

## **Wolverton Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 22 January 2019 at 7.30pm**

#### **Held at The Church Rooms, Wolverton**

##### **Present**

Councillor D Stone Chairman  
Councillor S Easterbrook in the Chair  
Councillor P Wood  
County Councillor J Horner (for part of meeting)  
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall  
1 member of the Public (James Wynn-Evans)

In anticipation of succession, Councillor S Easterbrook was in the Chair for the meeting

##### **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor P Anthony and District Councillor P Richards.

##### **2. Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

##### **3. Co-option of a Parish Councillor**

Following an expression of interest from a parishioner at the November meeting, a statement of eligibility and brief CV was received and circulated between meetings. It was proposed by Councillor S Easterbrook and seconded by Councillor D Stone that James Wynn-Evans be Co-opted on to the Parish Council, which was passed unanimously. Councillor Wynn-Evans was invited to sit with members of the Parish Council after completion of a Register of Members Interest form had been submitted to the Clerk for transmission to SDC.

##### **4. To confirm & sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2018 were approved and signed by the Vice- Chairman.

##### **5. Matters Arising**

###### **a) Website**

New content had been added and no actions were required.

###### **b) Emergency Plan**

Cllr Easterbrook had circulated a draft questionnaire for residents to complete, which would be delivered to all households by members of the PC. The draft was agreed by members following some minor amendments.

###### **c) Tree Inspection Survey**

The Chairman reported that two quotations had been received and both were for £350.00. It was proposed by Councillor S Easterbrook and seconded by Councillor D Stone that Warwickshire County Council's Forestry Section be requested to carryout the survey.

###### **d) Churchyard Extension**

It was confirmed that there were currently approximately 20 burial plots available at the churchyard and that this matter should be re-visited in the future.

##### **6. Report from County Councillor**

Councillor J Horner reported that The Arden Parish Chairs and Clerks had their quarterly meeting just before Christmas. The local Police team presented to the same meeting and reported a general increase in crime across the country and the increase we have experienced in Arden Division is in line with national trends.

A meeting is scheduled between the County Councillor and the Police Inspector to discuss enhanced police presence in Arden funded independent of the Police precept. The indication is that the Police hope to raise their precept by the maximum permitted.

The County Council officers presented their proposals for the 2019/2020 budget and the 5-year financial plan.

They forecast that an additional £40 to £50 million will need to be saved over the next 5 years. Even so the Council's discretionary budget is due to increase from £236 to £267 million during that time. The major part of the increase is in children's and adult social care with the consequence of severe pressure on all non-social care budgets.

Councillor J Horner left the meeting.

## 7. Report from District Councillor

Councillor P Richards was unable to attend the meeting, but on his behalf the Clerk reported that the only update was regarding the budget. The District Council is proposing a rise in council tax of 1.5% (equivalent to £2.05 on a Band D property). Within the budget, £1.125m has been put aside to cover the legal costs of the Compulsory Purchase Order process for Wellesbourne Airfield.

A further £750k has been put aside for the refurbishment of Elizabeth House, which will allow for better ways of working and in the long run enable the council to provide a more efficient service to the residents of Stratford District. It will also free up space in the building that will be rented out, providing an income to the council of around .8% pa of the original cost.

Finally, a pot of £70k has been established for homelessness prevention.

## 8. Communications

### a) Website

Following discussions regarding the content of the website, it was agreed that the Parish Council was meeting the necessary requirements.

### b) Newsletter

Councillor J Wynn-Evans agreed to write future reports for submission to the parish magazine.

## 9. Parish Plan

The last Parish Plan was published in 2014, and members agreed that the plan should be refreshed. Councillor S Easterbrook was to liaise with Councillor P Anthony and report to a future meeting.

## 10. Grass Cutting Contract

The Clerk had sent three invitations to local businesses requesting quotations for the 2019 grass cutting season and the Chairman confirmed that he was to meet with one of the businesses on 28 January 2019. The Clerk was to follow up the other two businesses.

## 11. Planning Matters

A summary of WPC responses and outcomes is given in the table below for applications received between meetings.

Application Number	Application Details	PC Comment	SDC Decision
18/03347/FUL	Meltemi, Norton Lea Demolition of existing porch. Proposed new porch with balcony above, alterations to window openings and replacement of tile hanging with brick slips to match existing facing brickwork.	No representation	Granted

**12. Finance**

a. Bank Balance	£2576.65
b. Income	£0
c. Expenditure	
Clerk's Salary	£86.25
Clerk's Expenses	£14.98
HMRC	£21.40
1 & 1 Internet	£2.39
CPRE Subscription	£36.00

**13. Budget 2019/2020**

The Clerk circulated proposed estimates for income and expenditure for the year ending 31 March 2019 and a proposed budget for 2019/2020, which was accepted by councillors.

Cllr Stone reported that replacement pads for the defibrillator would be required this financial year and a new battery in the 2019/2020 year at a cost via West Midlands Ambulance Service of £30 and £200 respectively. The Clerk suggested it might be worth checking costs with Cardiac Sciences. Cllr Stone would follow up and report back.

**14. Precept 2019/2020**

Following the estimates of income and expenditure to the year ending 31 March 2019, it was agreed that the Parish Council's Precept required to be increased by £200 for the financial year 2019/2020.

The budget requirement for the Parish Council was £2680, which included the Council Tax Reduction Grant of £80.00. Therefore, the Precept request would be £2600.00.

**15. Correspondence**

- a) 3 December - Cllr J Horner Setting Speed Limits
- b) 6 December – SDC Tree Management Protocol
- c) 10 December – J Horner December Report
- d) 13 December – Police & Crime Commissioner Press Release
- e) 18 December – WALC Housing Training
- f) 19 December – WALC PCC Precept Information
- g) 19 December – WALC PCC Grant Information
- h) 7 January – WRCC Housing Needs Survey Request \*
- i) 8 January – Cllr J Horner's January Report

\*It was agreed unanimously that WRCC should proceed with a Housing Needs Survey.

**16. Meeting Dates**

The following meeting dates were agreed by members:

Tuesday 19 March 2019

Tuesday 14 May 2019 (due to the May Elections) – 6.30pm AGM followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm

Tuesday 23 July 2019

Tuesday 17 September 2019

Tuesday 19 November 2019

Tuesday 21 January 2020

Wednesday 17 March 2020

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed.....Designation.....Date.....