

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting

17th December 2024 at 7:30pm

St Anne's Hall, Aylesbury Road, Wendover HP22 6JG

Present: Councillors Worth (Chair), Gallagher, Ballantine, Walker, Washington, Porter & Wales

Clerk & Minutes: Andy Smith

Members of Public: 19

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

A24.099 Cllrs Standen and Washington sent their apologies, which were **ACCEPTED** by the Committee.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A24.100 None.

3. MINUTES

A24.101 The minutes of the meeting of 15th October 2024 were **RESOLVED** as a true record to be signed by the Chair.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A24.102 A member of the public expressed their concern about HS2 using Dobbins Lane. It is felt that the statement that is drafted by the Parish Council was not challenging enough of HS2. Wendover Parish Council were urged to step up.

A24.103 A member of the public asked the Parish Council to make representations to Buckinghamshire Council to express the views of residents about the use of Dobbins Lane for HGV traffic

A24.104 A member of the public outlined that this was a wider issue and that HS2 had given assurances they would not enter Wendover with HGVs and the debate should also consider the effect on South Street or other routes to access Dobbins Lane. It may also set a precedent for future HS2 issues. It is a further concern that the access road in the field would open up access to future developers in that field.

A24.105 A member of the public stated that the works required planning permission, and this was agreed and noted

A24.106 A member of the public stated that we need to communicate with Buckinghamshire Council during the planning process. The Buckinghamshire Councillors need to be representing our local views. It was noted that there are alternative routes to the field.

A24.107 A member of the public emphasised the safety issues that HGVs would bring given the demographic of the road users. For example, young children on the way to the School, older people with visual impairments. The alternative route was noted.

A24.108 A member of the public highlighted that the notification seems patchy and sporadic, it should be noted that access to Bridleways has already had notification that the entrance will be narrowed.

A24.109 A member of the public highlighted that there is no footpath between Dobbins Lane and Bridleways adding to safety issues.

A24.110 A member of the public asked about access to Perry Street and if that was to be used

A24.111 A member of the public highlighted the issues with a hole and works being undertaken overnight for water connections.

A24.112 A member of the public asked if this was being pushed through under Schedule 17 of the HS2 Act and if so, it should be challenged because it is an improper use of schedule.

A24.113 A member of the public said a petition had been discussed but the support from the local MP was seen as a preferred option.

A24.114 The Chair of the Council responded, and this is noted as part of the discussion in item 8c

A24.115 A member of the public talked about the Wendover Shed and the request to look at planning permissions around the borehole for water access and the wind generator. It was noted that planning permissions may be required. The shed was advised that planning guidance would be needed from a consultant. It was noted that the clerk would be in contact with the shed to support.

5. UPDATE REPORT FROM THE CLERK

A24.116 The report presented by the Clerk was NOTED.

6. FINANCE

To consider the list of payments and sign cheques

A24.117 – The payments were discussed and questions answered. Payments totalling £15,242.96 were **RESOLVED** and signed.

7. OPEN SPACES AND HAMPDEN POND

a) Bulb planting

It was noted that the bulb planting had been included in the budget and that this was to approve the specific expenditure.

A24.118 It was **RESOLVED** to continue an annual bulb planting program of £500 per year.

A24.119 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the cost of £700 (inc VAT) for this seasons bulbs

8. OTHER MATTERS

a) Wendover Shed

A24.120 The update was noted, and the Council praised the work being undertaken

A24.121 It was noted that without suitable planning guidance the Amenities could not approve the works. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the current and new works but that this would subject to satisfactory planning consents or advice that it was not required.

A24.122 It was noted that the office would support the shed in seeking funding for appropriate planning guidance.

b) Open Space Hire Requests

A24.123 It was noted that the ambition was to streamline decision making and focus on more high-profile events. An amendment was proposed that the Estates and Events Manager can authorise repeat events but that all new events would come to the Amenities Committee it was **RESOLVED** to accept the amendment.

A24.124 The proposal as amended was **RESOLVED**

c) HS2 Use of Dobbins Lane

A24.125 It was noted that because of timing this was coming to Amenities but would need to be discussed by Full Council.

A24.126 It was noted that the comments from residents in the public section are very welcome and demonstrate the seriousness of the impacts of the HS2 decision to use Dobbins Lane. The Chair of Council further noted Wendover Parish Council has no responsibility for roads and that the letter from the MP to residents was as a direct result of our and others lobbying efforts to get HS2 to change the access route. The Parish Council position is very clear, we are opposed to any HS2 traffic in Wendover. The Buckinghamshire Councillors are arranging a meeting at which Wendover Parish Council will attend to represent local views.

A24.127 It was noted that Wendover Parish Council will challenge this through the planning process – however we can only make recommendations to Buckinghamshire Council, who are the planning authority.

A24.128 An amendment to the proposal was discussed to include authorising the office to engage with the local Buckinghamshire Councillors to ask that they ask for the decision to be “called in” so that it goes to a public planning meeting and that Wendover Parish Council would publicise any links to make comments on the planning application. It was **RESOLVED** to accept this amendment

A24.129 It was discussed if we want to amend the wording of the statement to ensure the views discussed in the statement. It was **RESOLVED** to amend the statement to the following:

We are aware of HS2's intentions to use Dobbins Lane as a route for HGV's to access the land to the rear of Lionel Avenue, for the purpose of building a spring chamber to help balance water flows in the area.

Working with the Wendover HS2 Mitigation Group we have raised our concerns with Buckinghamshire Council and our local MP. This has led to correspondence from the MP and a significant number of complaints that have been shared with us.

Sadly, we have no responsibility for determining if Dobbins Lane can be used by HGV traffic. However, WPC wishes to make it clear that we remain steadfastly opposed to any HS2 Heavy Goods Vehicles entering Wendover for multiple reasons, not least safety concerns and will continue to work with all parties to try and find alternative solutions to this situation.

We continue to work with the Wendover HS2 Mitigation Group to try and minimise the impact of HS2 on all residents.

A24.130 The proposal as amended was **RESOLVED**

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

[24/03424/APP 30 Witchell Wendover Buckinghamshire HP22 6EG](#)

Householder application for garage conversion and alterations to fenestration

A24.131 It was noted that there was an objection based on noise disturbance because the facilities will be on the party wall. The lack of garage means that the bins may be permanently outside and there may be a loss of parking with only room for one parking space at a three bedroom property. It was **RESOLVED** to be neutral on this application.

[The Old Post Office, 25 High Street, Wendover, Aylesbury, HP22 6DU](#)

Application for a new premises licence, sale by retail of alcohol

It was **RESOLVED** to support this proposal.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

A24.132 None discussed.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A24.133 The next scheduled meeting of the Amenities Committee is 21st January 2025 at the Chilterns Neuro Centre. Any items for the agenda including papers to be with the Estates and Events manager by 9am on Mon 13th January 2025.

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING

A24.134 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 8:27pm.

Signed by *Stephen Worth*

Chair to the Amenities Committee

Date: 18th March 2025