

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2011,
IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM**

Present: Cllrs Coates, Eldridge, Eassom, Knott, Moore, Rollins (Chairman), Tunkle, C/Cllr Mrs Compton, D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher, and the Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed the Chairman of WDC Cllr Mrs Bunker to the meeting, and refreshments were served.

1. **Apologies** were accepted from Cllr Smith.

Disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests to be declared as and when appropriate

2. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** No public present.

3. **The minutes** of the meeting held on 12th July 2011 were approved and signed.

a) Matters Arising- Beech tree in churchyard, identified as unsafe, has been inspected by WDC and declared safe.

4. **Finance**

a) Status report as previously circulated. Balance in Bank £6370.78 of which £515 is Parish Plan funds. Second instalment of precept will be paid by end of September. The annual audit has been approved and closed, and notices were displayed advising the public of their rights to view the accounts.

Thank you letter received from the Sports Club regarding their Annual Grant.

b) Cheques were approved for payment as follows -

Audit £162, Glendale's August safety/maint. £485.84 (includes £150 for bark), Cllr TR Annual allowance £100, Cllr RC Annual grant RBL £40, Pest Control £49.50, Clerk sundries £77.67, Cllr TR gate repairs £32.99, and Cllr RC PPlan refreshments £22.64.

c) Loan for Village Hall.

Cllr DE (personal interest, Company Secretary of the Village Hall Committee) reported on the progress so far of their efforts to raise sufficient funds to build the kitchen extension. The cost will be approx. £53,000, and they need to raise £23,000. After explaining about the application for loans and other fundraising, he requested that the Parish Council support this project by obtaining a loan on their behalf to help with financing, probably £15,000, to be paid back over a 10 year period, and proposed the PC agree to proceed, probably by April 2012. Cllr PE proposed and Cllr RC seconded, that the Parish Council should consider applying for a loan, this was agreed. – Cllr DE abstained. Cllr Mrs Bunker and Cllr Gallagher both commented that more funding may be available from the District Council. To be investigated.

5. **Planning**

a) Status report as circulated, Plans 0751, 0787, 0820 granted. Plans 0679, 0857, 0763, 1058 recently received and discussed, with no objections.

Enforcement action/Meadow Cottage, Hill Wootton. An email response from the Enforcement Officer was felt to be unsatisfactory, and it was agreed that if, after seven days, no action has been taken, a formal complaint will be made to the Chief Executive of WDC. A further query about breaches of planning, at the Old Post House, will also be followed up by Clerk.

b) Woodland at Woodcote.

Cllr TR reported on progress. Following the letter sent to HQ's Property Services regarding the Parish Council's interest in acquiring woodland, Cllrs TR and CS, together with an arboriculturist, met with a representative for a preliminary survey of this woodland. Now awaiting further responses. Cllrs JC, SG and FB suggested that there may be funds available from various sources to help with this project if successful. To be investigated.

Police HQ - After the last PC meeting an exhibition was held at Police HQ on July 29th outlining their proposed plans for the development of the site as a Residential Care Village. This was well attended by local members of the public, and feedback has been received which showed a great deal of interest. It is anticipated that this planning application will be submitted during September.

c) WDC Planning Forum 19/9, - following a query regarding the format of these meetings, Cllrs RC and AM forwarded positive responses. Cllr RC will attend this meeting.

6. Highways/Transport/Footpaths/Lighting.

C/Cllr JC reported on some comments at the PP Open Weekend meeting about speeding through Hill Wootton, and wished to know what action the PC would like her to follow. It was agreed to discuss this at a later meeting.

Tidmarsh Road. Cars parking at the top are obstructing large vehicles needing to turn round, causing them to have to back down the road. It was agreed to write to all Tidmarsh Road residents explaining this problem with a request for action. Information will also be published in the next edition of the Link by Clerk.

a) Village Maintenance. Potholes at the railway bridge, and water leak to be reported. The footpath into Kenilworth is due for the promised improvements shortly. The beech hedge in Woodcote Lane also needs maintenance.

7. Playground/Memorial Ground

a) Safety/Maintenance - carried out usual. Annual ROSPA check takes place shortly. Cllr TR made arrangements for a maintenance working party for Sat 23rd in the morning. Cllr DE is making arrangements for extensive trimming of overgrown hedges on the Sports Ground. Details regarding funding for this project will be made.

8. Reports

a) WCC, C/Cllr Mrs Compton, reported on the many changes taking place within the County Council caused by the economic climate. The consultation period has now closed regarding Library Service cuts. A Rural Home Delivery Service may be of help to rural areas.

WDC Cllr Mrs Gallagher reported on WDC's Spa Centre refurbishment and Open Day.

Local travellers at Beusale have lost their appeal and been given 12 months to leave. Cllr SG added that any new site found for them would NOT be in Leek Wootton.

WDC Chairman Cllr Mrs Bunker thanked the PC for their warm welcome.

b) WRW Community Forum. Cllr DE reported on the recent Forum meeting on July 28th at the Village Hall . Details of their recent newsletter have also been circulated.

c) Parish Plan Open Weekend. Cllrs RC KK and DE reported on the recent Open Weekend, which although not attended by a great deal of visitors, received many interesting and helpful comments which will be dealt with at their next meeting. C/Cllr Compton also congratulated the Steering Group for their professional and interesting presentation, and now urges them to publish a Plan as soon as possible, particularly in view of the proposed revision of planning laws from the Government.

d) Clerk reminded Cllrs of items needing discussion in the near future, including this year's Directory/Bulletin, and Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Correspondence received from WCC Countryside Access Team advising of changes – now Rights of Way Team part of the Transport Planning Group.

9. No A.O.B.

10. Dates for diary

WALC Area meeting 19th September – no one available.

WRW Community forum – 27th October – attendees Cllr DE/KK

WALC AGM 27th October – no attendees to date.

11. Date of next meeting: 11th October, 2011.

Signed.....Date.....