

Wilby Parish Council
www.wilbyparishcouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES

16th July 2018

Chairman:
Stephen Borrett
Tel: (01933 276 290)

Clerk:
Vicky Smith

(01604 812239) Email: clerk@wilbyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 16 July, 2018 at Wilby CE (VA) School.
Present: Cllrs Borrett, Thompson, Capperauld, Green, Harland, Norman; Clerk, Mrs Vicky Smith; 3 members of the public

036/18	<p>Opening Procedures</p> <p>a.) No apologies were received from Wilby Councillors. Cllrs Graves and Gough, although invited, were unable to attend.</p> <p>b.) There were no declarations of interest by the members</p> <p>c.) The minutes of the meeting 15th May 2018 were approved</p>	
037/18	<p>Public Time</p> <p>Thanks to the generosity of a resident, the rat problem appears to have been resolved. An abandoned vehicle in Brook Vale will be reported to the Police by P. Stevenson. The previously reported water leak, although only minor, has not yet been fixed.</p>	
038/18	<p>Reports:</p> <p>a) Clerk: Website: Now regularly populating the news section with relevant info from the neighbourhood alerts and local news supplied by residents. As the website is new, other areas require attention also e.g. bus routes and planning. Winter Maintenance 2018 The clerk has reviewed the winter plan recently published by NCC and it would appear Wilby can expect no change from previous years regarding road gritting and the maintenance and filling of its three grit bins (junction of Brook Vale/Main Road; Church Lane at No Entry signs; Junction Main Road and Doddington Road). Insurance Claim – The uninsured loss money £1476.15 has now been received. This was not taken into account in this year’s budget SID – We are now part way through our first two month period of deploying the SID around the village. The traffic activity will be reported in item 043/18. Correspondence: A problem with a tree at 102 Main Road overhanging the Horseshoe pub garden was raised by the landlady Mrs Jackson. Clerk is now advised that the owner is in the process of completing the paperwork with BCW to undertake work required. Hopefully this will lead to an early resolution. Landlady of The George has been in contact to try and find anyone in the village who could supply old photos for the village for the redecoration of the pub. Di Green kindly responded. There has been a complaint about regular evening bonfire on the allotments. NCC Environmental Health contacted the clerk – probably under the misapprehension that the PC owned the allotments. George Thompson to pass notification of the problem onto John Murphy.</p> <p>b). County Councillor provide a report which is attached as Appendix A</p> <p>c). Police: Councillor Capperauld kindly presented a summary of relevant information from Neighbourhood Alerts received since the last meeting.</p>	G.T.

039/18	To adopt: a) Revised Record Retention Policy: RESOLVED to adopt b) The Council's Code of Conduct for 2018-19: RESOLVED to adopt																																																													
040/18	To respond to the Wellingborough Housing Plan 2018-2023 RESOLVED: As the report had no direct impact on Wilby it was resolved that the Council would not make a collective response but Councillors were encouraged to read the report and make personal representations if they so wished.	All																																																												
041/18	To receive the Chairman's Report and respond to the Consultation on Local Government Reform Following his attendance at the recent Stakeholders Event, the Chairman's report is attached as Appendix B. RESOLVED: To confirm to R Gough (to reply to the commissioners) this council's support for moving local council elections to 2020 and also concerns regarding the future possibility devolving of service responsibilities from experienced central departments to inexperienced and under-staffed and under-funded local councils.	Clerk																																																												
042/18	To discuss and adopt a plan for co-option of a new councillor RESOLVED: Clerk to acquire the appropriate forms and Ms Green to be proposed at the next meeting.	Clerk																																																												
043/18	To receive an update on SID (Speed Indicator Device) The council wished to record their appreciation on behalf of the village to Messrs. Willey and Graves for their commitment to this project . They submitted for the Council's information, the first week's report generated by the SID software with the qualifying comment that as we have no base data against which to compare, these figures should be treated with caution. Period covered: Tuesday 26 June to Tuesday 3 July (8 days) <i>Location: Main Road (SW) towards Northampton</i> <i>Total vehicles counted: 36,029</i> <i>Average speed: 26.1 mph</i> <i>Highest recorded speed: 60 mph on Wednesday 27 June at 23:00</i> <i>Average daily vehicle count: 4,526 (including weekends)</i> <i>Percentage of vehicles speeding (Mon-Fri): 12.3% (Sat-Sun): 16.5%</i> <i>Number of vehicles speeding (Mon-Fri): 713 (Sat-Sun): 582</i> <i>Average speeder (Mon-Fri): 33.2 mph (Sat-Sun): 33.3 mph</i> RESOLVED: It was agreed that 2 hi-viz jackets should be purchased to be used when handling SID, to replace the ones on loan from Mears Ashby.	Clerk																																																												
044/18	Financial Matters: a.) Receipts and Payment to Account 07920296 up to 20th May 2018: RECEIPTS <table border="1" data-bbox="276 1518 1241 1630"> <tr> <td>26/06/18</td> <td>CAC Beachcroft</td> <td>Uninsured loss recovery</td> <td>£1,476.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30/04/18</td> <td>Natwest</td> <td>Interest</td> <td>£0.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31/05/18</td> <td>Natwest</td> <td>Interest</td> <td>£0.54</td> </tr> </table> PAYMENTS: <table border="1" data-bbox="276 1727 1241 2018"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>VAT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/07/2018</td> <td>V Smith</td> <td>001001</td> <td>Expenses</td> <td>£110.02</td> <td>£17.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/07/2018</td> <td>2commune</td> <td>001002</td> <td>website training</td> <td>£180.00</td> <td>£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/07/2018</td> <td>2commune</td> <td>001003</td> <td>web hosting and email rnl</td> <td>£360.00</td> <td>£60.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/07/2018</td> <td>Eon</td> <td>001004</td> <td>energy & maintenance</td> <td>£627.21</td> <td>£42.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/07/2018</td> <td>KDK Consultancy</td> <td>001005</td> <td>finance spreadsheet</td> <td>£25.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/07/2018</td> <td>Barbara Osborne</td> <td>001006</td> <td>payroll services (quarterly)</td> <td>£63.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/07/2018</td> <td>V Smith</td> <td>001007</td> <td>Salary June July)</td> <td>£416.66</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> </table>	26/06/18	CAC Beachcroft	Uninsured loss recovery	£1,476.15	30/04/18	Natwest	Interest	£0.35	31/05/18	Natwest	Interest	£0.54						VAT	16/07/2018	V Smith	001001	Expenses	£110.02	£17.00	16/07/2018	2commune	001002	website training	£180.00	£30.00	16/07/2018	2commune	001003	web hosting and email rnl	£360.00	£60.00	16/07/2018	Eon	001004	energy & maintenance	£627.21	£42.95	16/07/2018	KDK Consultancy	001005	finance spreadsheet	£25.00	£0.00	16/07/2018	Barbara Osborne	001006	payroll services (quarterly)	£63.00	£0.00	16/07/2018	V Smith	001007	Salary June July)	£416.66	£0.00	
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	<p>a.) RESOLVED: Payments as listed above were authorised</p> <p>b.) Balance at Bank before receipts/payment deducted £8404.51</p> <p>c.) Clerk to meet with George Thompson to review budgets against expenditure and conduct the first quarter's internal controls.</p>	
045/18	<p>Planning Matters</p> <p>No new applications were submitted in the period</p>	
	There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.	

Date of next Parish Council Meeting, Monday 17th September, 2018 at 7:30 at Wilby CE (VA) School.

Chairman..... Date.....

N.B. These minutes are in draft format until formally approved and signed by the Chairman

APPENDIX A

Report prepared for Wilby PC by Rob Gough 16th July 2018

Hardwater crossing

A fact sheet has been provided by Northamptonshire Highways regarding the situation at Hardwater Crossing. This can be found here:

<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/northamptonshire-highways/roads-and-streets/Documents/3269%20%20Hardwater-%20Factsheet.pdf>

Due to the time it appears it will take to get the bridge repaired, I have started a petition to put pressure on the County Council to get this done as soon as possible. As of writing, this petition has over 1700 signatures as of writing this, and I am aiming to present this to the Council in September. I hope you will all be able to sign:

<https://www.change.org/p/northamptonshire-county-council-ncc-accelerate-the-repair-of-hardwater-crossing>

Local Government Reorganisation

The consultation on the future of Local Government in Northants is currently ongoing

<https://www.futurenorthants.co.uk>.

Conversations are ongoing as to when elections will take place. It is likely that Borough Council elections will be suspended next year with Unitary elections in 2020. It has also been raised that there is a possibility of pushing back town and Parish elections back 1 year to be in line with new Unitary elections.

Commissioners

The two commissioners at the County Council are currently in post until 2021. Their role is to oversee the finances and governance of the County Council. Their priority is to keep the County Council's finances balanced and to ensure the delivery of statutory services. The Cabinet of the County Council has power over most day to day aspects of the running of the Council. However the commissioners have broad powers to intervene if they feel it is required, and any plans involving additional spending or cuts must be approved by them.

I have a meeting with the Commissioners along with other Councillors on Tuesday and will have the opportunity to discuss what they have been doing. If there are any particular questions you would like me to raise with them please let me know.

Winter Gritting

A review of the Winter Services that may be afforded in 2018/19 has now been undertaken. This has identified a number of necessary changes and reductions to the Service commencing in October 2018.

For your information, precautionary gritting is undertaken on the priority gritting routes whenever there is a forecast temperature of plus 0.5° in the 24 hour forecast period (midday to midday) and will take priority under snow conditions. The Adverse network is pre-treated during daytime hours in advance of high confidence of forecasted snow or when the forecast temperatures are not forecast to rise above zero for 48 hours.

In brief, the proposed changes and other reductions for this Service will include:-

Precautionary and Adverse Gritting

- The precautionary gritting network has been assessed and as of Winter 2018 the total length of roads gritted will be reduced from 1954km to 1543km, (reduction of 21%).
- The gritting fleet will be reduced from 26 to 19 vehicles
- Maximum salt stock will be reduced from 9,500t to 7,500t, (with reduced minimum stock levels this will allow a greater quantity to be purchased at summer rates)
- The reduced network will provide the ability to operate 24hrs a day during snow conditions using own staff and equipment whilst ensuring drivers have adequate rest periods.
- All of the roads which have been removed from the precautionary network for winter 2018 have been added to the adverse gritting network
- During snow events, roads will be cleared by local farmers and other supply chain partners with the correct equipment under supervision of the severe weather manager.
- Time taken to undertake gritting actions changed from 3 hours to 3.5 hours

Grit Bins

- There are currently 1,973 grit bins on the network. All grit bins have been assessed according to the scoring matrix and approximately 500 do not meet the current criteria. It is proposed that these 500 grit bins will either be removed or where appropriate arrangements will be agreed for these to be left in situ for the community to maintain & replenish. In addition we are proposing the scoring matrix is tightened for any new requests going forward.
- All grit bins on the network which meet the criteria will be filled prior to the commencement of the winter season. Refills will only be made when requested via Street Doctor and will only be filled as soon as resources are available.

Footway Winter Services

- In the recent years Ice-blast, (which is a clear liquid de-icer) has been used to treat the priority footways prior to a forecast of snow falling. Going forward we will be reverting to a mixture of sand and salt for all footway treatment, this will still be completed during the night, to have least impact on the town centres during the daytime, and this will be completed by in-house operatives and our supply chain partners using basic equipment.

APPENDIX B

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION – STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS – THE CASTLE, WELLINGBOROUGH 12/7/18

By Stephen Borrett

- Inspectors Report Q118 states NCC not fit for purpose and unsustainable going forward
- Govt appointed Commissioners now controlling budgets – no local accountability as answerable only to Govt. Undemocratic as elected members now have no say
- NCC + 7 District/Borough Councils required to submit proposals for future structure by 31 Aug (was 31 July but reluctantly extended)
- These proposals, after consultation, must show: Savings, Leadership, Value for money, Quality service delivery
- be based on minimum population of 300k per new authority and follow existing Council boundaries
- and must command “a good level” of local support (not defined!)
- Some discussion over existing Unitary Authority experience in England & Wales

Examples of current inefficiencies/issues include

- County Council disposes of waste/District Councils collect it
- Districts collect tax/County spends it!

- County wide taxi service (as example) need 7 separate licences to operate

So simplification and greater accountability needed = more democracy

PWC estimate annual savings of £12m by going to 2 Unitary Authorities BUT one-off extra costs of £22m will be incurred. Benefits to exceed costs to be achieved within 3 years.

For at least a year, it is expected that the old & new authorities will be required to run in tandem

Minimum requirements required for success of new structure includes cultural change, a fresh start, planning support, efficiencies at the core, health & public services working far more efficiently together. This will require strategic planning for education, planning, housing, infrastructure & Economic Development

Bear in mind that as currently operating with Commissioners, Northamptonshire now has no voice to influence Government

Issues expected include equalization of Council Tax (eg East Northants Band D £239; Kettering £205). This will lead to increases but may be phased over a period of time.

Excess of Council offices – fewer will be required

Currently 321 County & District Councillors – significant cut anticipated

Parish & Town Councils will/can have a greater role in the democratic process (if appropriate and skills available)

After extensive Q&A, results of show of hands of delegates were:

In favour of 2 Unitary Authorities – North Northants (Corby, Kett'g, Well'bor, EN) & West Northants (N'ton, S Northants, Daventry) = 17

Against = 15

Don't know = 13

In favour of a single Unitary for the County = 1

In favour of going Unitary but nit agreeing how many = 80%