

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHETSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Held at the Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone

23rd November 2023

Present: - Mr. J. Riley - Chairman
Mr. P. Cox
Mr. R. Simmons
Mr. L.M Phillimore
Mr. J. Culshaw

Ms. S. Tomlinson
Mrs. P. Kenney
Mr. M.R. Bounds
Mrs. A.M. Tyler
Mr. L. Breckon (Clerk)

BDC Cllr. Mr. M.E. Jackson

No Parishioners in attendance.

77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from:— Ms. D. Jeeves – away, Mrs. S. Coe – illness and Mrs. L. Pendery Hunt – illness. RESOLVED: To accept apologies received.

78. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed Members to the meeting. He reminded Members of the passing of former Parish Chairman and Cllr. Mr Bill Liquorish. He said he was humbled and honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council on Remembrance Sunday. As always, the village had done itself proud and thanks were given to the CLGB for their attendance and performance.

79. DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

None.

80. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF COUNCIL DATED 26TH OCTOBER 2023

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting dated 26TH October 2023 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

81. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS WORKING PARTY HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER 2023

The Chairman asked Mr. J. Culshaw as Chairman of the Highways working party to highlight anything in the minutes included in the agenda. There were no recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Highways working party dated 9th November 2023 be received.

82. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a) Public Speaking Protocol – No requests had been received by the protocol deadline.
- b) The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to make representation about any item not on the agenda (old parishioners time).
- i) The speed signs seemed to be displaying incorrect speeds. The Clerk would get them taken down and plugged in to the PC to check the settings. As they were new signs, they were still under warranty.

83. REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The following reports were received: BDC Cllr. Mr. M.E. Jackson reported that some Members may not be aware that BDC North Whetstone Ward, since the Boundary Commission changes took effect in 2023, included a 'chunk' of Blaby village. He had received a call from a Blaby resident complaining that they and another resident had their cars locked up in Bouskell Park car park one weekday evening recently. The issue was old and incorrect signage still being in position. This had now been remedied.

He was pleased that the planning application to build on green wedge land off Enderby Road Whetstone was recommended by the officer for refusal. BDC were submitting robust evidence at the PINS hearings that had started regarding the HNRFI.

LCC and BDC Cllr. Mr. L.M. Phillimore reported that he was pleased to see that the addition of extra speed signs was working as they were very much a visual deterrent. He was pleased that additional monies had been allocated to LCC for bus services. BDC had introduced a 6-month taxi licence scheme aimed at the school run market.

He was disappointed that an election had been called just before Christmas as it meant officers could not have their usual build up to the Christmas holidays. He also reported that the Police now had separate Hinckley and Blaby Policing units.

The Chairman thanked them for their reports. RESOLVED: That any verbal reports given be received.

84. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None.

85. FINANCE

a) TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023 INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE TO BUDGET INCLUDING YEAR TO DATE AND THE BANK RECONCILIATION AND SIGN THE SAME

RESOLVED: That the accounts paid up to the end of October 2023 be confirmed. The Income and expenditure and bank reconciliation statement were signed by the Chairman on behalf of Council.

86. CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported the following: As reported to Planning Committee, the Enderby Road / Station Street planning application was at BDC planning committee next week with the recommendation for refusal. As the recommendation was as such, no request to speak would need to be taken up as requested by the Parish Council during our last submission.

The Christmas lights will be installed over the following weekend for December 1st switch on. The Environmental Agency had written informing that they would be desilting the brook through the village in spring.

The Ricoh Copier was due for lease renewal and due to technology and efficiencies, it was approx. £100 saving PA on cost over the term and was a faster and cheaper per print machine. The Clerk had applied for a portrait of HRH King Charles III from the Governments Portrait for Public Buildings fund, but Parish Councils were not yet being considered.

An application to the LCC orchard tree scheme had been successful and packs would be available early December. The website now had a link to the webmail page for ease for Members when they log in to check for email. The Clerk would still use the personal email addresses until usage was bedded in.

The Cemetery Plinths works were taking place over the next two weeks. The 2023/24 pay award had been finalised and had been paid into the November pay. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his report.

RESOLVED: To receive the Clerks General report.

87. CORRESPONDENCE - TO RECEIVE THE CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

To receive correspondence report: RESOLVED: The list be received and noted. All correspondence had been copied to members.

a) Leicestershire Police – November 2023 newsletter – for information.

RESOLVED: To note the correspondence and any actions taken.

88. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960, THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM THE FOLLOWING ITEM BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED A) LAND ACQUISITION – COMMERCIAL SENSITIVITY, AND WILL BE REQUESTED TO WITHDRAW.

a) To receive a report regarding the above and discuss and decide any resolutions.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RESOLVED: [REDACTED] That the Clerk keep Members informed. That the Clerk produce draft minutes and share with Members not present this evening.

With there being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m.