Parish Council Minutes 22 January 2013

Minutes of a Meeting of Wrington Parish Council held in the John Locke Room on Wednesday 22 January 2013

Present: Cllr D Glynn (Chairman) Cllr J Rawlins

Cllr P Robinson Cllr G Bigg
Cllr G Lankester Cllr D Yamanaka
Cllr P Ledbury Cllr L Howells

Mrs F Burke (Clerk)

In attendance: Melanie Greenwood, PC Lloyd Nethercott and PCSO Yvette Mayo.

1. To receive apologies from Members for non-attendance.

Apologies were received from Cllr Taylor (prior commitment).

2. To receive Members' declarations of interests on known agenda matters and any amendments to the register of interests.

Cllr Howells as Secretary of the Sports and Social Club.

- 3. To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held18 December 2013. The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.
- 4. To adjourn the meeting for Public Participation:

Melanie Greenwood of Cross Cottage, Silver Street, Wrington, addressed the Council with her concerns regarding the corner outside of her house and the potential hazards to pedestrians. She commented that the traffic is seemingly getting busier and that in her opinion walking past her house is not safe, especially for children going to and from school. She also presented a list of comments from parents of other children, who share her concerns about this corner, the poor visibility and traffic.

Ms Greenwood reported that she had been in contact with North Somerset Council who were considering the issues and the possibility of a scheme to resolve the problem. The Chair advised that once the Parish Council had received details of any scheme then it would first be considered by the Council's Highways Group and that Ms Greenwood would be kept advised. The Chair thanked Ms Greenwood for attending and explaining the issues and she left the meeting.

5. To receive a report from the Police representative. The report was received.

PC Nethercott and PCSO Mayo attended the meeting to give an update on the recent spate of thefts from cars and shed, and garage break-ins. They encouraged Councillors to ask people to report incidents even if nothing had been taken as they need to be able to build up a map of affected areas.

PC Nethercott informed Members that NSC enforcement notices were to be served at Gatcombe Farm. He reported that he had provided a report to NSC with evidence that people are living on the site.

The Chair thanked PC Nethercott and PCSO Mayo and they left the meeting.

The meeting was reconvened

- 6. To note items of correspondence received and requiring possible action:
 - Letter from the Bristol Airport Environmental Improvement Fund, dated 8 January 2014,

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confirming a grant of £7,000 to fund the construction of a safer pedestrian crossing on the A38 at Cowslip Green. This was noted, with a letter of thanks to be sent to the Fund Committee.

- Letter from the Bristol Airport Environmental Fund, 8 January, confirming approval in principle to the request for financial support to provide a replacement main window for the Memorial Hall. **This was noted.**
- Letter from Bennetts, 13 January, concerning the Estate of Mrs Joyce Smith who wished her local history records to be passed to the Council so that they might remain in Wrington to be available for study and display. This was noted. The Chair reported that he had already been in touch with Bennetts and was awaiting a response. It was agreed that the Chair would meet with Bennetts to view the items.
- Email inviting Councillors to attend a public forum to be hosted by the Police & Crime Commissioner, Sue Mountstevens, and Chief Constable Nick Gargan to be held at 7pm on Tuesday 28 January in the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare. **This was noted.**
- Letter from Wrington Friendship Club, 7 January, thanking the Council for their financial support. **This was noted.**
- Letter from Sioux Isherwood, NSC Senior Licensing Officer, 14 January, regarding an application for a Street Trading Consent for 'Elaine's Snacks', with this to be located at the Havyatt Road Trading Estate, Havyatt Road, Wrington.
 - Cllr Howells raised her concerns about how a snack van might have a detrimental financial effect on the village stores as workers from the industrial estates currently come into the village to buy their lunch and other items from the local shops.

Resolved: To refer a decision on this item to the Planning Committee meeting to be held 28 January.

7. To receive the Clerk's report. This was received and noted.

Street lights

Cllr Robinson asked that if a linked group of street lights, such as the one in Broad Street/High Street, might have one central photocell attached to the power supply so that all the lights could be switched off for part of the night. The Clerk agreed to raise this with SSE and report back.

Dog mess

Cllr Howells reported that a number of residents had complained about dogs and dog mess in the Church Walk Play Area, where there is a 'no dogs' control order in place. It was agreed to consider options and the cost for a more prominent sign to reinforce this message at the next finance meeting.

8. To receive the Finance Report, including payments recommended for approval.

Copies of the report circulated separately.

Approval for the following payments is sought:

Memorial Hall – Grant, 3 rd instalment 2013/14	£4,000.00
SSE Contracting – Street Light maintenance, 3 rd quarter 2013/14	£766.19
North Somerset Council – Dog Bin emptying, December 2013	£124.80
The Consortium – office supplies - paper (£40.78) and office shredder (£122.27)	£163.05
Standen & Sons – plumbing repairs to Broad Street toilets	£277.20
ITEC – photocopier, 3 rd quarter 2013/14	£1.84
Southern Electric – Broad Street toilets, electricity for December	£14.04
Jayne Hitchborn – cleaning of Broad Street toilets, December (paid)	£160.00
M F Clark & Son - Grass cutting and grounds maintenance for 2013 (paid)	£2,316.00
City Web Design – second payment for web site design (paid)	£250.00
Parish Councils Airport Association – subscription 2013/2014 (paid)	£50.00
Clerk's salary January - to be calculated	

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Assistant Clerk's salary January - to be calculated

Resolved: To approve the payments as recommended.

Cllr Taylor proposed approval, Cllr Yamanaka seconded, with all in agreement.

- 9. To receive and consider reports from:
 - a. District Councillor, Cllr Yamanaka. This was received.

Cllr Yamanaka reported on the change to accessing council tax and benefits. From February 2014 the only way that residents whose situations change will be able to register these changes is by going online, with this through a process described as 'Digital by default'. Councillors were concerned about the potential impacts on elderly or more vulnerable residents who do not have internet access or are unable to get online.

Resolved: To write to Tony Lake, Executive Member NSC, to query what facilities and support will be provided by NSC to ensure that these more vulnerable residents' needs are met.

b. WVMP report, Cllr Robinson.

Cllr Robinson reported that a meeting had taken place between HOSP and Wrington Vale **Medical Practice**

c. Sports & Social Club, Cllr Howells.

Cllr Howells reported that there is a possibility that the Wrington Redhill football club will gain promotion to the Somerset League Premier Division. This would mean that certain requirements would need to be met, such as changes to the changing rooms in the Pavilion and a more permanent barrier around the pitch. The Chair pointed out that any alterations to the Pavilion and changes to the Recreation Field would need to be agreed by the Council, as the owner and insurer of the property, and that more detailed information and plans would be required before any work could be undertaken.

d. Twinning Association, Cllr Rawlins

Cllr Rawlins provided a brief verbal report on recent Twinning events.

- To receive and consider reports from Working Groups: 10.
 - e. Finance, Cllr Rawlins

This was received.

b. Environment, Cllr Bigg

No report was received.

c. Highways, Cllr Ledbury

No report was received. Cllr Ledbury proposed that a combined Highways and Environment working groups meeting might be held on Monday 10 February, 11am. This was agreed.

- To consider and approve the following recommendations from Working Groups:
 - a. To note the reduction in price agreed with Haven Power for the Council's street light power supply for the coming year, with this reduced from 12.874 to 12.654 pence per kwh. The revised contract price is reflected in the proposed budget.

This was noted and approved.

b. To agree in principle that the Council might investigate the possibility of purchasing Christmas lights for use in Broad Street, Wrington, with further consideration to follow the receipt of scheme design and cost estimates.

Resolved: To agree to investigate the cost and physical issues involved in erecting Christmas lights.

To note and agree the proposed budget for the year 2014/15, with details circulated separately 12. and related to a planned expenditure of £98,490, and to agree that a request should now be submitted to NSC for a Precept payment of £90,452. This figure is equivalent to a charge of

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£76.37 for a Band D property, which is unchanged from 2013/14.

Cllr Robinson pointed out that the street lights repair/replacement insurance reserve is also a provision to cover other uninsurable items.

Resolved: To adopt the proposed budget and agree to the Precept request. Cllr Howells proposed and Cllr Robinson seconded the motion, with all in agreement.

13. To agree to the replacement of the Council's public notice board in Wrington, with quotes to be sought for a lockable notice board to be supplied and installed at a budget cost of up to £1.000.

Resolved: To agree to the proposal.

14. To agree to advertise for a new Parish Orderly to work for five to eight hours per week at an initial hourly rate of £8 per hour and to a work schedule to be agreed with the successful applicant.

Resolved: To agree to the proposal and to proceed to recruit a new Parish Ordery.

15. To note the draft scheme drawing and provisional cost estimate prepared by NSC Highways in relation to a pedestrian crossing facility on the A38 near Lye Hole Lane, Redhill, and to consider whether this should be supported and, if so, how it might be progressed.

Resolved: That the Council would support this proposal and that the Chair would prepare a funding application for submission to the next meeting of the Bristol Airport Community Fund Committee.

- 16. To consider whether the Council might produce an annual newsletter for the year 2013/14 and, if agreed, what should be the format and production timescale.

 After some discussion, it was agreed that the Council should produce a four page newsletter at A3 and folded, with the content written on behalf of Council as a whole.
- 17. Memorial Hall to consider requests to serve alcohol as follows:
 - Drama Club to serve alcohol at their evening performances to be held between 29 January and 1 February 2014.

Resolved: To agree to the request.

- 18. Consultations:
 - North Somerset Council Flood Risk Strategy, with closing date for comments
 16 February 2014. For further information see:
 http://consult.nsomerset.gov.uk/consult.ti/testest1/consultationHome
 Cllr Yamanaka encouraged all Members to at least read the Wrington section of the
 consultation document and the Chair asked that any comments should be fed back well
 before the deadline.
- 19. Items raised by Members for information and for possible consideration at the next meeting to be held Wednesday 19 February 2014.
 - Cllr Bigg queried what the 'Community Project' at the old surgery involved. Cllr Howells advised that the current intention is the acquisition of the site and conversion of the building for community use, with the details still to be agreed.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 10pm