

2023/14

MINUTES
WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wick Parish Council on Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7 pm held in Wick Club

PRESENT: Chair M Heath Vice Chair N Barker Cllr R Kings Cllr C Smith
County Cllr A Hardman District Cllr A Crump Clerk – L Yapp
Peter Gorman – candidate for co-option Richard Hall - candidate for co-option
7 parishioners

1. **APOLOGIES:** Received from Gabriel Hudson – candidate for co-option
2. **CO-OPTION:** applications were received from Peter Gorman, Richard Hall and Gabriel Hudson. An introduction was received from both Mr Gorman and Mr Hall (Mr Hudson was not present). Applications had been considered and approved, proposed acceptance from Cllr Heath, seconded Cllr Kings – all in favour. Both took their seat with the parish council. The clerk to notify Mr Hudson of his co-option.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None declared.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from Meeting on 26th July 2023 were approved and signed, proposed acceptance Cllr Heath, seconded Cllr Smith – all in favour.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / OPEN FORUM – Points raised:

- Overgrowth from property in Timberdown (adjacent to the footpath leading from Main Street to Timberdown) – complaints have been received by the parish council regarding the overgrowth and wasps / hornets nesting within this overgrowth and the safety concerns to users of the path. Also at the same property concerns had been raised regarding the size of the tree in the garden and the damage caused to the footpath from the tree roots. In the first instance it was agreed that Cllr Heath would pay a visit to the property owner making them aware of the concerns raised.
4. **HIGHWAYS:**
 - Lay-by at the Church – reports that the lay-by was being regularly used as a permanent parking space and not for its intended purpose for funeral cars. A suggestion that signage could be put in place and would be investigated.
 5. **REPORTS:**
 - Lengthsman: the LM continues to work diligently. He has completed a training course enabling him to apply weedkillers where necessary (a requirement of the LM scheme). The whole course was approx. £600 and a request received for a contribution of £85 (whole cost shared with his other parishes). This was approved by all Cllrs.
 - Playground: report received from Cllr Kings and annexed to these Minutes.
 - Flood Alleviation – Cllr Smith reported that more volunteers are required. The sandbags on first inspection seem to be in good order, but a proper review (lifting and inspecting each one) to be carried out.
 - Public Rights of Way / Footpaths - Self-Closing Gate, Waylands – feedback had been received from WCC regarding a replacement self-closing mechanism for the Waylands gate. This would be fitted once received.

6. COUNTY / DISTRICT CLLR REPORTS

- County Cllr Report - Cllr A Hardman reported as follows:
 - Reference made to the difficulties with Birmingham City Council
 - SEN / Adult Social Care continues to be a cause for concern
 - RAC (Recycled Aggregate Concrete) reported as being an issue in some buildings in the County, Pershore High School being one.
 - 30mph Speed roundels could be painted on the road Cooks Hill / Timberdown in an attempt to slow down the traffic. Cost approx.. £300 each. To be investigated by the Clerk
 - Financial Contribution – Cllr Hardman kindly offered to assist with the LM and playground budgets
- District Cllr Report – Cllr Crump reported:
 - There have some issues with notification of planning applications being displayed at properties with applications in hand. Cllrs were asked to check that the necessary notices are in place and report back to WDC where necessary.
 - Robert Raphael is the new Chairman of WDC and will attempt to visit all villages within WDC. A request made by him to attend the Winter Warmer was well received.
 - Cllr Crump joined canoeists down the River Avon raising awareness of the poor river quality

7. PLANNING:

- W/22/01795/FUL at Glenmore Farm Cooks Hill – Applicant is taking this to Appeal
- W/23/01425/HP - 2 Yock Lane - Erection of 2-storey extension – discussion took place and comments from Cllrs included :
 - ✓ The extension is larger than the footprint of the existing property
 - ✓ Materials to be used – to be guided by WDC but concerns raised
 - ✓ Overall scale of the proposed development

It was recorded that an application had been received after publication of the agenda: 23/01914 – Howard, Catherine Court - for a single storey rear extension. Cllrs were asked to comment.

8. FINANCE:

- a) Payments for approval/made since last meeting. Accounts have been circulated to Cllrs.

Plants	20.93
Clerks Expenses	17.00
Clerks Salary	253.64
Parish Games	89.00
Club Hire	15.00
Lengthsman July	192.00
Grasscutting	317.42
Clerks Salary	253.64
Clerks Expenses	17.00
Election Admin Costs	50.00
Share of Training	85.00
Waste bin emptying / cleaning	110.24
Grasscutting	683.67
ST Johns Ambulance	121.14
Clerks PAYE	190.20
Lengthsman August	192.00

Payments approved, proposed Cllr Heath, seconded Cllr Smith – all in favour.

b) Account Balances:

Current A/C: £17,964.71

Playground A/C: £ 8,450.37

Approval was given by all Cllrs for a £50 donation to be made to the 'Poppy Appeal' – Cllr Heath had taken delivery of the poppy wreath and would represent Wick Parish Council.

'Decorative / Ornate' Wick Village Signs – a quote received for £100 per each sign to refurbish, including materials. This would be paid for from the CIL grant received (having met criteria). Proposed acceptance of the quote Cllr Kings, seconded Cllr Baker – all in favour

10. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION / AGENDA'S

- Review of policies and procedures
- Cllr roles and responsibilities
- Review of playground lease
- Xmas Tree – lighting 26th November
- Full review of reserves ahead of deciding budget January 2024 (2024/25 expenditure requirements), to include:
 - LM budget
 - Grass cutting costs
 - Playground, New Lease and Legal Costs
 - Clerks Salary Review
 - Flower Boxes, and a request for additional
 - Signage – hopefully to be covered using CIL grant
 - General 'day to day' running expenses of the council, i.e. subscription costs, insurance costs, clerks 'office' running costs

9. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 28th November 2023, 7pm in Wick Club

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed Chairman

PLAYGROUND REPORT FOR WICK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THE
26TH OF SEPTEMBER AT WICK CLUB

We had a cleanup day on Saturday the first of September to cut the hedge and clear brambles and nettles out of the fence line. We replaced a fence post, removed weeds from the pétanque area and did a general tidy up. I would like to thank all the volunteers for their help and hard work.

The playground has been well used recently, with the cricket nets and goal posts in particular demand. We have regular users for exercise classes and groups playing boule, also children using the play equipment and families having picnics.

We have problems with moss again in the cricket nets I have bought some moss killer, and we hope to use it on a regular basis to try and sort it out as it is becoming slippery and will only get worse in the over the winter.

The playground initiative group had a meeting on September the 19th we discussed among other things the Winter warmer to be held on the 9th of December. We are looking into fun things to do and organizing various stalls etc. We have also talked about doing the Picnic in the park next year on Saturday the 9th of June. We shall have another meeting soon to finalise details for the winter warmer and will be looking for volunteers to help on the day.

We are still trying to sort out the renewal of the playground lease, it is just a question of bringing it up to date from the original one and making it legal we hope this won't take too long now, in the meantime we are looking into sourcing grants.

Rosemary Kings