

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 3rd December 2024 at 7:30pm St Anne's Hall, Aylesbury Road, Wendover HP22 6JG

Present: Councillors Ballantine, Gallagher, O'Donnell, Porter, Standen, Thornton, Wales, and Worth

In attendance: Buckinghamshire Cllr Newcombe

Clerk: Andy Smith

Members of Public: 7

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC24/270 Apologies were received from Cllrs Goodall, Ballantine, Walker and Washington and were **APPROVED**. Bucks Cllrs Bowles and Strachan also offered their apologies

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

PC24/271 None

3. MINUTES

PC24/272 The minutes of the Parish Council of 5th November 2024. were **RESOLVED** as a true record to be signed by the Chair of the meeting.

4. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

PC24/273 The Chair announced appreciation for all those who made the Christmas event go so smoothly. The staff team and volunteers brought a good event for residents and local businesses.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PC24/274 Two members of the public who had applied for the role of councillor introduced themselves and explained what they would like to give to the role.

PC24/275 A member of the public spoke to support the Community Climate Action proposal and highlighted that it was several parishes taking issues forward, in partnership. This was a good opportunity to restart our efforts.

6. REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLORS

PC24/276 Councillor Newcombe highlighted the consultation on the Lane Rental scheme for road works. After questions Council noted that South Street and a section of the A413 at Wendover Dean were not included.

PC24/277 A question was asked of Cllr Newcombe about the false economy of the quick fixes of pavements and roads by just dropping tarmac in. It was noted that there are times when the "patch and plane" full fix isn't used. This is based on weather, also if the level of danger requires an immediate fix rather than a scheduled repair.

7. CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDANCE

PC24/278 The report was noted. The issue of the Canal Path was noted and Councillors were going to walk the route and work with the Clerk and produce a plan.

8. FINANCE AND PAYMENTS

a) Payments to consider.

PC24/279 The payments to consider, totalling £45,361.22 and 22,674.59, were **RESOLVED** to be approved and signed.

b) Latest financial reports

PC24/280 The financial reports were noted and Councillors were happy with the current financial position.

c) Flagstone Statement

PC24/281 The statements from the Flagstone accounts were noted and Councillors were happy with the current financial position.

d) End of year forecast

PC24/282 The end of year forecast was noted.

9. REPORTS FROM MEETINGS WITH OUTSIDE BODIES

a) HS2 Mitigation Action Group

PC24/283 The report was noted.

b) Other groups

PC24/284 **Business network** – The meeting was very positive and attended by the local MP

10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

a) FINANCE

PC24/285 The draft minutes of the meeting on 19th November 2024 were noted.

b) PLANNING

PC24/286 The draft minutes of the meeting on 19th November 2024 were noted.

11. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

a) Transport Working Group

PC24/287 There was no councillor present to update on the general works by the group.

PC24/288 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the award of this contract to Intelligent Data Collection for £2500 on the basis it was the best value. The working group were requested to provide details of the other quotes to the next Council.

b) Open Spaces Working Group

PC24/289 An update was provided on the Skatepark – the last of the remaining grant applications have been submitted and that is a reapplication to the Community Board, and application to the Rothschild Foundation.

c) Sustainability and Biodiversity Group

PC24/290 It was noted that this will need to be reformed which we will do from the attendees of the Community Climate Action Project

d) Strategic Planning Steering Group

PC24/291 It has been agreed to schedule to meet every quarter for the forthcoming year. We are to include the Mission and Objectives on the agenda as a reference point and ensure all items being discussed fall under those mission and objectives. The web page will be updated.

12. OTHER ITEMS

a) Notice of conclusion of Audit

PC24/292 The council formally noted the end of the audit process with no issues.

b) 2025/26 Budget and Precept request

PC24/293 The challenges faced were noted. It was further noted that there was no extra money in the budget to cover emergencies other than our insurance and general reserve.

PC24/294 It was noted that if we do increase the Precept we need to communicate very clearly about why we are increasing costs and what the impact is.

PC24/295 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget as set out with a Precept request of £413,882. This is an increase of 6.55% which, based on last years Band D calculations, equates to an increase of £6.99 a year for residents - a monthly difference of 58p

PC24/296 It was further **RESOLVED** that we clearly report on the pressures faced and the reasons why the budget needs to increase.

c) Community Climate Action

PC24/297 The chair agreed to move the agenda so this proposal was discussed following the public participation.

PC24/298 It was noted that there it is not just the cost, but the Council needs to commit time and resource into this project. It was further noted that our efforts in sustainability and biodiversity have been lacking recently.

PC24/299 It was **RESOLVED** to approve engaging with this project and funding the £1000 contribution from the 364 Climate Action EMR.

PC24/300 It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Standen and Worth would lead on this project on behalf of Council

d) CCTV Policy

PC24/301 The proposal was discussed, and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the policy

e) Vehicle Insurance

PC24/302 The proposal was discussed, and it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the clerk to accept the best value offer when all offers are in.

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

PC24/303 It was **RESOLVED** to move the meeting into confidential session based on the need to discuss sensitive personal information

b) Co-option of two Parish Councillors

PC24/304 Each of the candidates were discussed individually on their merits and what they could bring to the council.

PC24/305 It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Kelvin Campbell as a Councillor for Wendover Parish Council

PC24/306 It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Frances Tipper as a Councillor for Wendover Parish Council

14. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

PC24/307 The next Parish Council meeting 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th January 2025 at Chilterns Neuro Centre, Princes Mary Gate. Items for the agenda are due into the office by 9am on Fri 20th December 2024

15. CLOSURE OF MEETING

PC24/308 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 8:23pm

Signed by
Chair to the Parish Council

Date:

DRAFT