

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WATER ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 26 October 2023 at 7.00pm at the Pavilion, Open Field Croft.

Present: Cllr S. Stuart (Chair), Cllr K. Brown, Cllr. C. Chown, Cllr. R. Coldrick, Cllr Freeman, Cllr. R. Lowe, Cllr. W. Rees.

Guests in Attendance: County Councillor Watson, Borough Councillor Reilly, Parish Councillor Stuart is also a Borough Councillor.

Public in Attendance: 3

Minute Taker & Clerk: Rachel Scully, clerk@wopc.org.uk

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.00pm

23.083. Apologies: Demi Smith, Matt Glover

23/084. Public Participation:

a) Members of the public and press

The Council was alerted to the fact that Demi Smith, the police representative had attended four meetings held by other Parish Councils, but had not attended any full council meetings recently held by Water Orton Parish Council. There are concerns surrounding the recent burglaries, with no recent communication with the police. Chair to contact the police about the lack of attendance of a police representative at the last two full council meetings.

b) Reports from County and District Councillors

Discussions about enforcement of parking on the zig-zag lines. The police have the power to issue tickets. The cost of living grant that could be awarded to Water Orton Parish Council was discussed. See minute item number: **23/089**.

c) Report from Police Representative

Apologies and a written report rec'd from PCSO Demi Smith.

23/085. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

Cllr Nattasha Freeman as an allotment holder declared her interest in item number: 14 on the agenda, Allotments.

23/086. Co-option Candidates:

a) To hear a brief presentation from any co-option candidates

David Room gave brief presentation.

b) To consider the co-option of a candidate to the Office of Councillor for Water Orton Parish Council

It was RESOLVED to approve David Room to the Office of Councillor.

c) Co-opted Councillor to sign Declaration of Office before the Clerk

David Room signed the Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk, the Acceptance of Office was then signed and dated by the Clerk.

23/087. Minutes:

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28 September 2023.

23/088. Reports from Chairman, Parish Councillors and Sub-Committees:

Finance Committee

a) It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee meeting held on 12 October 2023.

i) It was RESOLVED to approve the recommendation from the Finance Committee to make application to Unity Trust for a Multiday card.

Chairman Initials.....

- ii) It was RESOLVED to approve the recommendation from the Finance Committee to purchase the digital accounts package from Scribe.
- iii) It was RESOLVED to approve the recommendation to draft the finance budget via Finance Sub-Committee meeting in December. There were discussions about arranging a maintenance committee meeting.
- iv) It was RESOLVED to defer a date, and place in December for the Finance Sub-Committee to set the budget

23/089. Reports from County and District Councillors

County Councillor Watson read the Speed Survey Report, the Chair allowed discussions involving further public participation on the findings of the report. Discussions took place involving traffic calming, reinstatement of markings, budgeting, and the meeting with highways locality officer, where complaints and concerns were raised.

County Councillor Watson discussed Round 2, Warwickshire County Councillors Grant Fund 2034/24. Cllr Nattasha Freeman raised the issue of safer access to the park and playing field area with County Councillor Watson, as access is difficult and not accessible for all. County Councillor Watson commented that he would revisit access, and Cllr Freeman would correspond with County Councillor Watson. Cllr Brown mentioned the large volume of traffic on Marsh Lane and vehicle parking. The issue of traffic and parking would go on agenda to be considered at a future full council meeting, and taking steps to invite the police.

23.090. Maintenance:

- a) The monthly play inspection report from Cllr Chown was noted. Cllr Chown reported that there were no defects that were dangerous.
- b) Cllr Chown had approached Greyhound, who carry out repair and maintenance and would prepare a quote as soon as possible. There was maintenance to rust works that needed to be carried out. Clerk would carry out investigations and make enquiries of companies who could carry the works including North Warwickshire Borough Council.

23/091. Finance:

- a) It was RESOLVED to approve the payment schedule for October and items paid under delegated authority since the previous schedule (**APPENDIX 4**).

OCTOBER									
100	K Clover	Microsoft	Cheque	300006	Microsoft 365 Licences (September)	£49.90	£9.98	£59.98	12/10/2023
101					Microsoft 365 Licences (October)	£49.90	£9.98	£59.98	12/10/2023
102	BT	BT	DD	M030 L0	Broadband Pavilion	£43.72	£8.74	£52.46	20/10/2023
					Sub total paid	£143.52	£28.70	£172.42	
103	Croner	HR	DD	C000739116	HR Fees	£124.71	£22.18	£146.89	
104	Hyperbole	Hyperbole	BACS	1538	Website Hosting	£156.50	£31.30	£187.80	
105	JT Nightingale	JT Nightingale	BACS	INV-2674	Hedge Trimming	£250.00	£50.00	£300.00	
106	WALC	WALC	BACS	557	Clerks Training	£120	£24.00	£144.00	
107	Opus Energy	Opus Energy	DD	74599990	Energy Costs	£276.38	£13.82	£290.20	24/10/2023
108	Staff/HMRC	Staff/HMRC	BACS		Staffing Costs	£2,728.35		£2,728.25	23/10/2023
109	NWBC	NWBC	BACS	6069139	Annual play area inspection	£99.90	£19.98	£119.98	09/10/2023
110	Rachel Scully	British Legion	BACS		Purchase Poppy Wreath	£19.98	£4.00	£23.98	
					Sub total to pay	£3,651.11	£143.10	£3,794.21	
					total paid October payment schedule	£3,794.63	£171.80	£3,966.63	

b) It was RESOLVED to approve the 2023-24 Accounts to 20 October 2023 (**APPENDIX 4a**), and defer the decision relating to the bank reconciliation.

23/092. Policies:

- a) It was RESOLVED to defer the adoption of Outdoor Hire Agreement and Associated Procedures (via maintenance sub-committee).
- b) It was RESOLVED not to consider fees for October Hire for 2023-2024 (via Finance sub-committee) until the budget is discussed.
- c) It was RESOLVED that the Neighbourhood Plan would be reviewed, and all Councillors should read the plan in readiness.

23/093. Clerk Report: The Clerk report was noted.

It was RESOLVED that the costs were agreed and the Clerk would sign the Client care letter, and terms of business to proceed with the registration of title of the Recreation Ground and the Green.

It was RESOLVED that a survey would be carried out in relation to the location of the defibrillators, to establish whether they are registered with the Circuit, and who has responsibility for the costs, maintenance and checks.

23/094. Election of Councillor to attend WALC Annual Conference and General Meeting:

It was RESOLVED that Cllr Stuart would attend the Annual General Meeting and vote.

23/095. Correspondence:

a) The representations relating to the expenditure/costs of installation/storage of Christmas lights were accepted. Clerk to make enquiries with Coleshill, of possibility of sharing future storage of the lights to reduce costs.

b) It was RESOLVED not to support the Climate and Ecology Bill by Zero Hour, proposal failed.

23/096. Warwickshire County Councillors Grant Fund 2023/24 Round 2:

The criteria for the fund was discussed. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Stuart would prepare the application and proposal, and then circulate it to all the Councillors for review before the final submission.

23/097. Remembrance Day:

It was RESOLVED THAT Cllr Rees would lay the wreath.

23.098. Traffic Road/Safety:

It was RESOLVED that Cllr Freeman would write a formal letter to County Councillor Watson about the concerns, copying in Birmingham City Council (BCC) and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) to try and engage them in this issue but it was noted that any engagement from BCC and SMBC would be a challenge.

23/099. Allotments:

The cost of the provision of a water supply and green bin would have to be met solely from the Parish Council's funds, Cllr Brown confirmed there are no grants available. The Chair invited public participation. It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council do not have sufficient funds in the budget, and the costs cannot be justified in proportion to the precept at this time, the proposal failed.

It was RESOLVED to defer the green bin. It was RESOLVED the review of the rental agreement to be taken into account within the budget.

23/100. Notification of Mailings:

It was RESOLVED to publicise mailings and other information received from the police, highways and other organisations by way of links on the Parish Council's website.

23/101. Planning:

a) The planning applications listed below were considered;

Reference	Address	Details	WOPC Comments
PAP/2020/0295 Appeal Ref:APP/R3705 W/23/3327296 Appellant: Caesarea Development Holdings Limited	Land West of Hams Hall Roundabout and south of, Marsh Lane, Curdworth. (Grid ref: Easting 418695.79, Northing 292373.42)	Outline application for an overnight truck stop comprising 200 HGV spaces and associated facilities including fuel refuelling station, amenities building, electric vehicle charging points, staff and other car parking, and landscaping. Including details of vehicular access from Marsh Lane, all other matters reserved.	An appeal has been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate in respect of the Council's decision to refuse permission for the development. A Planning Inspector, S Housden has been appointed by the Secretary of State to conduct the hearing and determine the appeal. The Hearing will take place on 17 January 2024 at 10am, at The Council House, South Street, Atherstone. (The hearing has been scheduled for 1 day). You can attend the hearing, and at the Inspectors discretion contribute to the discussion. The Council may approach you in advance to give evidence at the hearing, and if this is the case the Case Officer will explain the process. Any comments made on the original application (unless they are expressly confidential) will be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate and copied to the Appellant. Any further comments must be made in writing no later than 8 November 2023.
PAP/2023/0422 Applicant: WHS Plastics	W H Smith and Sons (tools) Ltd, Water Orton Lane, Water Orton, B76 9BG. (Grid Ref: Easting 417038.73, Northing 291365.12)	Demolition of existing buildings and structures on site to facilitate the erection of a new industrial unit (use class B2) associated with battery technology for the production or electrically powered vehicles; canopy; ancillary storage and office use; re-profiling of site levels; part realignment of the existing earth bund; erection of 2 Silos; water sprinkler tanks, pump house; provision of photovoltaic roof panels; service yard including security barrier, associated parking including cycle shelters and landscaping.	Expires before the end of the working day on 28/10/23
PAP/2023/0421 Applicant: WHS Plastics	W H Smith and Sons (tools) Ltd, Water Orton Lane, Water Orton, B76 9BG. (Grid Ref: Easting 417038.73, Northing 291365.12)	Engineering operations to facilitate the construction of new industrial unit comprising, ground reprofiling; part realignment of existing earth bund, installation of storm and foul water drainage provision, demolition of existing building and structures.	Expires before the end of the working day on 03/11/23
PAP/2023/0423	Justakot, 6 Addison Place, Water Orton, B46 1SU (Grid Ref: Easting 417520.68, Northing 291077.82)	Erection of two storey side extension, formation of new window to front elevation.	Expires before the end of the working day on 28/10/23
PAP/2023/0446	54, Minworth Road, Water Orton, B46 1NH, (Grid Ref: Easting 417456.74, Northing 291413.3)	Work to trees in Conservation Area- 6 trees in rear garden of property within conservation area. Conifer trees x4; to reduce height by 15% to 20% and remove overhanging branches. Beech tree x1; reducing height and removal of overhanging branches.	Expires before the end of the working day on 01/11/23

For application **PAP/2020/0295 Appeal:**

Borough Councillor Reilly had information and would forward onto the Clerk.

For application **PAP/2023/0421:**

It was RESOLVED comments would be made based on concerns, for increase in volume of traffic and inadequate facilities for means of access to the site. Facilities for staffing, sustainable transport to be considered, and implementation of cycling lanes. Modern sustainable new bus shelter, with a living roof. Estimated costs for design and maintenance £30, 000.00.

For application **PAP/2023/0422**:

It was RESOLVED comments would be made that general construction work is restricted to the hours of Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm.

For application **PAP/2023/0423** and **PAP/2023/0446**, there were no comments.

b) The decisions on previous planning applications made by NWBC listed below were noted;

Reference	Address	Details	WOPC Comments	NWBC Decision
PAP/2022/0487	Proposed Telecommunications Mast South East of Lakeside Industrial Park, Marsh Lane, Water Orton, Warwickshire	Proposed installation of a 25M Lattice Mast supporting 12 No Antennas and 4 No Dishes on an open headframe together with 2 No ground based cabinets and ancillary development.		Refused
PAP/2023/0532	W H Smith and Sons (Tools) Ltd, Water Orton Lane, B76 9BG	Prior Approval for Demolition of Building,		The submission of details are not required and the development can proceed.
PAP/2023/0317	1 Hargrave Close, Water Orton, B46 1QR	Works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order. Crown reduce T1 (Horse Chestnut Tree) by up to 2.5M all over. The intended height will be approximately 12M and 6M spread after.		Tree Preservation Order Consent granted.
PAP/2023/0369	30 Overton Drive, Water Orton, B46 1QL	Erection of Orangery	None	Granted

HS2 – **PRE/2023/0131**: Pre-application enquiry: North Warwickshire Borough Council Consultation, on indicative mitigation (noise, ecology, landscape) proposals – comments by 16/11/2023. No action taken.

23/101. Items for the next meeting/s: Traffic

23/102. Date, Time and Place of the next Parish Council Meeting:

It was RESOLVED that the next Parish Council Meeting is to be held on Thursday 30 November 2023 at 7pm at The Playing Field Pavilion, Openfield Croft. The Parish Councillor Surgery will be held beforehand from 6:30pm-7pm.

23/103. Closed Session:

The meeting did not move into a closed session.

23/104. Agenda Items moved during the meeting under Standing Order 10 a) vi.

Item: 6iv) It was RESOLVED for the finance sub-committee to arrange to meet on a date to be agreed in December to set the budget.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm

..... Signed

..... Date