witchell and arranging cleaning for the stone at Hamden Meadow.

P20/296 Councillor Clayton confirmed the location of the existing stone at Hampden Meadow and a previous proposal to have the stone cleaned. She also highlighted a previous proposal to have a further stone located at Witchell and the rationale behind it. The Clerk confirmed a quote of £1k had been received by the Deputy Clerk for cleaning the Hamden Meadow stone.

The quote was rejected, and it was AGREED another quote should be gained from a non-specialist for the cleaning of the original stone and that the Amenities Committee would consider the installation of a stone at Witchell.

l) Clerks Resignation

To receive the Clerks resignation and confirm his exit date.

P20/297 The Clerks resignation was accepted, and his 26th February exit date AGREED.

17. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

P20/298. The date for the next Full Council meeting is 2nd March 2021 at 7.30pm on Zoom.

18. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

P20/299. None

19. CLOSURE OF MEETING

P20/300. As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.

Sheila Bulpett

Signed by
Chair to the Parish Council

Date: 2nd March 2021.