

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting on Monday 8th January 2018
at 7.30pm
Village Hall

MINUTES

Present

Cllr. P. Loftus (Chairman)
Cllr. A Warner
Cllr K Braden
Cllr. J. Thomas
Cllr S Gabbatiss
Cllr. L. Seymour
Cllr. B. Gubbins
County Cllr. I. Hudspeth (late arrival)
2 members of the public
J Carlin (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm

1. **Apologies:** District Cllr. Cottrell-Dormer
2. **Disclosure of Interest** - Nil
3. **Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Monday 13th November 2017:** The Minutes of 13th November 2017 were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes which are not covered elsewhere:**
 - **Noticeboard and upkeep of seats:** Cllr Warner has managed to secure a surplus wooden noticeboard from another church hall at a cost of £300 (Cq No 000473). It is in excellent repair but will need Perspex windows fitting, staining and weatherproofing. The posts for fixing will need to be assessed and repaired, if possible at a lower height for easier access. It is hoped that the entire cost will not exceed £600 which is considerably cheaper than a new replacement – **Cllrs Warner, Gabbatiss and Gubbins**. The first village seat to be assessed was one at the bottom of the hill that had been submerged by the river and it is currently being dried out and cleaned. It will need repair work but hopefully will be back in service. The Parish Council is grateful for all the hard work of the councillors concerned.
 - **Fund Raising for Play Area:** Cllr Seymour reported that this is going very well with several village fundraising events throughout the latter half of 2017. WODC has agreed a £12,000 grant (which has to be spent by Dec 2018). He presented a Terms of Reference document which sets out the purpose and objectives of the Wootton Playground Fundraising Group (WPFPG) which is constituted on behalf of Wootton Parish Council. The terms of reference are required to obtain a further grant from the Cotswold Leader Programme. The Parish Council read and signed the document. Future fundraising events planned are Blow out the Cobwebs in Wootton Village Hall – drinks and music and an Auction of Promises – local enterprises have been approached for some large prizes and any other ideas are welcomed eg babysitting, ironing. Dates for these events to be confirmed and Dom Knight suggested a page on the Website would attract enthusiasm. The WPFPG ideally aims to have the money raised by the Summer although there is always a problem with some grants only payable after completion. The project needs to be planned with stage payments or possibly guaranteed loans from individuals who would be paid on end receipt of the grants.
 - **Wootton Website** – Dom Knight attended the meeting and reported good news that the Church has been putting on a lot of material which is welcomed. Terry Hurley, who also attended, will encourage the Village Shop as a user. **Cllr. Seymour** suggested the involvement of the Sports Club, maybe enrolling some of the younger supporters to submit match reporting items although the permission of the football teams would need to be sought. The Village School would be welcomed and **Cllr. Gabbatiss** offered to go in and help with any projects – **Cllr Braden** in her role as a school governor will bring this up at the next Governors meeting in February. The Killingworth Castle may also be interested to advertise future


12/13/18

events (**Cllr Gabbatiss**) . Overall, Dom felt there was more enthusiasm and dynamism – a possible village hall event could be held to build on this.

- **Wheelie Bin Stickers:** the Parish Council has purchased 100 highly visible speed warning stickers to be displayed on dustbins throughout the village and councillors have supplies to distribute to houses in the main speed areas. There are surplus supplies in the village shop for anyone who could use one

5. **County Council and District Council :** The County Council has agreed, as part of its Medium term Financial Plan, that there will be a 4.99% Council Tax rise in 2018/19. Three per cent of this represents the 'adult social care precept'

6. Proposed Planning ,

- **Parrotts, Church St, Wootton** – Mr Eccles-Williams (17/03425/LBC)
Installation of three conservation rooflights – **Approve**
- **Parrotts, Church St, Wootton** – Mr Eccles-Williams (17/03586/LBC and 17/03585/HHD)
Allow the use of natural blue grey slates on roof of single storey kitchen extension (approved under 16/04054/LBC and 16/04053/HHD – retrospective)
- **Parrotts, Church St, Wootton** – Mr Eccles-Williams (17/03778/LBC)
Alterations to form two pedestrian openings in garden wall – **Under consideration**
- **Killingworth Castle Inn, Glympton Road, Wootton** – Mr Jim Alexander (17/02855/FUL)
Construction of a detached bungalow and formation of a new vehicular access – **application withdrawn**

7. Financial Matters and Bills to pay:

Parish Council bank balances:

Current (No 1 a/c): £5,450.95

Parish Council Project Fund (No 2 a/c): £6,139.66

Business Reserve a/c: £0.30

Parish Clerk Work: £72.70 Cheque No. 000469

HMRC for Clerk's tax: £18.20 Cheque No. 000470

Donation to Citizens Advice West Oxon £100 Cheque No. 000471

K Isaaks – wheelie bin stickers £99 Cheque No. 000468

Wootton Cricket Club 2017 Precept £300 Cheque No. 000472

Replacement Second Hand Notice Board – G. Berry £300 Cheque No 000473

8. **Wootton Cricket Club:** Cllr Warner produced a signed Constitution and requested payment of the 2017 Precept of £300. This money has already been paid out on redeveloping the cricket pitch in readiness for the coming Season season. The long term plan would be to hire out the pitch to other clubs. Cllr Thomas queried why the Cricket Club had not sought to join under the umbrella of the Sports Club which has the advantage of insurance cover in place. Cllr Warner said this had not been finally decided but felt that at present the Cricket Club was a much smaller enterprise with only approximately four games being planned a season. The immediate need is for a roller but this will be self fund raised and no precept grant is requested for 2018.

9. **Precept 2018/19 form from WODC:** The District Council is preparing its budget for the next financial year and needs to know Wootton's precept requirement for 2018/19. Cllr. Loftus suggested keeping the figure the same as last year (£8,200) which will give a Tax rise of -0.81. The Parish Council was in agreement.

10. **Village Precept Grant Applications:** The Parish Council met at 7pm to discuss the requests of the village organisations and subject to Wootton Parish Council receiving the requested precept of £8,200, the following amounts were agreed. The money will again be paid in two instalments, the first instalment being paid at the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 14th May at 7pm when all local organisations are invited to give a brief presentation

St Mary's Church Wootton	£650 (2 x £325)
Wootton Community Stores	£787 (2 x £393.50)
Outreach	Nil request
Wootton Primary School	£750 (2 x £375)

Wootton Village Hall	Nil request
Wootton Memorial Playing Field	£600 (2 x £300)
Wootton Conservation Trust	£650 (2 x £325)
Wootton Baby and Toddler Group	Nil request
Wootton Sports Club	£326 (2 x £163)
Wootton Cricket Club	Nil request

Total Cost **£3,763**

11. Donation to Homes4All: Cllr Thomas suggested a donation in support of this project after reading about it in the Oxford Mail. Witney based Homes4All wants to acquire a double decker bus which would be used as temporary accommodation for the county's homeless. Oxford City County rejected a request for £20,000 to help and the group now needs community support. Further information can be found on crowdfunder.co.uk/jumpstart-bus

12. Bartons Bus: this seems to have become used regularly and a future donation should be considered.

13. Any Other Business

- **New Clerk needed:** current Clerk would like to resign after 5 years (all happy - due to age!) although will continue until the end of year accounts are submitted. Adverts to be placed in Outreach and Woodstock and Bladon News. Anyone interested please contact janecarlin2@hotmail.com
- **Cows in Jubilee Meadows:** Dom Knight raised the problem of walking safely in the Meadows, with or without a dog and requested that the Parish Council sought a solution with the Trustees. The Parish Council is very aware that this land is not a Public Right of Way and are conscious of the huge benefit to the Village to have the freedom to walk it. **Cllr Loftus** to talk with the Jubilee Committee to see if better management of the cows/public can be obtained.
- **Bicycle Racks at Wootton Turn:** **Cllr Gabbatiss** suggested this might be an added incentive to use the No. 7 bus . He will investigate the costings.
- **Red Telephone Box:** a private benefactor is willing to donate an old style red box which could be used as a book exchange for the village. The siting could be anywhere suitable in the Village. **Cllr Gabbatiss** to pursue.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Future Meeting Dates

Monday 12th March 2018 at 7.30 pm

Monday 14th May 2018 Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm

followed by Parish Council Meeting at 7.30 pm

Monday 9th July 2018 at 7.30 pm

Monday 10th September 2018 at 7.30 pm

Monday 12th November 2018 at 7.30 pm

Jane Carlin (Clerk)