

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WATER ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

held at the Pavilion, Openfield Croft, at 7.00pm on Thursday 27 March 2025

Present: Cllr. S Stuart (Chair), Cllr. K Brown, Cllr. C Chown, Cllr. Coldrick, Cllr. N Freeman, Cllr. W Rees
Cllr.J Newman (*joined the meeting after co-option approved, agenda item 25.243*)

Guests in Attendance: 5

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

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.15pm

25.242	Apologies:	
	Received from MG at Balfour Beatty Vinci.	
25.243	Co-option Candidates:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Presentation was received from co-option candidate Joy Newman. b) The co-option of the candidate to the Office of Councillor for Water Orton Parish Council was approved. c) The Co-opted Councillor signed the Declaration of Office before the Clerk. 	
25.244	Public participation:	
	<p>Members of the Public & Press, Report from Police representative These items were deferred down the agenda.</p> <p>b) Reports from County and District Councillors (for information only): The following items were reported on: There were improvements within Highways for reporting on delivery of works, with regular reports of the dates when works were due to be carried out. Mentioned the resident's issues regarding the trees and overgrown vegetation, greenery and speeding. Warwickshire County Council conducted a speed survey to collate speeding data. There were discussions regarding Vesey Bridge, when the repairs were carried out the bridge was not put back as it was before the repairs were undertaken. The bridge is narrower and not at the angle it was. Traffic and parking issues around the village were discussed. There was no feedback available yet relating to the monitors for air pollution and the smell around Water Orton village. Discussed the Orchard Nurseries retrospective planning application for two poly tunnels on the land with soakaway. There were comments that it was not extended long enough. Complies with the planning application but has not fixed the problem. It was mentioned that the elections are going ahead and devolution/reorganisation was discussed. There were discussions about the HS2 Complaints Commission role going. The roads are in a terrible condition. MW mentioned that there is Road Safety Funding. MW advised to send information regarding the issues with the roads</p>	

	<p>Thanks was given to MW for attending the Parish Council meetings and his support over the years.</p> <p>a) Members of the Public & Press There was no public participation.</p> <p>b) Report from Police representative (for information only) if present: The police representative was not in attendance and a written report was not provided.</p>	
25.245	Declarations of Interest and dispensations:	
	<p>Declarations of Interests received from; Cllr Stuart – Agenda Item: 25.250b) Cllr Freeman – Agenda Item: 25.250b) Cllr Chown – Agenda Item: 25.251</p>	
25.246	Minutes:	
	It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 27 February 2025.	
25.247	Reports from Chairman, Parish Councillors:	
	<p>a) The Chair's Report was received and noted.</p> <p>b) The Borough Councillor's Report was received and noted.</p>	
	Clerk's Report:	
	The Clerk reported that Rachel Taylor (MP) would be attending the full Parish Council meeting on Thursday 31 July 2025. Rachel Taylor is keen to visit Parish Councils and get to know members and discuss issues.	
25.248	Community Engagement Meeting:	
	<p>The minutes were received from the Community Engagement meetings, dated 21 January 2025, 18 February 2025 and 19 March 2025.</p> <p>A verbal update was received regarding the progress of the Village Gathering. Community Engagement are trying to progress youth engagement in the village and working on an event to involve the youth. Discussed the Frailty Coffee event hosted at the Pavilion.</p>	
25.249	Integrated Care Services:	
	An update was received on the Health Survey work being undertaken in partnership with Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) and Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care System. The leaflets were produced by WALC with a questionnaire to include explanatory links to obtain information. There was an issue with funding of the leaflets costing £200. There was a misunderstanding of who was responsible for the printing costs of the leaflets being the responsibility of the Parish Council. There are discussions currently taking place with WALC regarding these costs. The location of the collection boxes for the survey are explained in the leaflet.	
25.250	Acceptance of Grants:	
	a) It was RESOLVED to accept any grants and offers of support in relation to the purchase and installation of some pull up bars on the playing field.	

	<p>It was RESOLVED to ratify the acceptance of funds from the 2024-25 Warwickshire County Council, Councillor Grant Fund awarded to Water Orton Parish Council in the sum of £1250.00.</p> <p>Cllr Rees took the Chair for this agenda item. Cllr Stuart and Cllr Freeman did not vote on this agenda item.</p> <p>b) It was RESOLVED to accept the funding from the Kind Communities Kind Food initiative and make appropriate steps to facilitate development of the Plank Lane site for delivery of the project and provide voluntary opportunities.</p>	
25.251	Bowls Club Funding-Memorial Garden	
	<p>It was RESOLVED to approve the proposal to fund £225.00 to the Bowls Club as a contribution towards the planned Memorial Garden.</p> <p>The Bowls Club members expressed their thanks to the Parish Council for its support.</p>	
25.252	Maintenance:	
	Cllr Chown reported that all the repairs had been carried out by the contractors Greyhound to a good standard in the play area and there was nothing further to report.	
25.253	Pavilion-Heating System:	
	This item was deferred down the agenda.	
25.254	Finance:	
	This item was deferred down the agenda.	
25.255	Link Councillors:	
	It was RESOLVED to accept the guidance relating to the requirements of external organisations to request and receive a link councillor.	
25.256	Policies:	
	<p>a) It was RESOLVED to approve the Management Risk Assessment Strategy Policy to be reviewed in 3 months at the full Parish Council meeting to be held on the date of 31 July 2025. The Clerk to look into the inclusion of a clause relating to the safeguarding of the Parish Council's reputation.</p>	RS
	<p>b) It was RESOLVED to approve the Health and Safety Policy to be reviewed in 3 months at the full Parish Council meeting to be held on the date of 31 July 2025 and to refer to WALC and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) to check that the Health and Safety Policy is in line with their template policy.</p>	RS
	<p>It was RESOLVED to approve the Safeguarding Policy to be reviewed in 3 months' time at the full Parish Council meeting to be held on the date of 31 July 2025.</p>	RS
	<p>To refer to WALC for further advice and information on training, template policies and for checks to be made for insurance purposes.</p>	RS

	<p>It was RESOLVED to approve the following proposed amendment to the Safeguarding Policy.</p> <p>Add:</p> <p>Methodology</p> <p>Safeguarding will be carried out by:</p> <p>Operation of this policy Operation of the councillors' code of conduct The naming of a specific councillor with responsibility for safeguarding. Appointed at the annual parish meeting suitable training will be provided.</p> <p>c) To consider the playing fields risk assessment actions January 2025. This item was deferred down the agenda.</p>	
	The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8.34pm.	
	The Chair re-adjourned the meeting at 8.40pm.	
	Pavilion-Heating System	
	<p>Agenda Item moved during the meeting.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to grant the Clerk delegated authority in the sum of £1,600 plus VAT for only the necessary repairs of the Pavilion heating system. The Clerk will update the Parish Council if any additional repairs are necessary.</p>	RS
25.254	Finance:	
	<p>Agenda item moved during the meeting.</p> <p>254a) It was RESOLVED to approve the payment of the invoice for Greyhound Leisure Limited in the sum of £684.00 for repairs to the play area.</p> <p>254b) It was RESOLVED to approve the payment of the invoice for JT Nightingale in the sum of £180.00 for hedge cutting services.</p> <p>254c) It was RESOLVED to approve the payment schedule up to 19 March 2025 and items paid under delegated authority since previous schedule.</p> <p>254d) It was RESOLVED to approve the 2024-25 receipts and payments, and bank reconciliation to 19 March 2025.</p>	
25.256	Policies:	
	<p>Agenda item moved during the meeting.</p> <p>c) It was RESOLVED to approve the playing fields risk assessment actions January 2025, and for the assessment to be a standing item on the agenda to monitor actions. Three quotes to be obtained from contractors regarding item No:7 of the risk assessment.</p>	
25.257	Planning:	
257a)	<p>To consider new applications:</p> <p>Reference:</p>	

	HS2/2024/0496 No comments.	
257b)	To report decisions on previous planning applications made by North Warwickshire Borough Council (for information only) Reference: PAP/2025/0009 Noted.	
25.258	Items for Next Meeting:	
	Clerk to forward Agenda Item Reporting Sheet to Councillors.	
25.259	Date, Time and Place of the next Parish Council Meeting:	
	The next Parish Council meeting, the Annual meeting is to be held on Thursday 29 May 2025 at 7.00pm at the Playing Field Pavilion, Openfield Croft, Water Orton.	
25.260	Closed Session:	
	The meeting did not move into a closed session.	

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

Signed:.....

Dated:

DRAFT