

Minute 246

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL

held on Zoom on Wednesday 10th March 2021 - 7:30pm

Attendance: Parish Councillors – A Gilbert, M Hampson, J Hanslip, A Lee, J Melling, R Smith (Chairman), District Councillor J Amos, S Porter (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES - K Hiscock (arriving late)

1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – Personal or Prejudicial – Nil

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on **WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2021** – It was approved by all that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and will be signed and dated by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Dog Fouling Issues – The problems remain around the village, especially along Buckby Lane, from visiting dog walkers to the parish. These are being sprayed to highlight the issue. This is not one particular dog, but many differing species. Articles highlighting the problem have been published in the latest newsletter. The DDC Dog Warden says we are doing all we can.

3.2 Whilton Mill – Planning Conditions/Noise Issues – The Chairman is not happy with the response received from M Jephcott (DDC) with regards to the information requested, there has been no information provided as yet. This matter will continue to be chased, for the planning department do not appear to have not been monitoring the site since granting planning permission, leading to the noise situation the residents are now faced with. An e-mail will be circulated to the distribution list to ask that any noise complaints be logged with DDC, the more that respond the stronger the case. Long Buckby residents will also be asked to submit any concerns they have.

3.3 Brington Lane Hedges – All hedges have now been cut back to a satisfactory level.

4. PUBLIC TIME – Nil

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

J Amos (DDC) – The information regarding the landownership in Brockhall has been passed to the Chairman. This is the last meeting with the PC prior to the Unitary Authority taking over from DDC & NCC. Vesting Day will be 1st April. Johnnie will then be a Shadow Unitary Authority Councillor until the elections in May. Many thanks were given to Johnnie for all his help and assistance over the past few years.

6. THE SPINNEY – Update

6.1 Risk Assessment – The small amendment to the policy submitted by K Hiscock, following the advice received from the insurance company, was approved by all and the document adopted.

6.2 Trees – Western Power have agreed to undertake maintenance works to the trees near the power cables in the future, however these were considered non-urgent. Quotes are required for the removal of one tree, which is leaning near the fence and to undertake an assessment of all the trees in The Spinney, so future maintenance costs can be budgeted for. The Clerk will contact Treeworx and Harry Mockett and arrange for them to meet with K Hiscock to price for this work. There are concerns about the trees in close proximity to the BT cable. It was agreed that K Hiscock will ask BT to undertake an inspection.

7. VILLAGE HALL – The Village Hall will be potential opening on 21st June, under the current government guidelines, but this could be subject to change. The Pre School remains open.

8. BUSINESS

8.1 Allotments – Tenancy Agreement & Rent Review – A Lee advised that a new tenancy agreement is being produced by WAG based on the original, but will be 3 part involving the PC, WAG and the Tenant. The agreement will reflect the role of WAG taking on the management of the allotments from the PC, lift the restrictions on produce sales, allow one small shed to be permitted for use by all tenants; size would need to be specified. The PC will remain responsible for maintaining the boundary wall and the mature trees. The tenants need to approve the document prior to sending to the PC.

8.2 Census 2021 – Sunday 21st March 2021 – Reminder for all to complete the form on the 21st March, as this is a legal requirement. Information has been sent out in the latest newsletter.

8.3 Replacement Village Name Signs – It was proposed by R Smith, seconded by J Melling that a new village name sign be ordered for the Brington end of the village at a cost of £175.00, all in favour to proceed. The Clerk will place the order with NCC Highways. The advisory road narrowing through the village signs are on order.

8.4 Canal Towpath Maintenance – WBLA – PC Grant 2021 – J Hanslip proposed that £500.00 be allocated for improvements to the towpath through Whilton Locks, as has happened along the Long Buckby stretch, seconded by J Melling and all voted in favour.

8.5 Parish Council Elections – The parish council elections will be held on Thursday 6th May. The Clerk will circulate the information and the links to the nomination forms. The forms will be collected in by the Chairman and the Clerk will take in to the DDC Offices at an allocated time, which must be before the deadline of 4pm on Thursday 8th April. Should more than 7 candidates stand, there will be an election.

8.6 2021 Annual Parish Meeting - This will be held virtually at 6:30pm prior to the next meeting in May, which will be held on Wednesday 19th, put forward a week in case of an election being called. The new parish council will take office from Monday 10th May.

8.7 Street Lights – Electricity Contract Costs Review – A quote has been requested from Clear Utility Solutions and this will be circulated to all once received to see if there are cost savings to be made by changing from E-On.

8.8 Seat Maintenance – The Clerk has arranged for G Kenning to quote for sanding and re-staining two benches in the village, the one on Manor Lane and one by the Church. This work can be undertaken for a total sum of £100.00. Proposed by R Smith, seconded by A Gilbert and all voted in favour to proceed.

8.9 St Andrew's Church Clock – The repairs are now completed and the clock is working fine. The Church have offered to contribute towards the latest invoice as the PC has spent a large amount on this clock over the past couple of years. It was agreed by all that any donation would be welcome and the Chairman will contact them to agree an affordable sum.

8.10 Hedgerows (Brockhall) – It was asked that this matter be left for the time being as it could be that the hedgerows have been cut back as part of an environmental rejuvenation project. This will be monitored.

9. FINANCE

It was proposed by M Hampson, seconded by J Hanslip that the following accounts be approved, all in favour:

9.1 Income/Expenditure Update & Bank Reconciliation from January & February 2021

9.2 Accounts Paid (January to February 2021):

Online	S Porter – Clerk’s Salary January 21	£ 266.46	LGA 1972 s112
	S Porter – Clerk’s Expenses January 20	£ 25.20	LGA 1972 s112
Online	S Porter – Clerk’s Salary February 21	£ 266.46	LGA 1972 s112
	S Porter – Clerk’s Expenses February 21	£ 18.00	LGA 1972 s112
Online	Anglian Water – Allotments	£ 0.81	S & A Act 1908
Online	HMRC – PAYE 2020/21 Q3	£ 199.82	LGA 1972 s112

9.3 Accounts to be Paid:

Online	E-On - Street Lighting Oct-Dec20	£ 172.96	PCA 1957 s3
Online	Treeworx - Allotment Trees	£ 324.00	S & A Act 1908
Online	N & J Draper - Dog Waste Bin relocation	£ 35.00	LGA 1972 s111
Online	Smith of Derby – Church Clock Repairs	£1,089.60	PCA1957 s2

9.4 Payments Received (January to February 2021)

Nat West	Interest	£ 0.08
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Bank Balance (as at 28.02.2021)

Current Account	£ 2,302.44
Reserve Account	£17,276.92

(K Hiscock joins the meeting)

10. PLANNING

DA/2021/0027 – Listed Building Consent for replacement of 7 single glazed windows with slim-line double glazed windows – **The Manor House, Manor Lane, Whilton**
No Objections

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Wednesday 19th May 2021- 7:30pm
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 6:30pm

Meeting Closed: 8:37pm