

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 6th November 2023 at 7:00pm. Parishioners were welcome to attend in person OR via Zoom.

Attendees: Cllr Laura Mills (Chair), Cllr Richard Higgins (Vice Chair), Cllr David Albert, Cllr Adrian Cooke, Cllr David Nottingham, Cllr Andrew Wright, Cllr Janet Beaumont and Clare Higgins (Clerk).

Attendees via Zoom: County Cllr Richard Shepherd.

1. **Apologies:** It was resolved to accept apologies from: Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor.
2. **Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensation:** Cllr Wright put forward a Declaration of Interest. He informed the Council that as Chair of the Wymeswold Garden Walkabout Committee he was involved in the awarding of a £200 grant to the Parish Council for bulbs for the village.
3. **Public Participation (limited to 15 minutes):** None.
4. **Approval of previous minutes:** The meeting approved minutes from the WPC meeting held on Monday 2nd October 2023.
5. **To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office from our newly co-opted member of the Council:** Cllr Janet Beaumont signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Council warmly welcomed our newly co-opted Cllr to the team.
6. **Leicestershire County Council Report:** County Cllr Richard Shepherd attended the meeting via Zoom and reported to the Council that the replacement Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) that has been ordered as part of the Members Highways Fund for East Road has now been installed. County Cllr Richard Shepherd also commented on the flooding issue which Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor sent a report on below (item 7). He informed the Council that initial investigations had taken place and that further works were to be completed. County Cllr Richard Shepherd also referred the Council to the regular LCC news updates that he sends to the Cllrs for their information.
7. **Charnwood Borough Council Report:** Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor was unable to attend the meeting but sent her report to the Clerk for distribution at the meeting. She referred to an ongoing parishioner issue regarding flooding on East Road which she has asked County Cllr Richard Shepherd to investigate. Please see the above (item 6) comments.

County Cllr Richard Shepherd left the meeting via Zoom at 7.20pm.

8. **Police Report:** No report was received.

9. **Accounts/Finances:**

- a) Expenditure for November (payment of October invoices) was approved by the Council and was signed off by Cllr Richard Higgins (Vice Chair). It is detailed in the table below:

November 2023	08/11/2023	Clare Higgins Salary - October 2023	n/a	
	08/11/2023	HMRC NI Contributions - Clare Salary	n/a	£5.31
	08/11/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Zoom - October Invoice 2023	£2.40	£14.39
	08/11/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Parish Council Mobile Phone - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£8.58
	08/11/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - 2024 Diary - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£12.95
	08/11/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Church Wall Contract Postage - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£4.19
	08/11/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Sports Pavilion Toilet Rolls - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£12.00
	08/11/2023	Total Energies - October Invoice 2023	£3.38	£71.28
	08/11/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Sports Pavilion	n/a	£22.35
	08/11/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Cemetery	n/a	£11.26
	08/11/2023	Iron Octopus Ltd - Security Grilles and Gates for the Sports Pavilion - October Invoice 2023	£400.00	£2,400.00
	08/11/2023	M&C Property Solutions - Repair to the Washdyke Gate - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£45.00
	08/11/2023	M&C Property Solutions - Hot Water valve repair at the Sports Pavilion - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£115.00
	08/11/2023	M&C Property Solutions - Labour and fixings for Sports Pavilion window/door grilles - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£1,290.00
	08/11/2023	MBS Extinguishers - Sports Pavilion fire extinguisher service - September Invoice (late receipt) 2023	£7.60	£45.60
	08/11/2023	Wymeswold Cricket Club - Mowing - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£800.00
	08/11/2023	Easyspace Secure Hosting Yearly Renewal (Village Website) - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£31.06
	08/11/2023	Easyspace Starter Plus Yearly Renewal (Village Website) - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£119.02
	08/11/2023	Mark Munro Garden Maintenance - Cemetery/Churchyard - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£800.00
	08/11/2023	Roma Landscapes Limited - Mowing - October Invoice 2023	£129.00	£774.00
			£542.38	£7,378.49

Signed and dated by: *Richard Higgins* 06/11/2023

b) Bank Reconciliation and position

November - Bank	
Bank Opening Balance	£29,751.61
Spend (October Invoices paid in November)	£7,378.49
Income (for October) – HMRC VAT Return (April – September 2023) and Wymeswold Open Gardens Grant	£4,153.02
Anticipated Closing Balance for November (correct at time of the meeting)	£22,373.12

- c) The Council discussed possible future areas of expenditure which may need to be included in the 2024/2025 precept. These will be confirmed at the next meeting in December.
- d) The Council approved the following quotes. Quote from M&C Property Solutions for 5 PIR floodlights (labour included) - £596.40. Quote from Mark Munro Garden Maintenance for ditch clearance on Burton Lane adjacent to the Washdyke - £150.
- e) The Council approved and signed the unmetered electricity supply agreement for the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) on Rempstone Road and East Road.

10. Action for Councillors: The Council reviewed and updated the actions for Councillors for this month.

11. Risk Assessments:

- a) The Monthly Washdyke and Sports Field Risk Assessment for October was performed by Cllr Mills; no action is required.

12. Planning Applications and Appeals:

Application Number	Proposal / Location	Comments Deadline	Distribution Date to Cllrs
P/23/0271/2	<p>Proposal: Site for the erection of up to 3 dwellings (Outline planning application with all matters reserved except the access).</p> <p>Location: Land adj. 1 London Lane, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6UB.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	23/10/2023	10/10/2023
P/23/1775/2	<p>Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension extending beyond the rear wall of the original house by 3.4m and height to the eaves of 2.6m.</p> <p>Location: 25 Trinity Crescent, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6UQ.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	17/11/2023	17/10/2023
P/23/1815/2	<p>Proposal: Discharge of Condition 4 of P/0295/2 (details of eaves, verges, windows (including head, sill and window reveal details), doors, roof lights, rainwater goods and balcony balustrade).</p> <p>Location: 18 Church Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6TX.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	02/11/2023	17/10/2023
P/22/0992/2	<p>Appeal Reference: <u>APP/X2410/W/23/3320992</u></p> <p>Proposal: Erection of 3 dwellings, alterations to existing vehicular access, refurbishment of existing outbuilding and associated works.</p> <p>Location: West End Farm, 5 Far Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6TZ.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application</p>	13/11/2023	17/10/2023

13. Landscaping, Environment and Biodiversity:

- a) Cllr Cooke informed the Council that the persistent wet weather has further delayed the planting of bulbs and wildflower plugs in the designated wildflower area on the corner of Brook Street and Hoton Road. This will be done with members of the Biodiversity team as soon as is practicable. The Council resolved to fund the extra bulbs needed for this area and the rest of the village. Cllr Cooke also reported that

Leicestershire County Council will be providing signposts to mark the areas of biodiversity in the village.

- b) The Wymeswold Garden Walkabout Committee have kindly awarded a grant of £200 to the Council to fund the purchase of bulbs for planting in the village.

14. Cemetery:

- a) There are no upcoming burials/interments November in the Cemetery so far.

15. Section 106 and Village Projects:

- a) Cllr Nottingham updated the Council that he has contacted Wymeswold Primary School regarding elements of S106 funding that are available for their use. He is still waiting for their response and will chase it up.

16. Sports Pavilion, Playing Field and Washdyke:

- a) Cllr Higgins let the Council know that the security grilles and doors will be fitted at the Sports Pavilion over the next few weeks.
b) The Council reviewed the revised Sports Pavilion criteria and charges for 2024/2025 and agreed that further investigation was required. They will be reviewed again in the December meeting.

Cllr Beaumont left the meeting at 7.50pm

17. S137 Donation: The Council agreed that a donation of £250 will be made to the Wolds Community First Responders for help with the replacement of the Wymeswold Village Defibrillators. This is in accordance with the Council's powers under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

18. 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.
- Reports of a crack on the road bridge on Hoton Road were reported to LCC on 29/09/2023. It was investigated by their Structures Department on 06/10/2023. They noted that the vertical cracking on the NE wing wall has been evident since 2001 which is down to thermal cracking due to the lack of an expansion joint within the wing wall. The cracking has not substantially worsened over the past 22 years, but works have been raised to repair this following 2 yearly inspections and is in their works programme and will be prioritised accordingly. LCC stated that the structure is still fit for purpose and will continue to be monitored for any change in condition.
- A huge thanks go to the Scouts who have cleaned all the street signs in October as part of their Community badge.
- Following a request from the Clerk in May 2023 for accessibility between Hoton Road and Burton Lane, LCC have now installed a pair of dropped kerbs on Hoton Road. Additionally, the Parish Council has now arranged for the large gate into the Washdyke on the Hoton Roadside to be fixed, so wheelchair access can now be obtained into the Washdyke.
- Wymeswold Preschool are holding coffee/cake mornings every Friday in November 9-11am at the Memorial Hall as part of their 50th year celebrations. This is not just for parents of pre-school but a place to meet and make friends. They will be cutting a celebration cake on Friday November 24th for their 50th Anniversary celebration. All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to join them.
- All Leicestershire Recycling and Household Waste Sites (tips) have moved to winter opening hours from 1st October 2023 to 31st March 2024 (9am to 4pm). Visitors are encouraged to arrive at least 10 minutes prior to closing with the last admittance at 3.55pm.

- Multiple reports have been made to LCC Road Works and Closures Team to remove the remaining scaffolding in place on the Hoton Road repaired iron railings. We are still awaiting a response from LCC regarding this.
- Forthcoming Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders:
 - a. 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**.
 - b. Zouch Road, Hathern – for public safety to allow LCC to undertake urgent patching works on the bridge. The temporary road closure will be either side of Zouch Bridge for **1 day 9am-3pm on 23rd November 2023**.
 - c. Wysall Lane, Wymeswold - to allow LCC to safely undertake carriageway patching works. This will incorporate a temporary road closure. The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of **1 day** commencing on the **30th November 2023**.
 - d. Clay Street, Wymeswold - to allow LCC to safely undertake lamp column replacement works. This will incorporate a temporary road closure and temporary prohibition of waiting and loading at any time restriction. The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of **1 day** commencing on the **30th November 2023**.

19. Church Wall:

- a) Cllr Higgins informed the Council that the signed contract for the repair of the Church Wall had been sent to our contractor.
- b) The Council approved the insurance quote for adding the Church Wall to the Parish Council insurance going forward.

20. Parishioner Queries:

- a) The Council has received a further query about the accessibility of the Washdyke community area via the Hoton Road gate with the ongoing wet weather and soft conditions of the ground. The dropped kerb is now in situ between Hoton Road and Burton Lane, and the Hoton Road gate has now been fixed. It will remain without a padlock for ease of access. The Council agreed to monitor the situation of the ground entering from this point of access.

21. Items for further consideration: None.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

The next Wymeswold Parish Council Meeting will take place on Monday 4th December 2023 at 7pm unless advised otherwise.