

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 December 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, Cllr Andrew Wright, Cllr Janet Beaumont, and Clare Higgins (Clerk).

Attendees via Zoom: County Cllr Richard Shepherd and Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor.

1. **Apologies:** It was resolved to accept apologies from: Cllr Laura Mills.
2. **Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensation:** Cllr Cooke put forward a Declaration of Interest. He informed the Council that he could not vote on his Planning Application P23/2015/2 and did not participate in this discussion.
3. **Public Participation (limited to 15 minutes):** A member of the public joined the meeting to report an issue regarding the bus stop on East Road by the allotments. They stated that the pavement where the bus stop is situated is extremely narrow, and that the adjacent hedgerow is also encroaching on the pavement. With the amount of traffic on the A6006 coming through the village, they wanted to highlight this as a potential safety issue. The Council resolved to investigate with Leicestershire County Council (LCC) whether the bus stop could be relocated, and one of the Cllrs kindly offered to trim back the hedgerow growth.
4. **Approval of previous minutes:** The meeting approved minutes from the WPC meeting held on Monday 6th November 2023.
5. **Leicestershire County Council Report:** County Cllr Richard Shepherd attended the meeting via Zoom and reported to the Council that the parishioner matter regarding persistent flooding on East Road which he had commented on at the last meeting had still not been resolved, but that an emergency team from LCC had been sent out that day to try to ascertain and fix the issue. He also informed the Council that a car park drainage problem on the housing development off Wysall Lane had been investigated, and the responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the car park and associated drainage was assigned to the Housing Association that these houses belong to. They had been contacted, and work will shortly commence to solve the problem. County Cllr Richard Shepherd also referred the Council to the regular LCC news updates that he sends to the Cllrs for their information.
6. **Charnwood Borough Council Report:** Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor attended the meeting via Zoom and reported that she had also been contacted again by the affected parishioner regarding the East Road flooding which she had forwarded as an emergency to LCC for immediate action. An emergency team was sent out by LCC (as detailed above **(5)**).

County Cllr Richard Shepherd and Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor left the meeting via Zoom at 7.20pm.

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

8. **Accounts/Finances:**

- a) Expenditure for December (payment of November invoices) was approved by

the Council and was signed off by Cllr Richard Higgins (Acting Chair). It is detailed in the table below:

December 2023	06/12/2023	Clare Higgins Salary - November 2023	n/a	
	06/12/2023	HMRC NI Contributions - Clare Salary - October to November 2023	n/a	£5.31
	06/12/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Zoom - November Invoice 2023	£2.40	£14.39
	06/12/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Parish Council Mobile Phone - November Invoice 2023	n/a	£8.58
	06/12/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - No Smoking Signs for the Sports Pavilion - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£14.98
	06/12/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Norton 360 Antivirus Subscription Annual Renewal - October Invoice 2023	n/a	£89.99
	06/12/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Sports Pavilion Supplies Receipt - November 2023	n/a	£19.00
	06/12/2023	Richard Higgins Expenses - Sports Pavilion Keys Receipt - November 2023	n/a	£425.50
	06/12/2023	Total Energies - November Invoice 2023	£4.39	£92.26
	06/12/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Sports Pavilion	n/a	£24.45
	06/12/2023	WaterPlus Ltd - Cemetery	n/a	£7.81
	06/12/2023	LRALC Limited - October Training Course - November Invoice 2023	n/a	£40.00
	06/12/2023	Mark Munro Garden Maintenance - Ditch Clearance on Burton Lane - November Invoice 2023	n/a	£150.00
	06/12/2023	Adrian Cooke Expenses - Thompson & Morgan bulb order - November Invoice 2023	n/a	£364.79
	06/12/2023	Wolds Community First Responders Donation 2023	n/a	£250.00
	06/12/2023	AJG Community Schemes - Hiscox Insurance Company Limited - Church Wall - November Invoice 2023	n/a	£129.01
	06/12/2023	Easyspace Whois Privacy Yearly Fee (Village Website) - November Invoice 2023	£2.39	£14.36
06/12/2023	M&C Property Solutions - Sports Pavilion PIR Floodlight Installation - November Invoice 2023	n/a	£596.40	
06/12/2023	M&C Property Solutions - Sports Pavilion Unblocking Toilet Sinks - November Invoice 2023	n/a	£45.00	
		£9.18	£3,088.33	

Signed and dated by: *Richard Higgins* 04/12/2023

b) Bank Reconciliation and position

December - Bank	
Bank Opening Balance	£23,048.62
Spend (November Invoices paid in December)	£3,088.33
Income (for November) – Hiscox Insurance Claim for replacement/extra Sports Pavilion door keys and Cemetery Fees	£675.50
Anticipated Closing Balance for December (correct at time of the meeting)	£19,960.29

- c) The Council discussed the proposed budget and precept requirement for the financial year 2024/2025 (which had been sent to all Cllrs prior to the meeting for them to read). Cllrs discussed possible future areas of expenditure which may need to be included in the 2024/2025 precept. The budget and precept for 2024/2025 will be confirmed and approved at the next Council meeting in January 2024.
- d) The Council resolved to accept the annual mowing tender for the Sports Field from Wymeswold Cricket Club of £850 for the 2024 season.
- e) The Council approved and signed the unmetered energy supply contract and direct debit form from Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) for the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) on Rempstone Road and East Road.

9. NALC National Salary Award: The Acting Chair detailed the impact of the NALC National Salary Award which had been distributed by the LRALC. The Clerk's

employment contract is based on NALC conditions and the Council resolved to accept the NALC National Salary Award.

10. Actions 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 November was performed by Cllr Mills; the circular play swing was noted to have some fraying on the edges which will be monitored going forward and will be repaired as necessary.

12. Planning Applications and Appeals:

Application Number	Proposal / Location	Comments Deadline	Distribution Date to Cllrs
P/23/2015/2	<p>Proposal: Erection of new porch canopy on front elevation.</p> <p>Location: 88 Brook Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6UE.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	04/12/2023	14/11/2023
P/23/2063/2	<p>Proposal: Erection of single storey outbuilding (store) to replace existing garage and single storey extension to replace existing porch.</p> <p>Location: 4 Clay Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6TY.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	11/12/2023	21/11/2023
P/23/2056/2	<p>Proposal: Discharge of Condition 6 (Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation) of Planning Application ref: P/23/2056/2.</p> <p>Location: 85 Brook Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6TT.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	05/12/2023	21/11/2023

13. Landscaping, Environment and Biodiversity:

- a) Cllr Adrian Cooke informed the Council that all the bulbs that were bought using the kind grant from the Wymeswold Garden Walkabout Committee have now been planted by the Biodiversity team. Of the 1800 bulbs planted, 1200 were planted in the designated wildflower area on the corner of Brook Street and Hoton Road plus various plug plants. A further 600 bulbs have been planted in the Cemetery. He also mentioned that the team were receiving some free trees

from LCC to be planted in the village. Many thanks to the Biodiversity team for their ongoing hard work.

14. Cemetery:

- a) There was one burial in November, and one planned interment of ashes in December in the Cemetery so far.
- b) The Council approved the existing Cemetery Fees and Cemetery Regulations documents with no changes and set the next review date as December 2024.

15. Section 106 and Village Projects:

- a) Cllr Nottingham updated the Council that he is in the process of contacting Charnwood Borough Council (CBC) to ascertain the deadline for use of the S106 monies attached to the Dandara development.
- b) The Council discussed the action plan regarding the S106 application for extra playground equipment for the Washdyke. Cllr Nottingham is investigating whether such equipment fulfills the 'young persons' criteria before going ahead.

16. Sports Pavilion, Playing Field and Washdyke:

- a) Cllr Higgins informed the Council that the PIR Floodlighting has now been installed at the Sports Pavilion.
- b) The Council discussed and approved the revised Sports Pavilion criteria and charges for 2024/2025.

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.
- Due to the recent heavy flooding on Brook Street especially on the service road, LCC Highways Flooding and Drainage Team were contacted in November to enquire about drain clearance of this area to try to prevent further flooding issues. A works instruction has been issued for the gully to be cleaned. Works should be carried out within 28 days, however some locations require a higher level of site safety and are put together to achieve the best possible efficiency, so it can take up to 3 months.
- Charnwood Borough Council were contacted and have provided details for residents should they require help in advance of flooding. They are asking residents to call into their contact centre so that Charnwood can keep a record of who is directly affected and authorise where the sandbags are being distributed. Residents can **request sandbags**, please **call: 01509 263151 (Monday to Friday, 9am – 4pm); 01509 634567 (out of hours)**.
- LCC Highways were contacted again in November about the removal of the scaffolding on the iron railings on Hoton Road. This has now been completed.
- Forthcoming Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders:
 - a. A46 Lifecycle Extension Work (LEW) scheme between Six Hills and Widmerpool - Work started on **25th September 2023** and is scheduled for completion by the **end of March 2024**.
 - b. Brook Street, Wymeswold - to allow LCC to safely undertake works on a concrete retaining wall. This will incorporate a temporary road closure. The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of **6 weeks** commencing on the **15th January 2024**.

18. Church Wall:

- a) Cllr Higgins informed the Council that the Church Wall insurance is effective from this month.

19. Parishioner Queries: None.

20. Items for further consideration: None.

The meeting closed at 8.28pm.

The next Wymeswold Parish Council Meeting will take place on Monday 8th January 2024 at 7pm unless advised otherwise.