

Minutes of Nether Wallop Parish Council Meeting held at 7.15 pm.

on Monday 8 March 2021 via Zoom online meeting.

- 5469 Present online:** Cllrs Cotterell, Carpenter, Souter, Whitaker, Cllrs Sangster and Roberts
- 5470 In Attendance:** Mrs G Foster, Parish Clerk, and 1 member of the public, HCC Cllr A Gibson and TVBC Cllr Jeffrey were present for part of the meeting.
- 5471** Cllr Cotterell welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 5472 Apologies for absence:** None.
- 5473 Declarations of Interests for items on the agenda, changes in Register of Interests, Requests for dispensations:** None reported.
- 5474 To receive reports from HCC Cllr A Gibson and Cllr I Jeffrey:** Cllr Gibson advised that the Council Tax is increasing by 5%.
- 5475** The CEO of HCC would be leaving, and a new candidate will be selected over the summer. A lot of councillors are not re-standing for election, Cllr Gibson included, so after the May elections there will be new faces within HCC.
- 5476** The HCC Highways team had been asked to re-look at the parking situation in Five Bells Lane.
- 5477** The work in Salisbury Lane is likely to start in late Q2.
- 5478** Cllr Souter thanked Cllr Gibson for his support in helping Nether Wallop Parish Council over the last 12 years.
- 5479** Cllr Ian Jeffrey joined the meeting at 19:27.
- 5480** Cllr Jeffrey had sent Mid-Test Matters issue 21 on 3rd March and it had been distributed and published on the website. Covid rates were continuing to fall in Test Valley. A scheme to recognise “Unsung Heroes” had been launched. Nominations could be made on the TVBC website.
- 5481** TVBC Councillor grants would be restarted in April.
- 5482** The Nitrate Neutrality issue had been affecting over 90 planning applications which meant the building of approx. 500 homes in TVBC was being delayed. TVBC may be buying agricultural land in order to re-wild areas. Developers will be able to buy “mitigation” that council have bought in advance. For information developers should contact TVBC.
- 5483** A review of Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) is being undertaken as part of the update to the TVBC Local Plan. The review focus on whether land previously nominated is still current, whether it required update, and will include a new call for sites. No guarantee of acceptability for planning permissions will be given.
- 5484** A new care home, “Nightingale Lodge”, is being opened in Romsey.
- 5485 Points from the floor:** None.
- 5486** Cllr Gibson left the meeting at 19.33.
- 5487 To consider and if appropriate to approve the co-option of a new Councillor:** Councillors had read the application form received from Mr Paul Graves, and it was unanimously agreed that he met the council’s person specification. It was **RESOLVED:** Unanimously, to co-opt Councillor Graves to the council. Councillor Graves signed the Acceptance of Office form on camera and was welcomed to the council. The original form would be delivered to the Clerk as soon as possible. **Action: Cllr Graves.**
- 5488** Cllr Graves confirmed he had received the Agenda and back up papers in due time and had no interests to declare on items on the agenda. His register of interests form had been delivered to the Clerk prior to the meeting and would be forwarded to TVBC. **Action: Clerk.**
- 5489 To note the minutes from the NDP Steering Group previous meeting and to decide if any action should be taken:** Cllr Souter had circulated the draft minutes of the last meeting. The SG were moving towards a

provisional draft of the NDP. This may be available by the next Full Council meeting, but more likely in May. It was queried if the plan included references to Climate change. The consultant would be asked how this could be included. **Action: Cllr Souter.**

5490 Cllr Cotterell commended the SG on the amount of work that had already been done. Cllr Souter declared that he felt that the plan formulation was the most important subject the Council was tackling at the current time as it would protect the parish for the next 10 years. Support from other councillors was much appreciated, and all were urged to attend the SG meeting and get involved so that they were aware of the plan and issues prior to being presented with a draft. The next meeting would be on the 4th Monday of the month, 22nd March. The draft minutes were noted, and no further questions were asked.

5491 **To consider planning applications and agree comments to be sent to Borough Council.** The following applications were considered, and comments as below were **RESOLVED:**

5492 21/00373/FULLN Hawthorn Cottage, Heathman Street – **Withdrawn, no comment necessary.**

5493 21/00371/TREEN Wickhams, Church Road – **Already decided by TVBC, no comment necessary.**

5494 21/00418/FULLN Wickhams, Church Road – **No Objection - Unanimous**

5495 Cllr Cotterell declared that he knew the applicant of the next property very well and would abstain from the discussion: 21/00533/FULLN Foxgloves, Hollom Down Road – **No Comment - Unanimous**

5496 21/00595/TREEN The Paddocks, Trout Lane – **No Comment - Unanimous**

5497 21/00601/TPON The Paddocks, Trout Lane – **No Comment - Unanimous**

5498 21/00202/FULLN Pear Tree Cottage, High Street – **No Objection - Unanimous**

5499 The comments would be forwarded to the Borough Council. **Action: Clerk.**

5500 **To approve the Minutes of the previous meeting on 8th February 2021:** The minutes had been circulated and posted online. It was **RESOLVED:** Unanimously, that the draft be approved with a minor typographical amendment which would be made by the Clerk. The Chairman would sign the paper copies at his earliest opportunity. **Action: Clerk.**

5501 **To approve the bank reconciliation, Trial Balance, payments and receipts, and budget reports.** All reports had been filed in the council's dropbox and posted on the website prior to the meeting. No questions were asked. **RESOLVED:** Unanimously, that payments be approved as below.

Counterparty	Cost	Net	VAT	Total Amount
Anthony Whitaker	Booking Manager	210.00	0.00	210.00
BT	Phone & Broadband Feb+Mar	83.98	16.80	100.78
Gail Foster	Salary and Expenses Mar	898.94	0.00	898.94
GFC Garden Services	Gardening February	72.00	0.00	72.00
HMRC	Tax & NI Mar 2021	200.76	0.00	200.76
Rialtas Business Solutions	Move package to new laptop	25.00	5.00	30.00
SSE	Refund	-486.01	-24.30	-510.31
Totals		1,004.67	-2.50	1,002.17

Receipts that had been received were noted as below:

Counterparty	Description	Net	VAT	Total Amount
Unknown	Tennis payment	8.00	0.00	8.00
Totals		8.00	0.00	8.00

5502 The Bank Reconciliation would be signed as soon as possible. **Action: Cllr Cotterell and Clerk.**

5503 **To amend the date of the Annual Meeting to Tuesday 4th May 2021:** It was **RESOLVED:** Unanimously, that the Annual meeting would be held on Tuesday 4th May. **Action: Clerk.**

5504 **To review the communication policy and if appropriate to adopt:** An additional sentence: "A Councillor does not have any authority to make decisions about Parish Council business on his/her own" was proposed by Cllr Roberts and it was **RESOLVED:** Unanimously, that the policy would be adopted with this amendment, and published on the website. It would be reviewed in 5 years unless there was need to do so sooner. **Action: Clerk.**

5505 **To approve the costs of a notice board for the playing fields:** Some estimates had been obtained and circulated for councillors to review. It was **RESOLVED:** Unanimously, to purchase an aluminium noticeboard with a green

felt background capable of displaying 12 sheets of A4 at a cost of £241.00. Positioning of the noticeboard would be discussed after its arrival. **Action: Clerk.**

- 5506 To review the Survey Results as received from the Safe Travel Working Group (STWG) and to approve for publication:** Councillors noted that an incredible amount of work had been done by the STWG and especially the Clerk. It was **RESOLVED:** Unanimously, that the survey be published on the website and emailed to all those that had expressed an interest in viewing the results. **Action: Clerk.**
- 5507 To consider and if appropriate to approve the recommendations from the Safe Travel Working Group:** A report had been prepared and forwarded to Councillors, but some had not read the papers. The following recommendations were approved unanimously:
- 5508** A Speedwatch Group would be formed with volunteers from Nether and Over Wallop. Costs totalling £4000 to be split between the two Parishes equally, were approved. Investigation into costing and sourcing the Speedwatch equipment would start. The running of Speedwatch group to be delegated to the Safe Travel Working Group.
- 5509** The Nether Wallop Footpaths Team would investigate if Footpath widening was physically possible on all Nether Wallop footpaths and a report would be brought to the STWG for review.
- 5510** Instructions for reporting potholes or other issues would be publicised again to enable residents to report directly to HCC.
- 5511** A letter would be drafted by the STWG to householders that had been identified from the ST survey as having vegetation overhanging the highway.
- 5512** The STWG would commence discussions with HCC Highways team on behalf of both Nether and Over Wallop Parish Councils regarding the below items:
- Signs for diverting traffic around the villages.
 - Installation of more speed cameras which can issue speeding tickets.
 - Reduction of speed limits in certain areas; Salisbury Hill, Middle Wallop Crossroads, Village Centre areas.
 - Investigate the reclassification of Station Road / Wallop Road to below a C class road.
 - Investigate if Wallop Road (the main road) between Croft Farm / Catherston Stud and Palestine can be closed except for access.
 - Children walking to school signs.
 - New pelican crossing at the crossroads A343.
 - Road markings to promote traffic calming.
 - Consider aesthetically pleasing traffic calming measures.
 - Investigate what areas would benefit from cars not parking on verges and what measures can be taken.
- 5513 To note Councillors' written reports / update / approve any cost implications:**
- 5514 Safe Travel & Highways:** Nothing extra to report.
- 5515 Playing Fields, Playground and Tennis Court:** Cllr Sangster reported there had been a lot of enquiries regarding the football pitch. It was queried whether the carpark was suitable in size and condition for all current users of the playing fields. Councillors discussed some merits of including the carpark in the playground revamp project which could also be extended to include the pavilion and encompass a full refurb of the area. No decision was made; however, the Playground Working Group (PWG) would put a report together to bring to the next meeting. Cllr Graves would join the WG. **Action: PWG / Clerk.**
- 5516** Cllr Roberts suggested that Limesurvey be investigated as a platform for the playground survey that had been drafted. Information would be sent to the WG. **Action: Cllr Roberts.**
- 5517** A report would be brought to the next meeting with expected costs for the Playground survey as the free versions on Googleforms and SurveyMonkey were not sufficient. **Action: Clerk / Cllr Sangster.**
- 5518** Councillors agreed that the Tennis Courts should re-open on 29th March in line with the government roadmap for exiting lockdown. This would be advertised the week commencing 22nd March. **Action: Clerk / Cllr Whitaker.**
- 5519** The Playground would not be re-opened as the safety issues had not been rectified.
- 5520 Village Green:** Cllr Carpenter reported that the Ice Signs had not been removed and the Ford sign and depth gauge had not yet been installed. The Clerk had chased HCC, but more pressure was required. **Action: Cllr Carpenter.**
- 5521 Village Hall:** The hall remained closed to hirers, but gardening, and weekly inspections and periodic use by the Clerk continued. The defibrillator had not yet been installed; this would be progressed. **Action: Cllr Souter.**
- 5522** Councillor Whitaker apologised, and left the meeting at 21.00 hrs.

- 5523 Footpaths:** A landowner has advised that residents and dog walkers are still walking in unauthorised areas, and two people have been verbally abusive when politely asked to keep to the official path. If this continues, fencing may be erected to prevent unwanted access and/or the use of cameras may be considered. People walking in our lovely countryside are asked to follow the guidance published by Hampshire County Council. Their Newsletter and Video had been publicised prior to the meeting.
- 5524** The Hampshire County Council map of all the rights of way in the parish can be accessed on the council's website, and the Clerk had uploaded maps of each footpath at a scale of 1:5000.
- 5525** We have a group of 4 footpath wardens who will be following the strimming schedule approved last month.
- 5526** There have been two other volunteers who did not want to join the team but are nonetheless happy to keep areas clear near their residences. (FP-20 and FP-16)
- 5527** There had been no volunteers for the role of Footpath Champions. Volunteers who regularly walk footpaths (perhaps with their dogs) are just asked to advise the Clerk which Rights of Way need attention PRIOR to the issue becoming urgent. The champions are not required to cover all the footpaths. It is still very helpful if people only volunteer for one or two. Councillors walking any rights of way route were asked to report any issues to the Clerk. **Action: All.**
- 5528** The Lengthsman contract for the coming year has been awarded to the same contractor as this year, however, the new rate is £20.00 per hour. The yearly contract valued at £1,000 would be continued as HCC cover the cost. **Action: Clerk.**
- 5529** The overall balance held by Stockbridge PC on our behalf is likely to be a very small surplus at the end of March 2021. This would be confirmed after year end. **Action: Clerk.**
- 5530 Wallops Parish Hall:** Cllr Cotterell advised that the lengthy grant application form that had been completed by himself and Cllr Dixon from OWPC sadly didn't cover capital costs. Extra funding was being sought.
- 5531** A link to a community carbon calculator had been published on the council website. It could be found under the heading "useful links"; <https://www.hugofox.com/community/nether-wallop-parish-council-12887/carbon-footprint/>. It shows: NW Road Transport 18.2tonnes CO2 equivalent & OW Road Transport 5.3tonnes CO2 equivalent as well as NW Housing/Oil 7.9tonnes CO2 equivalent & OW Housing/Oil 2.4tonnes CO2 equivalent.
- 5532 To note the Clerk's report and correspondence received and to determine actions required:**
- 5533** Correspondence had been received from a company called FutureLearn, who offer online maths, science and engineering courses created by experts from leading universities and organisations. They offer a 'Climate Change: Solutions' course which can be accessed from www.futurelearn.com/courses/climate-change-the-solutions.
- 5534** A one-bedroom bungalow in School Lane was available for rental from Aster Housing. Information could be obtained from the Clerk but had also been advertised on the pump.
- 5535** From Hampshire County Council: (regarding the drain issue in the Square) "We are writing to you in relation to your enquiry reporting drainage issues at Church Road, Nether Wallop, please accept our apologies for the delay in our response. Drainage investigations have taken place within The Square, Nether Wallop and works have been commissioned to replace a broken section of pipe and connect the central gully to the main system via a hidden chamber, which will be reinstated. Once these works have been completed, we are of the hope that these changes will resolve the standing water issue within The Square. A date for these works has yet to be scheduled, but we hope to have them completed within the next couple of months."
- 5536** Information from Hampshire County Council has been received regarding footpaths and Rights of Way usage. The video and newsletter have been published on the FaceBook page and via NextDoor.com. Both are very informative.
- 5537** Information regarding claiming Universal Credit was received and published in the usual ways.
- 5538** The Clerk spent 1 ½ hours with contractors from Hampshire Highways investigating the blocked drain in Heathman Street adjacent to the Old School House and footpath. After a lot of water was removed, the drains were dug out and rodded (as far as possible). It is clear that there is a substantial blockage between two drains which is suspected to be either a collapsed pipe or compacted material which cannot be easily removed. Photographs were sent to HCC Highways. A team has since surveyed to see if the sucker truck and camera team could attend, but the Clerk has received verbal information that the truck is too large to safely park in the vicinity, and therefore a full road closure would be scheduled.
- 5539 Matters raised by councillors for noting or adding to the next month's agenda:** None.
- 5540 Points from the floor.** None.

5541 **Date of next monthly meeting:** Monday 12th April 2021 at 7.15 pm via Zoom.us.

5542 The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.09 pm.

**THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES PRODUCED FOR REVIEW BY THE PARISH COUNCILLORS
PRIOR TO BEING APPROVED AT THE NEXT PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

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