

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
at 6.45pm in the Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Andrew Gough (Chairman), Cllr Liz Anderson, Cllr Phil Hallam, Cllr Amanda Mellor, Cllr John Newsome, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Linda Taylor, Cllr Charles Wardle, Cllr Richard Whincup

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 residents (part), Michael Payne (the Labour Party Parliamentary candidate for Gedling and Deputy Leader of GBC), Averil Marczak (Clerk)

**5001. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2024/25**

Cllr Gough was re-elected unanimously and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllrs Anderson and Starke were re-elected as Vice Chairs.

**5002. COOPTION TO VACANCIES**

It was agreed unanimously to co-opt Amanda Mellor. Cllr Mellor took her seat at the table and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. It was agreed that Cllr Mellor would lead on flooding due to her involvement with the Woodborough Flood Action Group. It was noted that one vacancy remained and was being advertised on the WPC website.

**5003. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC) and Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC).

**5004. ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR 2024/25**

	Member(s) responsible
Chair	Andrew Gough
Vice chair	Colin Starke, Liz Anderson
Finance	Andrew Gough, Colin Starke
Signatories to bank	Andrew Gough, Colin Starke, Charles Wardle, Richard Whincup
Village Hall	John Newsome
VHWP	John Newsome, Richard Pannell, Colin Starke, Charles Wardle
Planning	Richard Pannell, Linda Taylor, <i>all</i>
Cemetery	Andrew Gough
Rights of Way	Richard Pannell
Allotments	Linda Taylor
Sports clubs & playing field	Linda Taylor, John Newsome, Richard Whincup
Institute liaison	Richard Whincup, Linda Taylor
Governors' Field inc play equipment	Colin Starke, Richard Whincup
Sam Middup Field	Liz Anderson
Maintenance inc Lengthsman	Charles Wardle
Gardenscape liaison	Andrew Gough
Flood scheme/EA liaison	Amanda Mellor
Emergency planning team liaison	Phil Hallam
Health & safety	Colin Starke, Liz Anderson

#### **5005. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No additional interests were declared.

#### **5006. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Chairman suspended the meeting between 6.48pm and 7.59pm to allow members of the public and Michael Payne (the Labour Party Parliamentary candidate for Gedling and Deputy Leader of GBC) to address the PC.

A resident representing Woodborough in Bloom thanked WPC for its donation and spoke about other issues which required attention for the village to be presented at its best, including cutting the verges, cleaning the pavements of post-flood silt and mud and repairing the pavements and roads. She asked Michael Payne in his capacity as Deputy Leader of GBC to improve the delivery of these services. Michael Payne agreed to sponsor the hanging baskets, and as a keen gardener offered to help with Woodborough in Bloom planting.

Michael Payne introduced himself, and there was a discussion about priorities in the village. Members of WPC expressed frustration that the village received less service from GBC and NCC because many residents were prepared to volunteer their time. The following issues were raised: flooding and the need for a capital flood alleviation scheme; problems for flooded homeowners in accessing funding; lack of support for the village from GBC and NCC in addressing post-flood clean ups; potholes and pavements are in disgraceful state; dangers of the pavement on the corner of Bank Hill; broken bollards on Bank Hill; broken concrete posts on Main Street. Michael Payne noted the issues raised and agreed to take the local issues back to GBC and NCC; he would also look at opportunities for a static speed camera on Bank Hill.

A resident addressed WPC regarding the setting of mole traps on the Playing Field. He referred Councillors to the RSPCA website to understand his concerns about cruelty. Correspondence sent by the resident had been circulated to members before the meeting, in which he described his proposed solution to manage the molehills rather than trap the moles.

#### **5007. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the meeting held on April 8<sup>th</sup> were approved.

#### **5008. MATTERS ARISING**

A reply had been received earlier on the afternoon of the meeting from Robbie Moore MP (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, DEFRA), which the Clerk would circulate and follow up with Cllr Mellor.

#### **5009. DISTRICT REPORT**

Cllr Greensmith had not sent a report or responded to the request for a grant towards improvements on the cemetery access road.

#### **5010. COUNTY REPORT**

Cllr Elliott had sent a report. There would be no capital investment in resurfacing Woodborough's roads in 2024/25.

VIA had found a means of replacing the street lamps with LEDs and all the lights would be changed over the coming months. It was noted that the lighting output would be lower from LEDs.

**5011. ANNUAL REPORT**

The draft version was considered and it was agreed to get a quote from Royal Mail's distribution operation for review at the next meeting. It was agreed that it would be inappropriate to distribute an additional leaflet for preschool at the same time.

**5012. COMMUNITY WEBSITE**

Cllr Taylor was gathering content for the new community website.

**5013. VILLAGE HALL**

The Clerk reported from the VHWP. It was noted that the dishwasher was not functioning as efficiently as it had done in the past and the Clerk was following up with the engineer. Preschool had shared an update.

It was agreed to undertake a review of storage at the hall. It was agreed to ask the Caretaker to prepare a report summarising current arrangements and making recommendations, with a view to replacing free standing storage with modular storage in the chair store, that could be shared between several groups according to their needs and their level of hire.

It was agreed to ask the Players to remove their stage scenery from the Village Hall.

**5014. CEMETERY**

The Clerk presented an outline request for a memorial and it was agreed that the design should be approved, provided it could be made to meet the size regulations.

**5015. PLAYING FIELD**

It was noted that mole hills were causing problems in the Playing Field, both adjacent to the school caged area, but more especially in the south west corner where the outfield of the cricket pitch was now uneven. The Clerk reported that a pest controller had attended and set traps, but the traps had been tampered with/removed and no moles had been caught. Considering the points raised in the public session, there was a lengthy debate about whether moles should be trapped and whether humane alternatives could be effective, balanced against WPC's responsibilities for health and safety for the sports clubs and casual users. A vote was taken and by a narrow margin it was agreed that health and safety issues should prevail and that the trapping should resume.

Cllr Starke had struggled to get an update on the faulty surface of the tennis courts; he asked that the Clerk contact Fosse Contracts to try to progress the matter.

**5016. ALLOTMENTS**

The vacant plot remained available, having been offered now to five people. Cllr Wardle had spoken to Ibstock regarding the availability of bricks to re-build the central driveway and would present a quote at June's meeting.

**5017. FINANCE**

The Clerk presented the financial statement for May. 24 payments, totalling £8710.67 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £1526.77 Floodstop (pifold flood barrier); £1250 Woodborough in Bloom (donation, S137); £830.29 LGPS (staff pensions). A further 13 payments were made by direct debit totalling £6161.00 net, including £4268.02 to PWLB (biannual payment for the loan raised to purchase the Sam Middup Field).

**5018. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

Tom Randall MP had requested to attend the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and this was agreed. GBC had sent a reminder that flood packs were available until the end of June and it was agreed to find out what they comprised, with a view to offering them to concerned residents. The following items were noted: GBC, various agendas and press releases.

**5019. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Review of Standing Orders; update Financial Regulations; Sam Middup Field.

**5020. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 6.45pm.

The meeting finished at 9.28pm.