

# WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 3 JUNE 2013, 7.30PM

FIVE LANES SCHOOL, HIGH STREET, WORTON

## MINUTES

**Present:** Councillors: R Wilshire (Chairman); Mrs S Bonfield; Mr W Francis; Mr D Johnson; Mrs C Simpson.

**Apologies:** Councillor: Mr A Midgley.

**Also present:** Messrs. R & J Goss; Mr S Renwick (Good Energy); Mr K Green (Rose & Crown); Mr M. Rose; PCSO L Sainsbury; Mr P Baxter(Clerk).

ACTION

### 13/14/043 Declarations of interest

Cllr Wilshire declared an interest in item 13/14/058 as he is a close acquaintance of the applicant.

### 13/14/044 Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

### 13/14/045 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman reported on the damage caused to the turf embankment in Sandlease by refuse lorries. The Clerk reported the response received this day from the Highways

Dept., which will repair.

### 13/14/046 Public participation

Mr Goss explained the environmental protection requirement to construct a cover for dung storage at his farm. Mr Renwick took questions following the public consultation meeting for the Marston Solar Farm. Mr Green enquired whether the Council would support the installation of informal signs on private land, advertising the presence of the pub. The Clerk undertook to enquire of Planning Officers what formalities may be required for more permanent installations on the highway verge. Mr Green also outlined plans for a Fete to be held at the pub on 21 July, and requested grant support (decision deferred to later item, Minute 13/14/060 refers).

Mr Rose enquired whether the new website could accommodate a community 'blog' or chat room facility. The Clerk undertook to research the matter.

### 13/14/047 Wiltshire Police report

PCSO Sainsbury reported 4 crimes in the last quarter including one drugs warrant executed, with charges pending. There were 2 non-dwelling burglaries and advice was given on security of outbuildings. Concern was expressed by the Council for the apparent lack of resources to process Community Speedwatch data; for the lack of regular quarterly attendance at Council meetings by an officer; and a request was made for enforcement against parking obstruction to pavements. PCSO Sainsbury undertook to pass on the concerns to the Beat Manager.

### 13/14/048 Wiltshire Councillor's report

In the absence of Cllr Gamble, there was none.

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### 13/14/049 Vacancies for councillors

The Clerk explained the local process for advertising vacancies after the elections. It was **agreed** that the three vacancies should be filled and that adverts should be distributed. The Clerk undertook to prepare suitable adverts.

### 13/14/050 Code of conduct (item deferred from last meeting)

It was **agreed** that this item would be deferred in the absence of Mr Midgley.

### 13/14/051 Grants policy

The Clerk introduced a draft policy for the making of grants. The Policy was **agreed** subject to alteration of Page 2 paragraph 7 to refer to financial management.

### 13/14/052 Capital programme

The Clerk explained the principle of a capital programme and revenue support. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should invite a representative of the Village Hall to the next meeting to explore how the Council may assist this community asset into the future.

### 13/14/053 Lead Member reports

*Rights of Way and Conservation*- Mr Johnson reported a number of concerns received over the locking of field gates, but none were across rights of way. The Clerk proposed a household leaflet be distributed setting out how Rights of Way are managed. A draft was distributed, which was **agreed** subject to a coloured text alteration. The Clerk was asked to arrange printing of 500 copies for distribution.

*Roads and Transport* – Mrs Bonfield expanded on previous comments related to Community Speedwatch, setting out the Worton group’s complaint to the Police.

*Recreation*- Mr Francis undertook to make and record monthly inspections of play equipment condition, the Clerk confirming that an annual inspection is already made.

### 13/14/054 Public notice boards

The Chairman reported on the condition of the existing boards with discussion on whether all or some should be replaced. It was **agreed** that the central board should be replaced with an enclosed model for formal Notices, and that further research be undertaken into open boards for both ends of the village, for community notices. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes.

### 13/14/055 Bus shelter roof

It was **agreed** that the roof requires refurbishment. The Clerk was asked to engage a local contractor. Concern was expressed for the fragility of the roof structure, and the Clerk was also asked to prepare standard warning signs advising of the risk of climbing on the roof.

### 13/14/056 Sandlease play area fencing

The Chairman reported that the quotations were being sought.

### 13/14/057 Dog control and waste bin at Village Hall

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The Chairman reported that he received agreement from the Village Hall committee that they would manage a waste bin, provided by this Council. The Chairman suggested that a grant could be made each year to contribute to this and other running costs of the Hall which was **agreed** in principle. The matter would be included in the invitation to be extended to the Hall (minute 13/14/052 refers).

**13/14/058 Planning matters**

The Marston Solar Farm proposal was considered to have been dealt with previously, pending receipt of a formal application.

The following applications were considered by the Council, Mr Wilshire having previously declared his interest in 13/00093/FUL took no part in discussion or decision:

13/00512/FUL 26 High Street, Worton – part replacement of leylandii with ivy hedge;

13/00096/LBC Mill House, Mill Rd, Worton – internal tanking to control water ingress;

13/00093/FUL Nr. Cloverleaze, South Cross Lane, barn extension to cover dung storage. No objections were made.

**13/14/059 Disbursements**

There were none. The Clerk set out a revised bank signature mandate form which was signed by relevant parties.

**13/14/060 Correspondence and circulars received**

The Clerk returned to the application made by Mr Green for grant support for the Fete on 21 July. The requested sum of £225 was **agreed**, a cheque to be raised at the next meeting.

**13/14/061 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting was set for 1 July at 7.30pm. in the Five Lanes School.

**13/14/062 Items of maintenance**

Mrs Simpson noted the appearance of Japanese Knotweed at locations in Devizes and undertook to raise awareness. Mr Francis reported that the some fencing at Heath Hollow had been removed during the site clearance work. It was **agreed** that the farmer would be approached for materials to replace the fence.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed ..... Chairman, 1 July 2013