

WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7 November 2016, 7.30PM

THE VILLAGE HALL, HIGH STREET, WORTON

Present: Councillors: R Wilshire (Chairman); Mr M Fisher; Mrs S Bonfield; Mr R Goss; Mr D Johnson; Cllr Devine

Apologies: Mr W Francis; Cllr Midgely

Also present: 1 member of the public, Mr Paul Sperring, Cllr P Salaman [Marston PC]; Cllr R Gamble; Mrs E Read (Clerk).

MINUTES

1 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Francis and Midgely and these were accepted by the Council.

2 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Johnson declared a pecuniary interest in Item 12 regarding the nursery and a non pecuniary interest in item 7 regarding Neighbourhood Planning, as did Cllr Bonfield and Cllr Fisher.

3 **The minutes of the last meeting of the Council**

Proposed by Cllr Johnson, and seconded by Cllr Goss

4 **Chairman's announcements**

Sovereign have cleared the rubbish and cut hedges on Whatleys, so now there is only one hedge not cut, between Whatleys and United Charities.

5 **Wiltshire Councillor's Report**

Cllr Gamble is doing his best to support the Nursery application, though there has been one serious objection.

Cllr Gamble requested that the Council is represented on the next Area Board meeting on the 21st of November at the Potterne Scout Hut.

With regard to air activity, Exercise Wessex Storm will be operating through to midnight on the 15th of November until the 18th of November.

The responses regarding Council Tax capping and referendums closes in December – the Council is encouraged to respond.

6 **Public Participation on matters set out below – for up to fifteen minutes, three minutes per person** **Note – this item is only for questions or representations addressed to the Council on any matter set out below and is the only opportunity for such at this meeting. New business cannot be raised but should be requested for a future agenda to a Council or Clerk to the Council outside this meeting** none

7 **Neighbourhood Planning - update from the group**

The group has made some progress, having set a date of the 7 December for a village meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30 for which the Council is requested to pay for room hire. This was agreed by the Council.

The group have prepared a circular describing the current situation and next steps and a proposed community vision statement. They have invited both potential developers to the Village Meeting – from the Goss site and the allotment site being the two sites that they know about. They hope to get some community response, and identify through a Housing Needs Survey how many houses the community needs. It may be that those two sites could meet the number required.

Cllr Bonfield expressed her wish to step down from the Neighbourhood Planning group at the end of the year. Pressure for the plan has largely eased, as the land supply in the East is more than adequate. Cllr Gamble advised that the group continues to press on with Neighbourhood Plan, as pressure may build again in the future.

8 **Broadband**

Paul Sperring spoke of the very slow internet speeds which 39 houses in Worton are experiencing, and the lack of progress in resolving the issue. Having had very positive responses from Clare Perry and BT, now that the new cabinet in Potterne has been installed, speeds are worse than ever. Philip Salaman recommended that the Council contact the Community Engagement Officer with BT, with a view to discussing installing a new line, then negotiate to a sensible sum for the work.

Cllr Gamble said that Cllr John Thompson is the WC cabinet member for this, and for Paul to email him.

Cllr Johnson and Cllr Devine with Paul Sperring to speak to Philip Salaman regarding Openreach and write to them, also mentioning the hardship which is resulting from such poor service.

9 **Village Tidy up - list of jobs and next steps**

Collection of rubbish from outside the pub. Clerk to deliver hi vis to Cllr Wilshires house Friday 11th.
Parish Steward connection with Cllr Johnson – Clerk to check the system is working

10 **Flower boxes at village gates – consider costs and options**

Ongoing – plan to produce them for the spring

11 **Sandleaze – protection of trees on the slope**

Until the bank is cleared, we cannot see what is there. When the cattle are grazing – put an electric fence along to protect the trees.

Gosses to take down fence and top the grass – then can see where the trees are.

12 **Whatleys application – to consider legal assistance with heads of terms and contract for development Decision is expected by the 21st of December.**

The Council considers that the nursery application fulfils a Community and recreational purpose – agreed. Appoint councillors to discuss the lease conditions – delegated to Cllr Bonfield, Cllr Devine and Cllr Wilshire – then to come in front of the PC for the December meeting with the lease, to be considered by the Council. Then to the solicitors of both sides to be ready for January meeting.

If the planning permission is granted – clerk put together a notice for the Gazette and Herald giving notice for land – two consecutive weeks include that it will be closed at some point in the near future, and to The Bridge. The clerk stated that she advises to get legal guidance on this process.

Letter to applicants drafted by Roger and Mark Fisher – our next steps as agreed above and timescale, what they can and cannot proceed with in this time. They can measure up, price up but not break ground until the lease is ready.

13 **Finance – to consider 2017/18 draft budget**

Respond to consultation regarding referendum
The Council were happy with the budget and forecast.

14 **Speed Indicator Device Scheme – consideration of joining with other parishes**

Happy to pursue, but more information required

15 **Planning matters – to receive those decisions notified and to consider the following applications:**

other applications received after agenda publication;

[16/10129/FUL](#) and [16/10130/LBC](#) – Replacement gates at Prince Hill House and listing building consent – no objection

[16/08526/FUL](#) – Change of use to equestrian and erection of stable block with tackroom and barn at Mill Leaze – no objection

16 **Disbursements**

Clerks salary and allowance

Silicon gap filler for playground £95.90

Grant Thornton – audit – the clerk explained that she had made a error with the payment for Grant Thornton and was awaiting an invoice.

M Goddard – grasscutting - £330 +£66 VAT

Future Agenda Item Planning

M Goddard – price for the south side of Sandleaze by slope £65

Hedge by Prince Hill discussion

Lease proposal, NP, SIDS?

Broadband January

Precept

Traffic plan – traffic calming review – paragraph on the bottom that villagers felt it was appropriate

Flooding – Chris Stratton

17 **Date of next meeting (proposed for Monday 5 December 2016)**

18 **Items of maintenance (for information or the next agenda).**

19 **Key messages.**

Whatleys for future Bridge once planning permission decided

Broadband efforts