

**Minutes of the Meeting of Worton Parish Council held on Monday 1 February 2021 7pm via Zoom due to Covid 19 restrictions**

**Present:** Cllr Barry Devine (BD) (Chairman); Cllr Mark Fisher (MF); Cllr Robert Goss (RG); Cllr David Johnson (DJ) (Vice Chairman); Cllr Dicky Parsons (DP) (part of meeting); Cllr Malcolm Powell (MP); Cllr Richard Slack (RS); Cllr Nick Stokes (NS) Cllr Roger Wilshire (RW)

**Also present:** Liz Starling (Clerk); Tamara Reay

**Apologies:** Cllr Dicky Parsons (DP) (part of meeting)

89/20/21	<b>Welcome and Apologies:</b> The Chairman welcomed councillors and received apologies.
90/20/21	<b>Declaration of Members' Interests:</b> There were no declarations of interest.
91/20/21	<b>Minutes of meeting held on 11 January 2021: <u>Resolved</u>:</b> It was proposed by DJ, seconded by MP and agreed by all that the minutes were an accurate record. The minutes will be signed at a later date due to Covid 19 restrictions.
92/20/21	<p><b>Wiltshire Councillor's Report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Wiltshire Council Local Plan Review consultation is underway and lasts until 9 March. There are two local meetings, tonight and tomorrow. The implication of the Local Plan for Worton are quite significant regarding proposals for housing development in the village. The consultation is in its early stages but another element that might be relevant to Worton is highway management. This will come in the Traffic Management section which may be up for review in the next few months.</li> <li>• RiG has been copied in on email pertaining to the condition of the Worton to Marston footpath. Some of the people interested in maintenance/upgrade of the footpath have come up with funding.</li> <li>• The national Census will be held on 21 March. It is substantially online but some residents will find this challenging. Community support will be called upon to help.</li> <li>• Devizes Area Board will be held on 15 March when environmental matters will be on the agenda.</li> <li>• Next CATG and Air Quality Group meeting will be held on 16 February - one major topic will be cycle routes. To ascertain best route from Worton to Devizes; aim to get bicycles off the roads to avoid conflict with traffic.</li> <li>• Market Lavington High Street will be closed 4 March for 4 days for repairs to footpath.</li> <li>• Improvements to Black Dog Crossroads are being considered by Atkins - report possibly being produced later this month.</li> </ul> <p>RiG was asked if there was an update on the closure of HFT, Rowde. He was unable to say as not actively involved. He stressed however publicity surrounding the closure is incorrect - Wiltshire Council has not been consulted and are not supportive of the closure.</p> <p>A question was asked on how households will be contacted about the Census - too early to say yet.</p> <p>NS commented that the number in the Local Plan are based on an algorithm from the Government which has possibly been superseded. RiG said that the areas of targets and needs are still volatile. There is a lot of discussion going on across the county re numbers. Worton should identify what housing they can deliver (sites and numbers). Still very early stages.</p>
	<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</b>

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	<p><b>representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of the business on the agenda.</b></p> <p>Nothing raised.</p> <p><b>There were no further comments from the public therefore the Chairman closed the Open Session.</b></p>
93/20/21	<p><b>Traffic surveys:</b>  Results of the Traffic Surveys carried out by Wiltshire Council at three locations on the C20 were circulated prior to the meeting.  It was noted that the volume of traffic is a substantial increase on the previous survey and this is a concern.  The issue with speeding traffic is at the new 40mph zone (7-day 85th percentile speed 46.5mph) which is in the threshold for intervention. The Community Speed Watch team are not allowed to operate until the lockdown is lifted but Wiltshire Police will need to carry out a risk assessment in the meantime. Two viable places for the Speed Watch team to be sited are the entrances to Agra Farm and Woodborough House.  Clerk to email Community Speed Watch at Wiltshire Police regarding intervention at the Seend Road end of the C20.  BD will put the results in The Bridge with a short explanation.  It was commented that lower speeds at the western end of the village suggests there is a positive impact from the change to the 40mph limit in 2019.  Sometimes traffic seems faster along the High Street due to width of pavements therefore it is important for residents to keep their hedges cut right back.</p>
94/20/21	<p><b>Update on hedge cutting at Sandlease and Whatleys:</b>  It was agreed at the October meeting that the hedges would be cut by volunteers but this has not happened. Clerk has obtained prices from two contractors, one of whom will cut the hedges with a tractor and flail for a total of £160 for both sites.  It was suggested that although there are volunteers who will carry out the work, it would be safer during the current pandemic to use a contractor. Concerns expressed with using a tractor and the softness of the ground.  <b>Resolved:</b> MP proposed that a contractor is used to cut the hedges at a cost of £160 for both sites, to be done this month at a time when the weather is colder and the ground former. Seconded by NS and all agreed.</p>
95/20/21	<p><b>Annual Parish Meeting:</b>  Legislation allowed for this was not held in 2020 due to the pandemic. It should be held in 2021 and must take between 1st March and the 1st June.  It was suggested that this is held as late as possible to allow for the chance that it can be a physical meeting. Suggested date: Monday 24 May. All agreed.  Village organisations to be invited to submit written reports which are circulated/publicised before the meeting.</p>
96/20/21	<p><b>Worton &amp; Marston Village Hall Waste Collection:</b>  The village hall have recently invoiced the Parish Council for 50% of waste collection for the 2019/2020 period with apologies for the delay.  <b>Resolved:</b> Proposed by MP, seconded by DJ and agreed by all that the Parish Council contribute the 50% cost of the waste collection as in previous years.</p>
97/20/21	<p><b>1. Village footpath signs budget</b>  As it is unlikely that the footpath signs will be purchased before 31 March 2021, it</p>

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was suggested moving the £500 set aside in the 2020/2021 budget to project reserves.  
**Resolved:** Proposed by MP, seconded by RW and agreed by all to earmark £500 in project reserves for the footpath signs.  
 RG asked if the kissing gate that had been removed from Back Lane could replace one of the broken stiles on WORT22. Clerk to contact Wiltshire Council.

**98/20/21** **Planning:**  
 a) The Parish Council's response to the following planning application was considered:

21/00645/TCA	Orchard Cottage, 147 High Street, Worton, SN10 5SE	T1 Ash - showing signs of ash dye back, growing too close to house - remove T2 Horse Chestnut - weak union at 2m, decay pocket present - remove
<b>No objection</b>		

b) The following decisions were noted:

20/10119/TPO	17 Cedar Close, Worton SN10 5SD	T1 - Honey Locust tree - fell
Wiltshire Council decision: No objection		
20/07932/OUT	Land at Sandlease Farm, Worton	Outline planning application for up to 26 dwellings and associated infrastructure with all matters reserved for future consideration except for access
Wiltshire Council decision: Refuse		

**99/20/21** **Correspondence**  
*DP joined the meeting at this point.*  
 An email had been received from a resident concerning the condition of the right of way from the church car park towards Marston. Funding for its improvement has been offered. Clerk is corresponding with Wiltshire Council and an update will be on the agenda for the March meeting.

**100/20/21** **Finance:**  
 a) Accounts to be paid: Full schedule of payments had been circulated prior to meeting.  
**Resolved:** Proposed by MP, seconded by DP and agreed by all that the following accounts be paid:

<i>Payable to</i>	<i>Net</i>	<i>VAT</i>	<i>Gross</i>
HMRC/E M Starling	375.74	0.00	375.74
Kingfisher Direct Ltd	12.75	2.55	15.30
<i>If approved:</i> Worton & Marston Village Hall	125.65	0.00	125.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>514.14</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>516.69</b>

Inter account transfer:		
26/01/2021	Amount:	500.00

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 1 March 2021 7.00pm via Zoom.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.12pm.**

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