

WYMESWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

A meeting of Wymeswold Parish Council was held both virtually via Zoom and in person at the Sports Pavilion on Burton Lane, Wymeswold on Monday 4th September 2023 at 7:00pm. Parishioners were welcome to attend in person OR via Zoom.

Attendees: Cllr Richard Higgins (Acting Chair), Cllr David Albert, Cllr Adrian Cooke, Cllr David Nottingham, and Clare Higgins (Clerk).

Attendees via Zoom: County Cllr Richard Shepherd.

- 1. Apologies:** It was resolved to accept apologies from: Cllr Laura Mills, Cllr Andrew Wright, and Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor.
- 2. Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensation:** None.
- 3. Public Participation (limited to 15 minutes):** A representative from Trueline Midlands attended the meeting to explain their retrospective planning application P/23/0903/2 which the Council discussed later in the meeting. A representative from Wymeswold Cricket Club attended the meeting to relay the successful season that the Cricket Club has had. Alongside the two adult teams, the Cricket Club is developing its junior teams from All Stars (Ages 5-8) and Dynamos, to the U11s, U13s and the U15s, who were League winners this season. They have also started a training session for junior girls. Their representative talked to the Council regarding the recent break-in at the Sports Pavilion and extended the offer of some possible funds for assisting with extra security measures. Their representative also raised the issue of storage for the Cricket Club equipment and the potential to explore possible Section 106 funds to address this. A representative from Wymeswold Bowls Club also attended the meeting to suggest the resurfacing of the parking spaces adjoining the Bowls Club and Wymeswold Memorial Hall car park as a potential village project for the possible Section 106 funds. The Council agreed to investigate.
- 4. Approval of previous minutes:** The meeting approved minutes from the WPC meeting held on Monday 3rd July 2023.
- 5. Councillor Resignation:** The Council discussed the recent resignation of Cllr Tom Simpson who has been such an asset to the Council and wish to express their thanks for all his expertise and efforts. A Notice of Vacancy has already been published on the village website and noticeboard, and Charnwood Borough Council (CBC) have been notified. A Notice of Casual Vacancy advertising application for the unfilled Cllr position will be published on 13/09/2023 on the village website and noticeboard.
- 6. Leicestershire County Council Report:** County Cllr Richard Shepherd attended the meeting via Zoom and reported that the replacement Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) that has been ordered as part of the Members Highways Fund for East Road will be potentially installed at the end of September. He had also sent regular LCC news during the month as updates to the Cllrs for their information.

County Cllr Richard Shepherd left the meeting via Zoom at 7.36pm.

- 7. Charnwood Borough Council Report:** Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor was unable to attend the meeting but had sent some information to the Clerk for report to the Council on her behalf. Specifically, the new Local Plan is probably going to be delayed by 6 months

whilst the Inspectors consider the new traffic detail sent in by Leicestershire County Council (LCC) at their request.

8. **Police Report:** During the month of June 2023, Wymeswold had 3 x Thefts from building site, 1 x Vehicle Crime, 1 x Assault, 1 x Burglary Business, and 1 x Public Order reported. During the month of July 2023, Wymeswold had 1 x Assault and 2 x Public Order reported.

9. **Accounts/Finances:**

- a) Expenditure for August (payment of July invoices) and the expenditure for September (payment of August invoices) was approved by the Council and was signed off by Cllr Richard Higgins (Vice Chair). They are detailed in the tables below:

August 2023	02/08/2023	Clare Higgins Salary - July 2023	n/a	
	02/08/2023	HMRC NI Contributions - Clare Salary - June to July 2023	n/a	£1.86
	02/08/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Zoom - July Invoice 2023	£2.40	£14.39
	02/08/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Parish Council Mobile Phone - July Invoice 2023	n/a	£8.58
	02/08/2023	Total Energies - July Invoice 2023	£3.32	£69.84
	02/08/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Sports Pavilion	n/a	£59.66
	02/08/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Cemetery	n/a	£7.56
	02/08/2023	Mark Munro Garden Maintenance - Cemetery/Churchyard - July Invoice 2023	n/a	£800.00
	02/08/2023	Mark Munro Garden Maintenance - Cemetery Gravel for Garden of Remembrance - July Invoice 2023	£34.80	£208.80
	02/08/2023	Roma Landscapes Limited - Mowing - July Invoice 2023	£129.00	£774.00
	02/08/2023	Morgan Fire Protection Limited - Sports Pavilion Fire Alarm Service - July Invoice 2023	£40.78	£244.72
	02/08/2023	Morgan Fire Protection Limited - Sports Pavilion Emergency Lighting Service - July Invoice 2023	£23.00	£138.00
			£233.30	£3,123.91

September 2023	06/09/2023	Clare Higgins Salary - August 2023	n/a	
	06/09/2023	HMRC NI Contributions - Clare Salary	n/a	£5.31
	06/09/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Zoom - August Invoice 2023	£2.40	£14.39
	06/09/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Parish Council Mobile Phone - August Invoice 2023	n/a	£8.58
	06/09/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Annual ICO Registration - August Invoice 2023	n/a	£40.00
	06/09/2023	Total Energies - August Invoice 2023	£3.36	£70.63
	06/09/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Sports Pavilion	n/a	£20.76
	06/09/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Cemetery	n/a	£7.81
	06/09/2023	GES (Leicester) Limited - Annual fee for monthly Legionella services - July Invoice 2023	£187.40	£1,124.40
	06/09/2023	M&C Property Solutions - Repair of the vandalised internal and external Sports Pavilion doors - August Invoice 2023	n/a	£3,220.44
	06/09/2023	M&C Property Solutions - Sports Pavilion General Maintenance - August Invoice 2023	n/a	£50.00
	06/09/2023	Mark Munro Garden Maintenance - Cemetery/Churchyard - August Invoice 2023	n/a	£800.00
	06/09/2023	Roma Landscapes Limited - Mowing - August Invoice 2023	£129.00	£774.00
	06/09/2023	Mark Stewart (Church Wall) - August Invoice 2023	£194.60	£1,167.60
	06/09/2023	Moore - External Auditor limited assurance review - August Invoice 2023	£63.00	£378.00
		£579.76	£8,478.42	

Signed and dated by: *Richard Higgins* 04/09/2023

- b) Bank Reconciliation and position

August - Bank	
Bank Opening Balance	£12,673.52
Spend (July Invoices paid in August)	£3,123.91
Income (for July) – LCC Annual Mowing Reimbursement	£2,075.78
Anticipated Closing Balance for August (correct at time of the meeting)	£9,549.61

September - Bank	
Bank Opening Balance	£13,420.05
Spend (August Invoices paid in September)	£8,478.42
Income (for August) – Cemetery and Hiscox Insurance Claim for vandalized Sports Pavilion doors, Wymeswold FC and Shelthorpe Lions FC Licence fees.	£3,870.44
Anticipated Closing Balance for September (correct at time of the meeting)	£4,941.63

- c) The Council noted that Hiscox Insurance had approved the quote of £3,220.44 from M&C Property Solutions for replacement of the vandalized Sports Pavilion internal and external doors, and £2,970.44 (minus £250 excess) had been received by the Council for the said repairs. Following discussions with our mowing contractor, Roma Landscapes Ltd, about necessary adjustments to the village mowing schedule, the Council approved the adjustments and approved the extra £540 that would cost for the next mowing season 2024/2025.

10. External Audit Report: The Council has received and reviewed the External Audit Report from Moore for the year ending 31st March 2023. This has been published on the village website and noticeboard. Cllr Higgins highlighted that it was noted that the only point raised was that the completion of assessment of risks facing the Council had been approved on 3rd April 2023 and should have been done before the 31st March 2023. This will be rectified by being brought forward for approval at the March 2024 meeting instead.

11. Risk Assessments:

- a) The Monthly Washdyke and Sports Field Risk Assessments for July and August were performed by Cllr Mills; no action is required.

12. Planning Applications and Appeals:

Application Number	Proposal / Location	Comments Deadline	Distribution Date to Cllrs
P/23/0890/2	<p>Proposal: Construction of menage, 2 stable stalls in area previously used for domestic purposes.</p> <p>Location: Bossey Gate, Narrow Lane, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6SD.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	06/08/2023	18/07/2023

<p>P/23/1206/2</p>	<p>Proposal: Consultation from LCC – Change of use of Unit 22B at Wymeswold Industrial Park from B8 general storage to the use for the importation, sorting, processing, storage and exportation of waste, erection of new picking station and retention of containers.</p> <p>(LCC ref 2022/CM/0153/LCC)</p> <p>Location: Unit 22B, Wymeswold Industrial Park, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 5TY.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	<p>15/07/2023</p>	<p>18/07/2023</p>
<p>P/23/0903/2</p>	<p>Proposal: Proposed change of use from horticultural use to agricultural use with associated external storage, wash bay area, part change of use of adjacent agricultural field for vehicular turning area, fencing to entire site and retention of 2no. storage containers, fuel tanks, CCTV system and access barrier.</p> <p>Location: The New Barn, Trueline Midlands, Rempstone Road, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6UE.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	<p>03/08/2023</p>	<p>18/07/2023</p>
<p>P/23/1096/2</p>	<p>Proposal: Discharge of Condition 3 (Materials) and Condition 4 (Detailing) of Planning Permission ref: P/21/0295/2 (Demolition of single-storey extensions to host dwelling and associated outbuildings, and erection of part on-storey, part two-storey extension to the front and side of the host dwelling house).</p> <p>Location: 18 Church Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6TX.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	<p>01/08/2023</p>	<p>18/07/2023</p>
<p>P/23/1136/2</p>	<p>Proposal: Proposed equestrian worker's dwelling and associated equestrian facilities including stables and paddocks, for use in connection with breeding thoroughbred racehorses.</p> <p>Location: Land, Wide Lane, Wymeswold, Leicestershire.</p>	<p>04/09/2023</p>	<p>15/08/2023</p>

	Resolved: Not to comment on this application.		
P/23/1378/2	<p>Proposal: Erection of single storey and two storey extensions at side of house.</p> <p>Location: 10 Trinity Crescent, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6UQ.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	14/09/2023	24/08/2023

13. Landscaping, Environment and Biodiversity:

- a) Cllr Adrian Cooke updated the Council that All public bodies in England are now required by law to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This is the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' that the Environment Act 2021 introduced. He highlighted what the Wymeswold Parish Council (WPC) have proactively been achieving in promoting and protecting the biodiversity of the parish. Details of this have been published in the Christian Link and will be published on the village website. Insect populations in Britain have declined by almost 60% in the past 20 years and is one of the reasons why the Parish Council has adopted this new mowing regime, which is in line with our duty as a public body and complies with the Environment Act 2021.
- b) The Council approved the application made by Cllr Cooke for 20 free fruit trees for the Community Orchard from the forestry department at LCC.

14. Cemetery:

- a) There was an interment of ashes in August, but no upcoming burials/interments for September in the Cemetery so far.

15. Section 106 and Village Projects:

- a) Following the resignation of Cllr Tom Simpson, Cllr David Nottingham agreed to be the lead Cllr for Section 106 matters for the Council.

16. Sports Pavilion, Playing Field and Washdyke:

- a) Cllr Higgins informed the Council that the repairs to the Sports Pavilion external and internal doors are planned to be done before the end of the month.
- b) The Council approved the grant application made by Cllr Higgins to the Wymeswold Village Project Fund Community Grants 2023 for extra security measures for the external doors for the Sports Pavilion. Closing date for the application was 31st August 2023.

17. Clerk's Report:

- A list of contact details for parishioners to report a problem is on the village website, village noticeboard, and Christian Link along with a flood contacts page. The Council would actively encourage parishioners to report village issues using this contacts list.
- The proposed 30mph Speed Limit Extension on East Road was supposed to come into force on Monday, 10th July 2023.

- An enquiry was made to LCC regarding the LCC managed trees at the corner of London Lane and Hoton Road, which are overgrown. A LCC Tree Inspector is expected to visit the site in the coming weeks and assess these trees.
- The parishioner query from the July meeting regarding possible traffic calming being installed on Hoton Road was sent to LCC Highways for a response. The LCC Traffic and Signals team replied with the following information: *The 30mph is imposed by a system of street lighting and the regulations dictate that we are unable to put up 30mph repeater signs in a 30mph speed limit that is conveyed by street lighting. Regarding traffic calming in the form of vehicle activated signs indicating vehicle speeds or a chicane for instance; we would only be able to justify installing such features where there have been a number of injury accidents. We would still not be able to consider traffic calming features here. We also need to consider the traffic that uses these roads and for a chicane or buildout this can affect the passage of wide farm machinery for example.* This was reported back to the parishioner.
- PAT testing on electrical appliances was completed in the Sports Pavilion on 09/08/2023.
- Wymeswold Pharmacy will be holding their annual flu clinics on the following Saturdays at the Sports Pavilion - September 23rd, 30th, October 14th and 21st 2023.
- Forthcoming Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders:
 - a. Zouch Road, Hathern - to allow Leicestershire County Council to safely undertake maintenance works on Zouch Bridge. It will incorporate a temporary road closure. The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of **1 day** commencing on the **19th September 2023**.
 - b. A46 Lifecycle Extension Work (LEW) scheme between Six Hills and Widmerpool - Work is due to start on **25th September 2023** and is scheduled for completion by the **end of March 2024**.

18. Church Wall:

- a) Cllr Higgins informed the Council that along with Cllr Mills, he met with the Architect and Contractor to discuss the repairs to be completed on the Church Wall. It was agreed that works will potentially commence in April 2024 as a potential road closure/traffic restrictions may be required on Church Street for the works to be carried out safely.
- b) The Council discussed the insurance issue of the Church Wall. Cllr Higgins had contacted the Parish Council's insurance company to investigate the inclusion of the Church Wall in their annual insurance policy. The Council approved obtaining a quote for this.
- c) The Council approved and signed the Minor Works Building Contract for the Church Wall repairs.

19. Parishioner Queries: None.

20. Items for further consideration: None.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

The next Wymeswold Parish Council Meeting will take place on Monday 2nd October 2023 at 7pm unless advised otherwise.