

WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 8th April 2024 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

IN ATTENDANCE

2 Members of the public.

PRESENT WERE

Cllr J Cole
Cllr R Dykstra
Cllr D England
Cllr D Fabb
Cllr L Gifford
Cllr J Land

Cllr J Parker (Vice Chair)
Cllr P Potts
Cllr C Sproats
Cllr G Willis
Cllr S Withams (Chair)
Cllr A Wyatt

Mrs J Drummond:- Parish Clerk
Mrs E Coverdale:- Asst. Clerk

Meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m

72/24 WELCOME

Chair Withams opened the meeting.

73/24 APOLOGIES

Apologies were unanimously accepted from;

Cllr S Wilcox – Family Commitments

HDC Cllr C Lowe – Training Commitments

Cllr A Ntuk – arrived during discussions on agenda item 79/24 (7.19p.m)

Apologies were not received, and not accepted from;

Cllr M Collins

74/24 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Wyatt declared a pecuniary interest in item 81/24 due to being a member of the Women's Institute (WI).

75/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11th MARCH 2024

It was proposed by Cllr Potts, seconded by Cllr Parker and **RESOLVED** by all Members present, the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2024 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

76/24 CLERKS' REPORT

Report from Clerk attached as Addendum.

77/24 OPEN FORUM

It was proposed by the Chair and unanimously **RESOLVED** to close the meeting for a period of time to hold a public forum.

The meeting was closed at 7.11p.m and reconvened at 7.14p.m

An attending member of the public (MOP) raised concerns with Council surrounding the Council owned Allotment plot and the burning of rubbish on there. She had spoken to a local contractor who had offered to chip the wood (excluding brambles) for use on the allotment plots, as a more environmentally effective method than burning of the waste. She had been quoted £25 for the work, Council Members were in agreement to discuss at the next meeting, should the MOP get full details.

Following the discussions, it was **RESOLVED** to continue the meeting.

The public left the meeting after discussions of the above item (7.15pm)

78/24 REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

No report as none in attendance.

79/24 COMMUNITY GREEN BINS

The asst. Clerk provided members with a brief report following the recent update received from Huntingdon District Council regarding Community Green Bins as part of their subscription scheme.

However, following discussions it was deemed not to be feasible at this time for the Council to take on the responsibility of the green bins, in part due to lack of suitable parish council owned land.

It was therefore proposed by Cllr England, seconded by Cllr Land and unanimously **RESOLVED** to review the application for community green bins once the new parish centre is built. With a view to investigate the Saturday Freighter Collection coming to a location in the village.

Cllr Ntuk arrived during discussions of the above item (7.19pm)

80/24 ONYETTS FIELD CROSSING SAFETY MEASURES

Cllr England raised concerns over the recently installed safety measures at the crossing for Onyett's field over the A141. The issues highlighted were;

- The pathway from Wilthorne should have had steps constructed, as stated in the application, instead of a slope, which poses a hazard to users.
- The sign from the roundabout towards Chatteris is inaccurate as the distance is approximately 170yds not the displayed 270yds, making it misleading and dangerous.
- The footwell of the turnstile along the Wilthorne pathway has not been filled, meaning it is hazardous for users.
- The hedgerow required more trimming to prevent obstructing visibility due to this year's regrowth.

It was agreed for the Clerk to follow up with Highways and withhold payment until the issues are rectified.

81/24 REPLACEMENT PARISH CENTRE

Cllr Land as a representative of the New Parish Centre Committee provided members with an update on the project;

- a) Piling work had begun and was due to be completed 9th April.
- b) Finances

Following the inaugural meeting of the NPCC it was agreed for the Clerk, Cllr Fabb and Cllr Land to meet once a month to go over the finances for the project alongside operational expenses to ensure a close eye was maintained on all Council outgoings. They were also waiting for the £200k CIL money contract to come through for clarification on when those funds could be claimed.

- c) WI Grant

Arising from minutes 66/24 (b) the Clerk informed the members that regrettably the WI at this time had not approved for the £50k donation to be released for the project and to reapply again in 3 months. In light of this the Clerk advised she would invite the WI Committee to come and view the construction site along with the finances to demonstrate how much had already been committed to the build to reassure them.

Cllr Wyatt left during discussions of the above item (c) 7.42pm and returned at 7.50pm

82/24 EVENTS

Cllr Wyatt gave a brief update on the Women's Institute D-Day Celebrations event at the St. Mary Magdalene Church, Warboys to be held on 8th June. Advising that ticket sales were going well.

The Asst. Clerk updated members on the progress of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day Beacon Lighting Event, including providing a draft Order of Events.

She also requested volunteers to help prepare for the event and Cllrs Land, Fabb and Willis all offered their time and support.

Other events noted were;

- May Day Fete, 6th May: Both Clerks to man a stall with traditional games to raise funds for equipment in the new parish centre.
- Ramsey Model Aero Club Flying Day, 9th June: Cllr Land informed members of an upcoming event on Warboys Airfield, encouraging people to come and try flying model aircraft.

83/24 TREE SURVEY

Arising from minutes 61/24 Cllr Fabb had received quotes in the region of £1,300.00 to complete tree surveying on all Council owned land. However, he made Councillors aware that the costs of maintaining and carrying out the recommended work following the survey would likely cost significantly more. A number of options were discussed;

- 1) Training course for Handymen to conduct survey and recommendation works – Asst Clerk to investigate.
- 2) Woodland/Wildlife Trusts – For Cllr Fabb and Cllr Willis to liaise and investigate the possibility of a member of one of the trusts coming out and assessing for the Council.
- 3) Go ahead with tree survey through the companies Cllr Fabb has already contacted.

The above options to be further explored and brought back to Council.

84/24 LIBRARY SUMER READING CHALLENGE GRANT

Proposed by Cllr Cole, seconded by Cllr Wyatt it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the annual grant of £125.00 to Warboys Library for their Summer Reading Challenge.

85/24 COUNCIL CONFIDENTIALITY

The Chair politely reminded Members of the importance of keeping Council matters confidential as per standing order; 11 (d) Councillors, staff, the Council's contractors and agents shall not disclose confidential information or personal data without legal justification.

86/24 ACCOUNTS

The End of Year accounts were checked by Vice Chair J Parker, verified by Chair S Withams and a majority vote taken via email approved the list of payments on 28th March. At the meeting Members unanimously agreed this approval. (appendix 1)

The Monthly accounts were checked by Chair S Withams and verified by Vice Chair J Parker it was:- **RESOLVED** to approve the remaining payments for April aside from the Cllr Potts payment. (appendix 2)

Cllr Potts requested the payment to him for Feast Week arrangements to be removed and re-allocated to July Accounts, the Clerks agreed to do so.

87/24 BUDGETARY CONTROL

The Clerk to provide once End of Year accounts once completed.

88/24 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

It was therefore unanimously:- **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting under the section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

The meeting was closed at 8.19pm

The next meeting of Warboys Parish Council will be held on 13th May 2024.

Chairman.

Date.

APPENDIX 1