

# WYMESWOLD PARISH COUNCIL

## Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

A meeting of Wymeswold Parish Council was held at the Wymeswold Pavilion and VIRTUALLY via Zoom on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7:15pm.

Meeting ID: 817012391008  
Password: 104638

1. Apologies
  - Cllr Kevin Sayce
2. Welcome & Introduction
  - From Chair of Councillors Laura Mills.
3. Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021
  - Approved
4. Chair of the Parish Council's report
  - Cllr Laura Mills read the following Chairs report:

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for their support to me over the last year since I took over the role as Chair from Jo Ling.

The Parish Council has now had the chance to get back to face to face meetings since the Pandemic started with several new councillors being elected, Tom Simpson, Sarah Garvey, and David Albert, which has brought the team back to full strength. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to two of our long-standing Councillors, Lesley Blount and Maria McKean and I personally wish to thank both for all their dedication to the role and the parishioners.

Over the last year the Parish Council have managed to complete many activities, these include utilising S106 monies from Barwood which we spent on youth leisure on the Washdyke.

Following the two recent new housing planning applications that have been granted in the village a further potential £85k may be available through the 'Open Spaces' grant. If the developers confirm that they will not use this value on site, there may be an opportunity for it to pass to the PC. Once further detail has been finalised, and if we do have funds available, we will be asking residents again to come forward with ideas on what to spend the money on for the benefit of the village.

### Washdyke and the Pavilion

We helped the cricket club to purchase a new artificial batting and bowling surface providing greater and safer use of the facility (hopefully also to extend usage as it can be used outside of the summer). It is located on the field and is open to all.

MUGA (Multi use Games Arena) we successfully specified and procured the MUGA which is on the Washdyke providing a hard standing paly area for Football and Basketball. It is the first phase of the project, and we are hoping to have funds (if finances allow) to put waist high side panels along the sides to make better use of the MUGA for all. The pavilion has been used more this year with the return for part of the year by the Football Club, many parties and events have also taken place including the Farmers Market, Wymeswold Summer and Christmas Fair that were a huge success for residents and neighbouring villages.

The Wymeswold Pharmacy continued to roll out a phenomenally successful flu vaccination programme for the village using the pavilion and we have approved the use of the Pavilion as a meeting place for the temporary Ukrainian

refugees who residents are helping to house, we wish them well.

### Landscaping, Environment and Biodiversity

The PC have been busy this year introducing more biodiversity around the village. Sourcing monies from the Shire Grant, over 6,000 bulbs in total (2,000 bluebells and 1,000 wood anemones) which were planted in the "Men of Trees" woodland. In addition, there were also 2,000 snowdrops and fritillaries along the banks of the brook; and 1000 daffodils around the village (St Mary's graveyard and on the corner of London Lane/ Hoton Road and daffodils on the large, grassed areas outside Orchard Way and Manor Court.)

Alongside Cllr Cooke and Cllr Garvey Richard Ellison our village tree inspector managed to source and plant many new tree saplings on common land around the village. Again, many thanks to them and volunteers of the village for helping plant them all!

A new mowing subcommittee has been formed to review all areas that the PC are responsible for. At present a huge amount of the precept we receive is spent on mowing alone and by looking at ways to reduce this amount, to protect and increase our wildlife population, we will be reducing the number of cuts. This will not mean that areas will be left unsightly or dangerous but will be maintained and that the money saved will be made available to spend elsewhere around the village. Again, more details will be communicated when the committee has the proposals drawn up.

### Cemetery News

Cemetery mapping software has been identified which we will be implementing over the coming months. The decision made last year, and guidance taken on the correct tooling for the job. We will complete the implementation when the weather is better, and it will mean we will have moved to a digital system of record management for the burials and interments in the cemetery. This will help relatives and means that the 100+yr old paper record can be put safely in the archives.

### St. Mary's Church

Many of you will have seen that our Church is undergoing extensive repairs to its roof and masonry. This of course is very costly, and the Church are doing a great job in raising funds for these repairs. You will also have seen that a large part of the perimeter wall collapsed a few years ago and over the past year the PC have been investigating the ownership of the wall. After extensive investigations for formal, legal documentation, evidence was found that the wall's responsibility and upkeep was handed over to the PC back in 1948.

The PC have been in the process of obtaining quotes from Structural Engineers to assess the damage and then these reports will be sent out to various companies for tender. The cost alone for the reports is not a small sum and the repair of the wall will be considerably higher. This is something that the PC are looking at with some concern as to how the PC will fund it. All these points will be brought together for review and the outcomes will be communicated in due course.

### Highways News

A new replacement Speed Indicator Device (SID) has been approved for the replacement of the device coming into the village from Rempston. The new device will show the speed of vehicles instead of the existing "Flashing 30" limit. We hope this will reduce the speed of vehicles coming into the village.

Further Community Speed watch signs have been placed throughout the village and I would like to thank this committee for its continued efforts.

### General News

There are many other matters regularly dealt with every year including planning applications, street cleaning, highway maintenance, potholes, and rubbish removal alongside neighbouring land and matters pertaining to the Everyman Racing circuit. Following numerous efforts to reduce the noise level coming from the Airfield, planning permission for a noise reducing "Bund" has been submitted to be placed at elephant corner of Wymeswold Airfield to aid the

reduction of noise.

### Thanks, and communications

The Parish Council are looking to increase its communication over the next year with more regular updates in the 'Christian Link', the Loughborough Echo and on the notice board, news from the Parish Council will also be updated on the village website [www.wymeswold.com](http://www.wymeswold.com).

The Parish Council would like to acknowledge and record its thanks to our County Councilor, Cllr Richard Shepherd, for his help and advice over numerous matters with the County Council, and to our Borough Councilor, Cllr Jenny Bokor, who also liaises with us and keeps us informed over many issues with Charnwood BC and the help given by Dan Norcott and Janet Thomas to run and maintain the website.

This summary gives you an overview of some of the many issues we cover as a Parish Council. Parishioners are welcome to attend the regular monthly meetings, usually held on the first Monday of the month at 7.00pm at the Sports Pavilion.

All contact details are advertised on the Parish Council notice board in the Stockwell, as are the agenda and minutes of the most recent meeting, together with any other relevant information.

I would like to thank my fellow members of the Parish Council – Adrian Cooke, Kevin Sayce, Tom Simpson, Sarah Garvey, and David Albert for all their support and hard work over the past year. And a special thankyou to Richard Higgins who as Vice Chair has given me the support in the Chairs role and most importantly kept the Parish's finances on track for another year.

And finally, I wish to thank the Parish Clerk, Louise Turner for all her work and support to the Council over the past year and wish her luck in her future endeavors when she leaves us on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### 5. Parishioners' questions and comments

- No parishioners attended this evening's meeting.

This meeting ended at 7:30pm