

WYMESWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

A meeting of Wymeswold Parish Council was held both virtually via Teams and in person at the Sports Pavilion on Burton Lane, Wymeswold on Monday 4th November 2024 at 7:00pm. Parishioners were welcome to attend in person OR via Teams.

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

Attendees via Teams: County Cllr Richard Shepherd.

1. **Apologies:** It was resolved to approve apologies from: Cllr Laura Mills and Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor.
2. **Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensation:** None.
3. **Public Participation (limited to 15 minutes):** None.
4. **Approval of previous minutes:** The meeting approved minutes from the WPC meeting held on Monday 7th October 2024.
5. **Leicestershire County Council Report (LCC):** County Cllr Richard Shepherd attended the meeting via Teams and reported to the Council that he had sent information regarding the sources of flood risk and responsibilities which had been distributed to all the Cllrs to help signpost individuals to the correct agencies. He also referred the Council to the regular LCC news updates that he sends to the Cllrs for their information, all of which are distributed to the Council.
6. **Charnwood Borough Council Report (CBC):** Borough Cllr Jenny Bokor could not be present at the meeting but sent a Borough Council summary to the Clerk for distribution to the Council. Discussions continue with Cora Homes about flooding mitigation solutions on the Storkit Lane development. The next meeting is scheduled for the 18th November. An emergency pump has been supplied by Cora homes to the residents to help drain the attenuation pond if it overflows. The CBC local plan is likely to be delayed until the new year due to extra reports being requested by the Inspectors. The brook was cleared of vegetation and dredged in September by CBC to help with flood water drainage down Brook Street.

County Cllr Richard Shepherd left the meeting via Teams at 7.10pm.

7. Accounts/Finances:

- a) Expenditure for November (payment of October invoices) was approved by the Council and was signed off by the Acting Chair (as per the Financial Regulations 2024 section 6.10). This is detailed in the table below:

November 2024	November	NEST Employer and Employee Pension Contribution Direct Debit payment	n/a	£23.14
	06/11/2024	Claire Higgins Salary - October 2024	n/a	
	November	Public Works Loans Board (PWLb) Direct Debit Payment	n/a	£1,892.77
	06/11/2024	Richard Higgins Expenses - Parish Council Mobile Phone - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£9.25
	06/11/2024	Richard Higgins Expenses - 2024 Diary - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£12.95
	06/11/2024	Richard Higgins Expenses - Norton 360 Deluxe Anti-Virus Software - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£89.99
	06/11/2024	WaterPlus Ltd - Cemetery - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£9.67
	06/11/2024	WaterPlus Ltd - Sports Pavilion - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£89.62
	06/11/2024	Total Energies G&P Collections - October Invoice 2024	£9.62	£201.88
	06/11/2024	SSE - VAS Unmetered Electricity Supply (Rempstone and East Road) - October Invoice 2024	£4.46	£26.77
	06/11/2024	Mark Munro Garden Maintenance - Cemetery/Churchyard - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£800.00
	06/11/2024	Roma Landscapes Limited - Mowing - October Invoice 2024	£143.00	£858.00
	06/11/2024	MBS Extinguishers - Sports Pavilion fire extinguisher service - August Invoice (late receipt) 2024	£19.40	£116.40
	06/11/2024	Wymeswold Cricket Club - Sports Field Mowing and herbicide treatment - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£1,180.00
	06/11/2024	Easyspace Secure Hosting Yearly Renewal (Village Website) - October Invoice 2024	£6.27	£37.62
	06/11/2024	Easyspace Starter Plus Yearly Renewal (Village Website) - October Invoice 2024	£20.73	£124.37
	06/11/2024	Tindle Tree Care Limited - Tree Survey - October Invoice 2024	£116.00	£696.00
	06/11/2024	The Parish Noticeboard Company - New Parish Council Noticeboard - October Invoice 2024	£439.00	£2,634.00
	06/11/2024	Clockwise Restorations Limited - Annual Church Clock Service and Repair - October Invoice 2024	£11.00	£226.00
	06/11/2024	The Boston Bulb Company Limited - Village Bulbs - October Invoice 2024	£59.16	£355.00
			£828.64	£10,220.71

Signed and dated by: *Richard Higgins* 04/11/2024

- b) Bank Reconciliation and position: The spend in the table above (a) is combined across the 2 bank accounts detailed below:

November – Bank (Current Account)	
Opening Balance	£55,622.28
Spend (October Invoices/Direct Debits paid in November)	£10,220.71
Income (for October) – Cemetery Fees and HMRC VAT Return	£12,299.78
Anticipated Closing Balance for November (correct at time of the meeting)	£45,401.57

November – Bank (Project Account)	
Opening Balance	£8,436.10
Spend	£0
Income (for October)	£0
Anticipated Closing Balance for November (correct at time of the meeting)	£8,436.10

- c) In accordance with the Financial Regulations 2024 section 2.6, Cllr Janet Beaumont verified the bank reconciliations with the bank statements for the last quarter (this was delayed by a month due to late receipt of the September bank statements).
- d) The Council approved placing £12,000 as the Council's emergency reserve in a higher interest savings bank account and approved that the provider of that savings account will be Unity Trust Bank.
- e) The Council approved the transfer of paid VAT from the repair of St. Mary's Churchyard Wall received from HMRC into the Projects account at NatWest.
- f) The Council discussed the annual budget timeline and process. Items and possible future areas of expenditure which may need to be included in the Budget for 2025/2026 will be confirmed at the next meeting in December. Cllr Higgins will investigate how any excess funds may be used to reduce the Public Works Loan

Board (PWLB) loan (used to repair the Churchyard Wall) and any impact it may have on the term or balance.

- g) The Council approved the quote of £180 from Mark Munro Garden Maintenance for the Burton Lane/Hoton Road ditch clearance as per the Public Health Act 1936 s.260, the Open Spaces Act 1906 s.10 and Highways Act 1980 s.43, s.96. They also approved 2 quotes from Stuart Blackburn of £194 for maintenance jobs (including a disabled toilet lock) inside the Sports Pavilion and £240 for a new picket gate and small fence outside the Sports Pavilion as per the Local Government Act 1972 s.133, the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19 and the Open Spaces Act 1906 s.10. The Council approved the 2 quotes from Roma Landscapes Limited of £680 (excluding VAT) for the hedge trimming and crown lifting of various trees in the Sports Field and £560 (excluding VAT) for the hedge trimming and mowing of the wildflower area in the Washdyke as per the Highways Act 1980 s.43, s.96 and the Open Spaces Act s.9, s.10.
- h) The Council approved the contract renewal with SSE Energy Solutions for the unmetered electricity supply of the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) on Rempstone Road and East Road.

8. Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/2025: Cllr Higgins detailed the impact of the Local Government Services Pay Agreement for 2024/2025 which was distributed by NALC and LRALC. The Clerk's employment contract is based on NALC conditions and the Council resolved to accept the new pay agreement which came into force effective from April 1st 2024.

9. Risk Assessments:

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

10. Planning Applications and Appeals:

Application Number	Proposal / Location	Comments Deadline	Distribution Date to Cllrs
P/24/1842/2	<p>Proposal: Section 73 Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) and 3 (Landscaping) of Planning Application ref: P/23/0594/2 (Erection of single storey extension and alterations following demolition of existing garage). Variation to landscaping details.</p> <p>Location: 79 Brook Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6TT.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	06/11/2024	17/10/2024
P/24/1716/2 LBC	<p>Proposal: Replacement windows to front, rear and side elevations of main dwellinghouse.</p> <p>Location: 79 Brook Street, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, LE12 6TT.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	08/11/2024	22/10/2024

P/24/1496/2	<p>Proposal: CL (Proposed). Installation of solar panels to rear roofslope (Lawful Development Certificate for Proposed Development).</p> <p>Location: 8 Cross Hill Close, Wymeswold, Leicestershire, Le12 6UJ.</p> <p>Resolved: Not to comment on this application.</p>	27/08/2024	29/10/2024

11. Landscaping, Environment and Biodiversity:

- a) Cllr Cooke informed the Council that he has been busy planting some of the 4,000 bulbs (daffodils, crocus, English bluebells and snowdrops) around the village; some on the Burton Lane verges, some on the verges near the Dandara housing development and around the village as a whole. He will also be planting an oak tree as a memorial in the Washdyke on behalf of Gordon Turnbull's family this month. Additionally, there will be some hedge trimming of the Washdyke and Sports Field happening in the next few months.
- b) The Council approved the revised plan for the footpath mowing maintenance. It will be increased to three times a year with weedkilling added in.

12. Tree Survey Report:

- a) The Clerk distributed the recently completed Tree Survey Report to the Council ahead of the meeting. Having obtained budgetary guidance on the potential costs associated with the works identified within the report, the Council agreed to seek competitive quotations for the highest priority works needed. This is in line with the Financial Regulations 2024 section 5.8.

13. Cemetery:

- a) There were no interments in the Cemetery in October, and there are no upcoming burials/interments planned for November so far.

14. Section 106 and Village Projects:

- a) Cllr Nottingham informed the Council that he will be finalising the drawing up of a plan regarding the drainage of the Sports Field to take forward to contractors to receive quotes for the work required. Cllr Wright informed the Council that there will be village Christmas lights and Carols in the Stockwell on Sunday 8th December at 4.30pm.
- b) Cllr Nottingham and Cllr Beaumont met a specialist company to assess the potential for provision of a cinema in St Mary's Church. The aim would be to link the provision to the Heritage Lottery project which will encourage the engagement of young people and the wider community in the use of the Church as a community facility. Cllr Nottingham agreed to forward the quote received to Cllr Beaumont who will then liaise with the Parochial Church Council (PCC), and then subsequently an application can be made by them for Section 106 funding from CBC. The intention is to share what will be a portable facility with other groups in the village.

15. Sports Pavilion, Playing Field and Washdyke:

- a) No updates from Cllrs this month.

16. 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 HMRC VAT Return for April – September 2024 was submitted this month and has been received.
- The PAT testing for the Sports Pavilion which was delayed from August should be completed this month.
- Unfortunately, the stone for the new WW2 Memorial plaque at the Eagle Mural is still not ready, so a new date has been set by the organisers for the Service of Dedication and unveiling. It will now provisionally be on **Thursday 20th March 2024 at 2pm**.
- Please note that all recycling and household waste sites moved to standard **winter opening hours on 1st October 2024 until 31st March 2025 (9am to 4pm on days they are open)**. LCC encourages residents to check their website before going (especially in adverse weather conditions), and to arrive at least 10 minutes prior to closing.
- Charnwood Borough Council contacts for residents should they require help in advance of flooding. They are asking residents to call their contact centre so that cases will be sent directly to the Contracts Manager and the Head of Service 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).
- Forthcoming Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders:
 - a. Melton Road, Burton on the Wolds. The purpose of the TTRO is to allow M+J Evans Construction Ltd to safely undertake carriageway resurfacing works in connection with the new William Davis development. This will incorporate a temporary road closure. The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of **1 night** commencing on the **11th November 2024 8pm – 6am**.

17. Parishioner Queries: None.

18. Items for future consideration: None.

The meeting closed at 8.02pm.

The next Wymeswold Parish Council Meeting will take place on Monday 2nd December 2024 at 7pm in the Sports Pavilion on Burton Lane unless advised otherwise.

Appendix – Finance Actuals

The details below reflect the actual finance activities of the Council in the month. This is the result of an increase in the amount of the previously approved NEST direct debit payment (relating to the Clerk's pay award) being taken from the bank account following the meeting.

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	06/11/2024	Richard Higgins Expenses - Parish Council Mobile Phone - October Invoice 2024	n/a	£9.25
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			£828.64	£10,243.51

November – Bank (Current Account)	
Opening Balance	£55,622.28
Spend (October Invoices/Direct Debits paid in November)	£8,350.74
Income (for October) – Cemetery Fees and HMRC VAT Return	£12,299.78
Actual Closing Balance for November	£47,271.54

November – Bank (Project Account)	
Opening Balance	£8,436.10
Spend (PWLB loan repayment)	£1,892.77
Income (for October)	£0
Actual Closing Balance for November	£6,543.33