

**Minutes of the Meeting of Worton Parish Council held on Monday 2 December 2019 in Worton Village Hall at 6.00pm.**

**Present:** Cllr Barry Devine (BD) (Chairman); Cllr Mark Fisher (MF); Cllr Robert Goss (RG) (*arrived late*); Cllr David Johnson (DJ) (Vice Chairman); Cllr Malcolm Powell (MP); Cllr Richard Slack (RS); Cllr Roger Wilshire (RW)

**Also present:** Liz Starling (Clerk); 2 members of the public

**Apologies:** Cllr Dicky Parsons; Cllr Nick Stokes (NS); Cllr Richard Gamble (RiG);

104/19/20	<b>Welcome and Apologies:</b> The Chairman welcomed councillors and received apologies.
105/19/20	<b>Declaration of Members' Interests:</b> There were no declarations of interest.
106/19/20	<b>Minutes of meeting held on 4 November 2019:</b> It was <b>resolved</b> that the minutes of the meeting held 4 November 2019 were an accurate record. The minutes were duly signed.
107/19/20	<b>Chairman's Announcements:</b> BD expressed his admiration and thanks to the numerous volunteers who turned up for the work morning at Sandlease Bank on Saturday. He also thanked members for attending this meeting at the earlier time of 6pm.
	<b>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.</b>  RW expressed concerns that the discussions pertaining to the land adjacent to Back Lane were dragging on and that continued attention to issues could be seen as possibly verging on harassment. In response to this it was noted that there have been no further complaints or comments about the site; it is not on the agenda for this meeting nor is it likely to be for the foreseeable future.  <b>There were no further comments from the public therefore the Chairman closed the Open Session.</b>
108/19/20	<b>Wiltshire Councillor's Report:</b> RiG not present at meeting.
109/19/20	<b>Parish Council Action Table Update:</b> 94/19/20 RG not present at this point in the meeting but retrospectively reported that they will deal with the fences. 98/19/20 Clerk has emailed Wiltshire Council for advice on putting sign on bus stop and has sent chaser email as no response.
110/19/20	<b>Land at Sandlease:</b> The Parish Council was asked to consider whether land owned by them at Sandlease (play area, bank and grass keep below) should be registered with the Land Registry. It was felt that nothing would be gained from registering at this time. <b>Resolved:</b> RW proposed and MF seconded not to register the land. Agreed.
111/19/20	<b>Sandlease Bank:</b> RS updated the meeting on the work morning on Saturday (30 November). Thanks

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	<p>to Giles and Sally for organising; 25-30 plus volunteers attended; work completed in 1 hour 10 minutes. Next workday will be in March to prepare for tree planting. Clerk confirmed that application for tree packs from Woodland Trust had been accepted for delivery sometime in March.</p> <p>RS was thanked for his involvement with this project. <i>Councillor Goss arrived at this point.</i></p>
112/19/20	<p><b>Consideration of the formation of Village Maintenance committee:</b> MP had submitted a proposal to form a village maintenance committee but after some discussion it was felt that a working group would be more appropriate. MP withdrew his current proposal and will submit a new proposal to the January meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk reminded members that a working group has no delegated powers. It was agreed that a general risk assessment should be completed when members and/or volunteers carry out any work on behalf of the council.</p>
113/19/20	<p><b>Use of Parish Council land at Whatleys for Community Led Housing:</b> MP had submitted proposal for agreement in principle to the use of Parish Council land at Whatleys for Community Led Housing (CLH). This site would be in conjunction with the Worton and Marston Charities adjacent land (old allotments). It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan is currently on hold due to cost versus effectiveness of Plan.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that confusion would be caused in the village if the Neighbourhood Plan was seen to be in the planning stages with no progress, but that Community Led CLH was being considered. MP confirmed that CLH can be independent of a Neighbourhood Plan. Also questioned whether development would affect the 40mph limit.</p> <p>It was felt that the Parish Council were unwilling at this point in time to agree in principle for the land to be used but it was suggested that the proposal be amended to "agree to consult with village".</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> MP proposed and DJ seconded that the Parish Council undertake a village meeting to discuss Community Led Housing in the village. Agreed.</p>
114/19/20	<p><b>Possible asset transfer of Wiltshire Council land:</b> Wiltshire Council own the following four plots of land within the parish and are informally exploring the possibility of transferring land to the Parish Council.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Land in front of 17 Cedar Close</li> <li>2. Land between 2 and 3 Cedar Close</li> <li>3. Land at entrance to Mill Head</li> <li>4. Land at western side of Mill Head estate</li> </ol> <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council <u>do not</u> want to accept responsibility for either of the Cedar Close plots of land. To further investigate the Mill Head plots of land before a decision is reached.</p>
115/19/20	<p><b>Planning:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) No applications received since the last meeting</li> <li>b) No decisions received since the last meeting</li> </ol>
116/19/20	<p><b>Reports from representatives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Community Area Transport Group (CATG):</b> BD and RS attended the CATG meeting on 5 November. It was confirmed that the white lines at the Mill Road junction will be repainted but not until the spring due to the weather. Listed as a priority. The problem of parking at the bus stop will be listed as a CATG issue.</li> </ol>

Signed: .....

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	2.	<b>Village hall:</b> MF advised that the village hall had been recommended for a Level 3 Quality Award. MF was thanked for representing the Parish Council at the Village Hall AGM.																									
	3.	<b>Recreation and Playing Field:</b> RW reported that the hedge at Whatleys has been cut; Sandlease will be cut in March when ground isn't so soft.																									
	4.	<b>Footpaths:</b> Back Lane snow drop area has been strimmed.																									
	5.	<b>Parish Stewards:</b> It was reported that the work requested to clear the pavements had not been done. Clerk advised that leaf clearance was currently being carried out by idverde.																									
117/19/20		<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>a) The proposed budget for 2020/2021 had been re-circulated prior to the meeting; no changes made since last meeting. Clerk advised that quote had been received for grounds maintenance and that this was below the £2,500 allocated in the new budget. This quote will be considered at the January meeting. <b>Resolved:</b> DJ proposed and MP seconded that the budget for 2020/2021 be approved. Agreed.</p> <p>b) Clerk advised that the proposed precept is £10,093. The 2020/2021 tax base is 265.76 giving a Band D charge of £37.98 which is a slight decrease on last year. Members were happy with this figure. <b>Resolved:</b> It was proposed by BD and seconded by RS that the precept request for 2020/2021 is <b>£10,093</b>. Agreed. <i>Councillor Slack left the meeting at this point.</i></p> <p>c) Accounts to be paid: It was proposed by MP, seconded by MF and agreed by all that 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>835</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>68.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>68.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>836</td> <td>Roger Wilshire</td> <td>15.20</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>15.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>837</td> <td>Worton &amp; Marston Village Hall</td> <td>1200.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>1200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>1283.20</b></td> <td><b>0.00</b></td> <td><b>1283.20</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Chq No.	Payable to	Net	VAT	Gross	835	HMRC	68.00	0.00	68.00	836	Roger Wilshire	15.20	0.00	15.20	837	Worton & Marston Village Hall	1200.00	0.00	1200.00		<b>Total</b>	<b>1283.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1283.20</b>
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118/19/20		<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <p>a) BD advised that the Newcomers Booklet was in the process of being updated. He circulated a draft for the Parish Council entry and this was approved. It was agreed that Councillors' responsibilities would not be listed.</p> <p>b) Clerk advised that Grantscape who manage the solar panel payments on behalf of Good Energy had requested a meeting on 17 December at 4pm to look at reporting, requesting the annual payment, terms etc. MP and DJ to attend.</p>																									
		<b>Items to be considered for the next meeting:</b> WC waiting and parking restrictions, Village meeting for CLH Village maintenance working group																									
		<b>Date of next meeting:</b> Monday 6 January 2020, 7.30pm in Worton Village Hall.																									

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	<b>Key messages:</b>
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CLH and previous village survey

Neighbourhood Plan on hold – awaiting update on WC strategy

Precept of £10,093 agreed – slight decrease on last year

Sandleaze bank volunteers

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DRAFT

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Date: .....