

Minutes of the Meeting of Worton Parish Council held on Monday 4 December 2017 in Worton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Barry Devine (Chairman) (BD); Cllr Mark Fisher (MF); Cllr Robert Goss (RG); Cllr David Johnson (Vice-Chairman) (DJ); Cllr Malcolm Powell (MP) Cllr Philip Salaman (PS); Cllr Nick Stokes (NS)

Also present: Cllr Richard Gamble (RiG); 6 members of the public; Liz Starling (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Dicky Parsons (DP); Cllr Richard Slack (RS)

61/17/18	Welcome and Apologies: The Chair welcomed Councillors and received apologies.
62/17/18	Declaration of Members' Interests: There were no declarations of interest registered.
63/17/18	Minutes of meeting held on 2 October 2017: It was agreed by all that the minutes be signed as an accurate record following correction of the following error: 52/17/18 (b), line 6 should read Worton instead of Potterne.
64/17/18	Chairman's Announcements: None
65/17/18	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A letter has been received from Roger Wilshire expressing his dissatisfaction with the grounds maintenance and upkeep of the village. This is being responded to in line with the Parish Council's complaints policy. b) Letter received from the Shercliffs at Park Farm House. Looking to convert an agricultural shed to a garden annex. They are holding an open house on 16 December 10am to 12pm where the plans will be on show with a view to gaining parish council and neighbour support.
	<p>The Chairman declared that the meeting was temporarily suspended to allow for an open session for 15 minutes where members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of the business on the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A member of the public expressed concern over the planning application for land adjacent to 160 High Street and an issue with drainage. The Parish Council did not feel that they could comment on this issue. The Neighbourhood Planning steering group will be putting in their own response. b) It was noted that there is still no high-speed broadband at one end of the village. OpenReach engineers had been in the village but had been replacing cables that had previously been incorrectly placed. c) The state of the footpath (WORT 11) from the church to Ray Bridge was brought to the council's attention – it is very uneven. d) An update was requested on the land belonging to the Winchcombes in Back Lane. As this is later on the agenda it was felt it was appropriate to bring it forward to after the open session. <p>There were no further comments from the public therefore the Chairman closed the Open Session.</p>
66/17/18	<p>Footpaths & Highways: Back Lane footpath – clerk received an email response from Philip Winchcombe saying he was happy to answer any questions. She had emailed again inviting him to this meeting but had had no response. Aware that Mr Winchcombe had</p>

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	<p>met with Wiltshire Council's Senior Rights of Way who has visited the site. It was reported that there are currently temporary barriers along the side of the path instead of a fence; also risk of brambles and nettle encroaching onto the footpath.</p> <p>It was suggested that the member of public who reported these issues met with NS to walk footpath and note was they felt needed to be done.</p> <p>RG offered to scrape off the layer of mud to leave the chalk track. Environment agency is doing tree work, hopefully before Christmas.</p>			
67/17/18	<p>Grant Requests:</p> <p>a) Community Craft Project – open to Worton residents, all ages. Various workshops offered free of cost. Grant requested of £100 to cover cost of craft resources. Cost of village hall hire covered by requested donation of £1 from each attendee. In principle, Parish Council support this project but suggest that an application is made to the Community Fund by the village hall.</p> <p>b) Request from Christ Church for the assistance with the priority fabric repairs to the Cupola and Bell. Quotes range from £26,884 to £38,917 – undertaking fundraising campaign, allocating £3 628 from own funds, £1,500 secured from Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. Suggestion that an application is made to the Community Fund – would consider £1,500 in recognition of the church being a community asset.</p>			
68/17/18	<p>Wiltshire Councillors Report:</p> <p>Devizes recycling centre is closed until 9 December.</p> <p>The consultation on the Wiltshire Local Plan Review and Joint Spatial Framework runs until 19 December. The need for infrastructure is a relevant topic.</p> <p>Area Board is on 22 January at Lavington School and there is likely to be a youth related topic on the agenda.</p> <p>Devizes Men's Shed is due to open in January in Victoria Road behind Needham House (extra care centre).</p>			
69/17/18	<p>Grounds maintenance:</p> <p>1. Quotes for immediate work:</p> <p>a) Clerk has received quote of £72 for cutting back the bank in Back Lane. Has given the contractors the go ahead for this.</p> <p>b) Quotes received for cutting the hedges at Whatleys and at Sandlease – £200 each site. Clerk to get a second quote.</p> <p>c) Quotes received for one off cut to Sandlease bank (leaving cuttings behind) - £300. Clerk to get a second quote. This bank has not been cut for approximately 2 ½ years. If unable to get a reasonable quote, some of the councillors have offered to get together and cut it themselves.</p> <p>2. Grounds maintenance specification:</p> <p>This has been updated following responses from members. All approved of the changes. Clerk will now send this out with requests for quotes for the 2018/2019 year.</p> <p>3. Oak tree at Whatleys play area:</p> <p>Three quotes have been received for work to the tree. One quote is double each of the other two. Some clarification is needed on the work being done. One tree surgeon asked about tree report. Members seemed to think this had been undertaken at some point – clerk to look on the planning application for Whatleys.</p>			
70/17/18	<p>Planning:</p> <p>Application received today; deadline for response 1 December.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>17/10589/TCA</td> <td>The Coach House, 81 High Street, Worton, SN10 5RU</td> <td>Work to Trees in a Cons Area Proposal:- T1 T4 T5 T6 - Silver Birch trees - fell</td> </tr> </table>	17/10589/TCA	The Coach House, 81 High Street, Worton, SN10 5RU	Work to Trees in a Cons Area Proposal:- T1 T4 T5 T6 - Silver Birch trees - fell
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			T2 - Weeping Willow tree - pollard & crown reduce 25% T3 - Ash tree - pollard & crown reduce 20% T7 - Beech tree - pollard & crown thin 25%
	<p>NS proposed and BD seconded, all agreed to support the application subject to the following changes agreed with the applicant: T4 T5 Silver Birch trees - fell (no change) T1 T6 Silver Birch trees - pollard & crown reduce 25% T2 Weeping Willow Tree - pollard & crown reduce 25% (no change) T3 Ash tree - pollard & crown reduce 20% (no change) T7 Beech tree - pollard & crown thin 25% (no change) Two additional trees, by the boundary wall to Malthouse Yard (the two closest to The Coach House) will also be pollarded and crowned as per trees 2 and 7 The trees overhanging Back Lane at the end of the Coach House paddock will also have any low-lying or low level dangerous branches over Back Lane removed to improve the light and prevailing wetness on Back Lane at this point.</p>		
	17/10692/FUL	Land West of 160, High Street, Worton, SN10 5SE	Proposed new dwelling on land to the west of Hope Cottage.
	<p>Considerable discussion concerning application. A vote was taken on two options, the first option to support the application failed as no seconder. The second option proposed by MF, seconded by MP, 5 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention to object to this application as it is felt that the development does not enhance or protect the conservation area that it is in. There are concerns re the old milestone which is within the direct line of the new driveway - not known if milestone is listed. There is concern also about the disrepair of the adjacent property which does not feature in the plans - the Parish Council would like to see a proposal for the whole site.</p>		
	17/11322/TPO	11 Cedar Close Worton SN10 5SD	Cherry Trees x 2 – Fell
	<p>DJ proposed, MF seconded and all agreed to support the application.</p>		
	17/11462/TCA	12 Cedar Close, Worton, SN10 5SD	Two Cypress trees – fell
	<p>MP proposed and BD seconded, all agreed to support the application</p>		
	17/10744/FUL	Turnpike Cottage, Cheverell Road, Worton SN10 5UJ	Two storey & single storey rear extension (resubmission of 16/03846/FUL).
	<p>The parish council had supported the original application and all agreed to support the resubmission.</p>		
71/17/18	<p>Neighbourhood Plan: Meeting due to be held 10 December. Landowners with parcels of land which they wish included in the plan have been written to – this will be discussed at that meeting. Open meeting for villagers 2-3 February 2018.</p>		
72/17/18	<p>Parish Plan: Comments were made concerning a community bus. At the open meeting for villagers on 2-3 February 2018 there will be a parish council display board for their part of the survey.</p>		

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	Nothing in the Parish Plan is included in the budget for 2018/2019.																									
73/17/18	<p>Reports from representatives:</p> <p>1. Devizes Area Board (DAB): The area board met on 22 November. Presentation from the Local Youth Network and Eat Out, Eat Well (how local businesses can encourage their customers to make healthier food choices). Wiltshire Council is making changes to its website – there will be just one portal for its consultations. CATG had been allocated extra funds for footpath improvements and repair. It was suggested that WORT11, the footpath from church to Ray Bridge might qualify. Only 4 applications have been received so far for the commemorative tree planting.</p> <p>2. Community Area Transport Group (CATG): No meeting since 1 November.</p> <p>4. Commemorative tree planting: Richard Slack has submitted Worton's application as agreed at the last meeting.</p>																									
74/17/18	<p>Review of responsibilities and reporting: Adjourned until next meeting due to time constraints.</p>																									
75/17/18	<p>Web hosting and emails: Clerk advised that domain had transferred over to new provider, new web site in place and councillors advised of Worton.org email addresses.</p>																									
76/17/18	<p>Finance: a) It was agreed the following accounts be paid:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Chq No.</th> <th>Payable to</th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Gross</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0800</td> <td>Mark Goddard & Sons Landscaping</td> <td>116.00</td> <td>23.20</td> <td>139.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0801</td> <td>E M Starling</td> <td>33.30</td> <td>6.66</td> <td>39.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0802</td> <td>Grant Thornton</td> <td>100.00</td> <td>20.00</td> <td>120.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total</td> <td>249.3</td> <td>49.86</td> <td>299.16</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>b) The proposed budget for 2018/2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting. MP talked through the expenditure and suggested areas where savings could be made and income could be increased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish council meetings could be held in the school instead of village hall • Village hall could apply for grant from community fund • Rental income for grass keep at Sandlease and for allotments to be reviewed <p>BD proposed and DJ seconded that the draft budget be accepted – all agreed. Agreed to invite village hall to apply to community fund for grant. Precept to be requested: £10,096.00. This is a reduction of 10.94% from 2017/2018.</p>	Chq No.	Payable to	Net	VAT	Gross	0800	Mark Goddard & Sons Landscaping	116.00	23.20	139.20	0801	E M Starling	33.30	6.66	39.96	0802	Grant Thornton	100.00	20.00	120.00		Total	249.3	49.86	299.16
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77/17/18	<p>Items to be considered for the next meeting: Footpath (WORT 11) from Church to Ray Bridge Review of responsibilities and reporting back Listing of policies Parish plan meeting 2/3 February</p>																									

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	Date of next meeting: Monday 9 January 2018 7.30pm in Worton Village Hall
	<p>Key messages:</p> <p>Prioritising concerns about Back Lane and actively seeking a mutually beneficial arrangement with new landowners.</p> <p>Some progress on broadband roll out, but anticipation of more delay in short - term due to on-site problems.</p> <p>Proposals to improve traffic issues still on track.</p> <p>Request has been made for sufficient commemorative trees to establish a copse on the Sandlease Bank and at Whatleys field.</p> <p>Parish plan consultation planned for Feb 2/3 (along with NP)</p> <p>Looking into the possibility of improving footpath area around church using CATG funding</p>

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