

Whixall Parish Council

Chairman: Ian Mercer

**Minutes of Parish Council's Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 14th June 2017 at
Whixall Social Centre starting at 7:30pm**

Present:

Chairman: I Mercer

Councillors: J Fitton, S Marlow, B Harris, J Spenser, J Hardiman, M Howard

Shropshire Councillors: C Mellings, P Dee

Clerk: K Hatton

Members of the community: J Widgren of St Mary's Parochial Church Council

74/17 Introduction

Cllr Mercer declared the meeting open. Cllrs and Clerk introduced themselves to Mrs Widgren.

75/17 Apologies for absence

Cllr Edgerton

76/17 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and requests for dispensation.

None declared.

77/17 Minutes of the meetings held on 10th May 2017

It was proposed by Cllr Fitton that the draft minutes were an accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Mercer and agreed by all present.

<p>It was resolved that the minutes of 10th May 2017 be signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>

78/17 Public Participation

Reference to agenda item 9a.

Mrs Widgren addressed the Parish Council in reference to correspondence that she had received from the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance advising of their proposed sale of land on Church Lane and the correspondence that she had sent back in response objecting to the sale.

Both letters had been circulated amongst Cllrs prior to the meeting.

Mrs Widgren reiterated that the main concern is that this glebe land adjacent to the church ought to be protected and consecrated as burial ground for the parish as there is little room left in the churchyard for parishioners wishing to be buried locally and that this is a future problem, potentially for the Parish and the Parish Council.

Mrs Widgren posed the question of who will be responsible for providing burial ground when the land runs out. Historically Glebe lands were quite extensive but it has now been sold off but for this piece.

The PCC are unanimous in their objection to this sale because they feel the land should be protected for the community.

Chair, Cllr Mercer assured that the matter would be debated when the agenda item arose later in the meeting.

79/17 Financial Matters

- a) To receive monthly bank balance record.

The Clerk advised the council of the council's bank balances. The amounts stated in the Monthly Balance Record were countersigned by Cllr Mercer as accurate with the bank statement.

DATE	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
26 th May 2017	Community Account	£7,759.87
	Business Saver Account	£923.94
TOTAL		£8,683.81

- b) To resolve to approve outstanding accounts.

Orders for the payment of money (listed below). As per the financial report of the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)/ Clerk were proposed by Cllr Mercer, seconded by Cllr Harris and agreed by all present. RESOLVED.

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	AMOUNT	LEGAL POWER TO SPEND
14 th June 2017	101147	K Hatton- Clerk's pay for May 2017	£317.50	LGA 1972 s. 112(2)
	101148	K Hatton- Printer ink reimburse	£26.12	LGA 1972 s.111
	101149	K Hatton- Postage reimburse April 2016- March 2017	£10.26	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5
TOTAL			£353.88	

LGA= Local Government Act

HA= Highways Act

TA=Transport Act

CA=Commons Act

Resolved: The outstanding accounts should be paid and the cheques signed by two authorised councillors.

80/17 Clerk's report

The Clerk provided information on recent correspondence and actions since last meeting:

Vacancy: No interest has been received regarding the vacancy.

Social media training: Clerk attended training on 5th June hence draft policy on using social media. Before setting up a facebook page (or similar) is considered, an agreed policy would be useful to ensure appropriate use. It was suggested that a social media platform would be useful for putting out information and signposting back to our website.

Newsletters: Have been distributed and delivered.

Marlot grazing project: The Clerk has sent off all documentation for receipt of grant money now that the project is complete and water trough is installed. Clerk has also arranged a meeting with Marlot Conservation Group volunteers and David Tompkins (NE) and any interested Cllrs are welcome to attend. The main purpose of meeting is to discuss terms of grazing agreement which can then be presented back to full council for approval.

War memorial: Action is needed to arrange painting of the railings. Miss Brayford (Whixall Primary School) has said that she will arrange for children to remove the weeds from the site as soon as possible.

Bowling club lease: Communication has taken place with solicitor regarding lease renewal. All Parish Councillors are required to provide ID in order to proceed.

81/17 Policy Review

To resolve to approve a suitable communication and social media policy.

The Clerk had shared a draft document which was discussed and amended. The Clerk was asked to redraft according to amendments and present at next meeting along with a proposal for a 'closed' facebook page.

82/17 Parish Matters

a) To consider possible action regarding proposed sale of Glebe land adjacent to St Mary's Church. Cllr Mercer proposed that the Parish Council supports St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC). Cllr Harris seconded the proposal with the addition to send a letter (within 24 hours) to the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance giving full support to the sentiments expressed in PCC letter. All agreed. **Resolved.**

b) To agree a course of action regarding the allocation of places to schools.

Resolution: To ask N Brayford (Head teacher) to advise on the school's agreed course of action and consider how the Parish Council can support them.

A short discussion took place regarding the information that is given to parents and the impact of parents not indicating a second and third choice of school for their child/ children.

83/17 Planning

-All planning applications and decisions can be tracked on line at www.shropshire.gov.uk

Applications received- to consider response

No applications received.

Matters referred

-Reported breach of conditions to application **Ref: 14/00834/FUL:** Planning Officer has sent a reminder to applicant re: their breach of conditions. Cllr Dee has asked for an update from Planning Officer and hopes that a time limit is put on compliance. Cllr Harris made reference to the fact that the Enforcement Officer is due to attend Shropshire Area Committee meeting which he will also attend.

Decisions- to note

Ref: 16/05514/FUL – Application under Section 73a of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the formation of a slurry lagoon (retrospective) at Moss Lane Farm, Moss Lane, Whixall, Shropshire, SY13 2QE.

Decision: Withdrawn

84/17 Councillors Reports

-Cllr Dee reported on the consultation re: proposed amalgamation of fire and police authority.

-Cllr Mellings had circulated a written report to all Cllrs prior to the meeting which lists emails circulated and updates on the following matters:

- o Flooding issues – update requested for the meeting.
- o Road damage – Alders Lane – works to repair the lane have now started.
- o Pothole - The Lilacs to Highways – the repair had been carried out. An issue had arisen following the recent surfacing works in the Waterloo area. This has been taken up with Highways who are now working to resolve it.
- o Broadband – following a number of comments, I am meeting shortly with the Council's Broadband Programme Manager to discuss both internet connectivity / speeds and mobile phone signals across the Parish. I will report back once I have met with him.
- o Starks Bridge – as far as I am aware the project is on course as previously reported. I will obtain an update for the July meeting of the Parish Council.
- o Primary School placements - following the discussion at the last meeting of the Parish Council, I raised the issue with the Council. A copy of the response has been circulated.

85/17 Consider future agenda items

Whixall signage, Fire and police authority proposed amalgamation consultation, amended Social Media Policy, Marlot meeting feedback, facilitation of a community meeting; determine criteria for attendance, appointment of Vice Chair.

Scheduled date of next meeting: **Wednesday 12th July 2017 at 7.30 pm**

The meeting closed at 9:20pm