

WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL held at The Council Rooms, Grants Lane, Wedmore, on Wednesday 20th October 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors:, Mrs P Costello (Chair), Mrs J Candy, Mr D Cox, Mrs G Cousins, Mrs J Farley, Mrs B James-Lloyd, Mr J Newton, Mr A Reeson, Mr A Smith, Mr P Tinney, Mrs S Worrall

In Attendance: Mr. R Pring (Clerk), Cllr D Huxtable (SCC), Mr Pat Benjamin, Mr Bill Belshaw

21.10.1. **TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cllrs. I Beacom, D Kirley, A Landers, E Mulliner, S Thorogood

21.10.2. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY ANDS DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** - Cllr Huxtable reported that the County Council had submitted a bid for funding from Central Government for transport infrastructure within the county including electric buses and improved bus stations. He was grateful that the Parish Council continued to support local buses which were a life-line for some elderly residents. The yellow lines due to be placed in the village were being delayed because of contractor issues. Cllr Newton raised the issue of the Blackford gateways. Cllr Huxtable said he would progress this with Highways Department and that contractors will be found to complete the project which had already been paid for by the Parish Council.

21.10.3. **TO RECORD ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Nil.

21.10.4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2021** – The minutes had previously been circulated.- **RESOLVED: that the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes as a correct record of the previous meeting.**

21.10.5. **MATTERS ARISING** – Nil.

21.10.6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Mr Pat Benjamin was concerned about the state of some roads within the parish, particularly in the Cocklake area where farmers were cutting maize and depositing large amounts of mud on the highways. A cyclist had recently fallen off and broken his pelvis. Members noted that it was an offence for farmers to deposit mud on the highway but that the cyclist should pursue a claim against this particular farmer through his insurance company.

21.10.7. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

a) **Audit of accounts** - 24TH August to 23rd September 2021 - Cllr Beacom and Cllr Mulliner reported that all was in order.

b) **Accounts for Payment** – as per the following list

<u>Payment</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BACS	Mrs R Stevens	Clean Council Rooms	£25.00
BACS	R Pring	Clerk's expenses	£24.30
BACS	W Jackson	Grass cutting , cemetery and highways works	£958.00
BACS	D Summers-Cooke`	Clean & lock toilets etc	£225.94
CARD	Essanet Ltd	Multi-socket switch for router	£22.52
BACS	Chambers Services	Groundworks at cemetery	£1728.00
BACS	Royal Mail Services	Deliver WellBeing brochures	£240.60
BACS	EDF Energy Ltd	Electricity at toilets	£10.01

DD	Mainstream	Broadband and Line Rental	£63.00
DD	Mainstream	Phone Calls	£1.22
BACS	Sedgemoor DC	Clerk's salary	£1756.79
BACS	BWW Printers	Print 2000 Wellbeing brochures	£1095.00

21.10.08 **TO CONSIDER PLANTING A TREE OR HEDGE TO MARK THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE IN 2022** – Cllr Beacom had suggested the Council mark this important occasion next year. It was agreed to plant a tree or hedge, probably at Worthington Woods. Cllr Beacom to liaise with Green Wedmore as to the best way forward. **ACTION - IB**

21.10.09 **TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SCOUT HUT, COMBE LANE.** - Mr Bill Belshaw, Scout Leader outlined a proposal to carry out alterations within the scout hut to include disabled facilities. There was currently a waiting list of 14 cubs and 12 scouts so a small extension would allow them the extra space to take on more members. Cllr Candy was concerned about extra noise that would be generated and Mr Belshaw said her concerns would be addressed. It was proposed by Cllr Worrall and seconded by Cllr Cox that the proposals be approved in principle. It was also suggested that if a planning application was submitted in the name of the Parish Council, then planning fees would be greatly reduced.

21.10.10 **TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO POLICIES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE** - Cllr Mulliner had previously circulated an updated version of the Financial Regulations for consideration. Cllr Worrall pointed out that some conditions had to be agreed by the "Clerk and RFO" which in the current situation was one and the same person. It was pointed out that going forward there may come a time when the tasks might be carried out by two people so it was agreed to leave the wording in but with a footnote to add another Councillor when the Clerk and RFO are the same person. Proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr James-Lloyd that the draft Regulations be approved. This was agreed. Clerk to update website etc. **ACTION - Clerk**

21.10.11 **TO SEEK TWO ADDITIONAL SIGNATORIES TO THE COUNCIL'S ONLINE BANKING ACCOUNT** - Cllrs Costello and Worrall agreed to become additional signatories **ACTION - Clerk**

21.10.12 **WEDMORE BY LAMPLIGHT UPDATE AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS** - Cllr Cox had attended a committee meeting for this event to take place on Weds 8th December. There would be an increased number of food stalls, all of whom make a financial contribution. There was a £2k budget in place for the event but the committee would need to pay for first aid facilities and insurance. He was asking the Council to contribute up to £1k towards the event. The Clerk pointed out that he could only pay invoices that were made out to the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr James-Lloyds that the Council support this event as outlined. This was agreed. **ACTION - DC**

21.10.13 **TO AGREE TO PROVIDE CHRISTMAS TREES FOR LOCAL SHOPS AND BUSINESSES** - The Clerk pointed out that it was the usual practice for the Council to pay for Christmas trees for local businesses and churches and costs would be in the region of £350. The usual supplier was willing to continue and could deliver to Cllr Cousins's house as previously. Will Jackson would help with distribution. Proposed by Cllr Cousins, seconded by Cllr Worrall that this be done and it was agreed by members. **ACTION - Clerk**

21.10.14 **ISSUES AND QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS** - Cllr Cox said he would be looking for volunteers to oversee the planned footpath extension in Pilcorn Street. Cllr Smith said there was need for public consultation in that area. Cllr Reason mentioned the Christmas street lights but was told it was not on the agenda and could not be discussed at this meeting. Cllr Worrall reported a kerb issue in Church Street which she would investigate.

21.10.15 CORRESPONDENCE

Item	From Whom	Subject
	ALL CIRCULATED	

21.10.16 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Cemetery – Hedge cutting needed in the lane at the side of the cemetery
- Facilities Allotments, Footpaths – Allotments now available to let .
- Finance & General Purposes – Meeting early December
- Housing – Nil.
- Highways – Met end September.
- Planning – Meeting 3rd November
- Human Resources – Number of policies and procedures currently under consideration.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

- IOW News – Meeting in November
- Play Areas – Zoom meeting held and a survey was being circulated
- SALC – Nil
- Wedmore Playing Fields Management – Meeting on Monday. Current tenant of Post and Wicket was leaving and a replacement being sought. The MUGA was being upgraded
- Village Halls – Blackford and Wedmore very busy with bookings.
- Twinning – Nil
- Green Wedmore – AGM held. Steve Mewes taking over as Chair

21.10.17 MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING –

- (a). Chairman – Nil
- (b) Clerk – Nil.
- (c) Members – Policies and Procedures

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.32 pm