

WHISSENDINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on **Monday 4 November 2019**
7.15 pm in the Village Hall, Whissendine

Present. **Mr Will Farr (Chairman)**
 Mr Hatton, Mr Comber, Mr Greenlay, Mrs Lake, Mrs Moss
 and Mrs Arnold.

In attendance Dr S Lammin (Parish Clerk), Ms. S Redman-Davies (RCC Sustainable Transport Mgr.), Mr J von de Voelsungen (RCC Parking Services Mgr.), Mrs S Schofield (Head Teacher Whissendine Primary Sch.), Ms A Martin Vice-Chair of Governors, Whissendine Primary and Mrs Rosemary Powell (County Councillor)

Meeting opened at 19.18 hrs

- 13192 Any questions or comments from the public: None
- 13193 Apologies for absence received from: PC Laurie Appleton could not respond to the invitation to attend for item 13196 for operational reasons.
- 13194 Declaration of any pecuniary interest in any matter on the agenda: None received
- 13195 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2019: proposed by Mrs Lake and seconded by Mr Hatton.
- 13196 To receive report on possible action to resolve congestion and reduce hazards posed by parked cars on Main Street/Oakham Road and Stapleford Road junction.
The report looked specifically at the area near the school; just Main Street/Oakham Road and Stapleford Road issues. The report made two recommendations:
a) that the Parish Council request RCC, as Highway Authority: to provide yellow lines to the corners of Main Street/Oakham Road and Main Street/Stapleford Road to prevent parking; and
b) to supply civil enforcement officers to enforce parking restrictions, once the lines are painted; and that a service level agreement be agreed to achieve this. The enforcement to be strictly targeted and time-limited to achieve a change in unsafe behaviours. The supply of officers to the village to be at times agreed with the Parish Council and the costs to RCC to be reimbursed by the Parish Council.

Once the report was published three residents of the village responded. Mr Smith's view (email 28/10/19) was that a 'residents' only' parking regime should be introduced in the vicinity of the school. Mr Fairfield and Ms Lincoln requested double yellow lines opposite 18 Stapleford Road (letter 3 Nov).

Mr Comber was strongly opposed to yellow lines in the village. Mr Greenlay and Mrs Moss both commented that the passage around Bishop's Corner was hazardous when vehicles were parked.

The Chairman suspended the debate and Mr von de Voelsungen was invited to offer expert advice to assist the debate. He commented that residents' parking permits currently attract a fee (£40 pa.) and parking restrictions can vary with times. Any decision by WPC for action will result in a request to RCC. Any proposed changes to parking on the highway would be subject to a full consultation process, conducted by RCC and require political will for change. The process would take several months. Police officers can issue fines for obstruction but parking restrictions are with civil enforcement, managed by RCC. It is usual that RCC absorbs the costs of enforcement, there is no existing SLA and such an arrangement has not previously secured political support at RCC. He advised there were various control options, e.g. double-yellow lines, time limited restrictions within

school 20 mph zone (would not affect disabled persons, health-visitors etc.), residents' permit zones.

The debate resumed and Mrs Arnold expressed concern about proportionality of response when the congestion was for 1 to 2 hours a day, 5 days a week for 40 weeks a year and the solution could be a restriction affecting residents 24-7, 365 days a year. Mrs Lake commented that past efforts; like passing on the offer of parking at the Sports Club and making a direct offer of financial support to convert the grass bank outside the school to parking bays have not been taken up.

It was AGREED a 'Highways Concern' form should be submitted to RCC, via Mr Voelsungen, outlining the nature and location of the problem and asking that he looks at restrictions that may be imposed to effect a solution. In this way a feasibility study of options could be undertaken by RCC officers.

13197 Reports from Councillors:

- a. Report from Mrs Rosemary Powell, Rutland County Councillor:
Infrastructure support grant awarded to RCC for the St Georges barracks development. A premium will be applied to RCC Council Tax on long term empty homes. The rave on 25 October in Stapleford Road was subject to complaints from villagers to the County Councillor and Parish Councillors.
- b. Reports of meetings attended by Parish Councillors:
Parish Forum: Pat Lake reported on the Parish Forum 21 October. Fix-my-Street is proving useful. Snow Warden scheme run by RCC includes provision of grit sprayers for trained wardens. The issue of damaged finger-posts in Whissendine raised with Mr Bool. Community Speedwatch are looking for volunteers and suggestions for survey locations, by 2 December 2019. Details about dealing with unclaimed land is expected in the Forum minutes; next meeting will be 13 Jan. 2020.

Whissendine Village Hall meeting 1 October: Confirmed receipt of £1000 grant from the parish council. Outlined future improvements to the village hall. AGM 26 November at 18:30hrs.

WEG: Another litter-pick planned for March 2019. On going maintenance of Chapel Walk; strimming required. Sponsorship being sought for pot plants at end of Windmill Drive. Grapevine articles planned. Copy of cutting map asked for.

13198 Planning matters

- a. To consider plans received between 7 October and 4 November 2019:
 - i. 2019/1127/FUL extension 2 Sherrard Close: No comments offered.
 - ii. 2019/1117/LBA change of windows 89 Main Street: No comments offered.
- b. Planning updates
2019/0947/FUL conversion of outbuilding 5 Ashwell Road granted by RCC
2019/0975/HDG removal of hedgerow Wright's Lodge Fm consent of RCC.

13199 The Banks

- a. Feedback from Children's Play equipment Sub-group
Mrs Moss, accompanied by the Parish Clerk, met with representatives from Proludic on 31 Oct. They surveyed the site and discussed the play-equipment they could supply. They agreed to try and develop a costed scheme so that the quote could be included in a report to the Parish Council at their December meeting. The Parish Clerk will prepare the report with comparative costings from all 3 quotes so that a decision can be made and a contract awarded for installation in the spring of 2020.

- b. To consider whether the maintenance contract should be rolled over for another year or re-tendered. AGREED to roll over.
- c. To consider remaining on an annual scheme for upcoming inspections of the play equipment. AGREED to remain on annual scheme.
- d. To consider any maintenance issues arising: None

13200 Highways and village maintenance

The Parish Clerk advised that she has requested a survey by RCC, as Highway Authority, on the continuing integrity of the edges of the carriageway in Main Street by the green and in Cow Lane. Since the heavy flow and flooding of 14th and 25th October the brook has eroded its banks to double its width and increase its meanders so that the verges have eroded.

13201 Financial Business

- a. To consider financial report for October
The details of expenditure were received: as of 31 October 2019 the Parish Council had £18899.18 in their current account, the accounts are reconciled. There are sufficient funds for planned expenditure.
- b. Confirmation of receipt of funds from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL); £14.21. RCC, as charging authority have forwarded funds under the CIL Regulations 2013. The funds arise as a qualifying development has commenced in Whissendine since March 2016. The Parish Council may spend their CIL funds on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure. As the amount is so small and replacement of equipment on the play area is in hand, following consultation via the Village meetings it was AGREED that the money should contribute towards the costs of replacement of defective/sub-standard equipment and maintenance of surfaces and structures in the area.
- c. Invoices received in October and approve payments, as appropriate:

Village Caretaker (October)	£ 29.03
Legal advice	£240.00
Banks maintenance	£132.00
- d. Request for £150 financial assistance for Whissendine Craft and Produce Show 2020, under s137 Local Government Act 1972.
It was AGREED that £150 be granted.
- e. WPC register of assets was AGREED as accurate.
- f. Whissendine Parish Council's financial regulations, AGREED as fit for purpose.

13202 On-going business not scheduled elsewhere on agenda

- a. Christmas Tree to be ordered Wednesday 6 November.

13203 Correspondence

- 21 Oct. Invitation to Parish Councillors to attend meeting on 9 November from Police and Crime Commissioner candidate.
- 31 Oct. request for grant of £300 from WEG [more information requested prior to inclusion in Dec agenda of WPC]
- 3 Nov. Follow-up to invitation due to general-election purdah; confirmed meeting going ahead 9 Nov.

Meeting closed 21.24 hrs

Any member of the public may view copies of letters and documents held by the parish council by appointment with the Clerk: whisspcclerk@gmail.com