

# WIXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

A member of the Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY PARISH MEETING Held at Exhall Village Hall, on Tuesday 12th March 2024

Present:	Cllrs Haworth, Cllr Hales, Cllr Morris, Cllr Parker, Cllr Fryer.
Parish Clerk/RFO	Carolyn Ashford
Members of the Public:	4 (four)
District & County Councillors	Cllr Stanley

Meeting commenced 7.30pm

205	<b>Apologies for absence.</b> None recorded - Cllr Daniels not present.
206	<b>Disclosure of Interests.</b> Councillors are asked to declare personal interests in any items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that the Code of Conduct that takes effect from May 2018 provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion they should withdraw from the room and not seek to influence a decision about the matter No disclosures from any councillors.
207	<b>Reports from District &amp; County Councillors</b> To receive reports from District Councillor Lauren Stanely, and County Councillor Piers Daniell.  Note: Cllr Daniell not present (no apologies recorded). <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Cllr Stanely produced her report - namely information following the Fire Station Report (which Cllr Haworth attended).</li><li>● Cllr Stanley reported that she has completed further training regarding local issues.</li><li>● Cllr Stanley also confirmed that the Budget at SDC for 24-25 reports a planned increase of just under 5%.</li><li>● Concerns raised about the flooding, and sewage leaching into Hay Book and then into the general waterways - she will liaise with Parish Clerk for updated information.</li></ul>
208	<b>Open Forum – The meeting and standing orders are now adjourned.</b>  Chairman adjourned Standing Orders and declared open forum @ 7.45pm)  <i>(This session at the Chair's discretion may last up to 15 minutes overall, 3 minutes per speaker). This is not a formal part of the meeting of the Council and no decisions will be made. It may be regarded as a forum for open discussion after which, members of the public will not have any further opportunities to speak. Limited minutes may be recorded if there is a need for such to form a matter for inclusion on a future agenda.</i> <b>To conclude Open Forum, the Chair will move to close the adjournment and conclude the suspension of Standing Orders.</b>

	<p>One item noted for future agenda discussion is the lack of Bus Shelters within Wixford - a resident asked whether this could be discussed on agenda at a future date - as encouraging residents to utilise the bus and also children waiting for school transport.</p> <p>Cllr Haworth advised this would be placed onto subsequent agenda for discussion.</p> <p>Open forum closed @ 7.50pm</p>
209	<p><b>To approve Clerks’ Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Assembly held on 9th January 2024</b> Proposed: Cllr Haworth, Seconded Cllr Morris, all present in agreement. Chairman duly signed the minutes.</p>
210	<p><b>Village Issues</b> – To note updates relating to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Speeding in Village / ANPR [Cllr Haworth/Cllr Morris] ONGOING -</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cllr Haworth presented current data regarding speeds seen within the village.</li> <li>● Commented that interestingly the builders working on the village hall, parking their vehicles on the roadside, actually acting as a ‘traffic calming’ measure.</li> <li>● Bidford Bridge and Barton River closures for flooding resulted in an increase of traffic through the village.</li> <li>● Average speed at present is 29 m.p.h. with the 85th centile speed being reported as mid 30’s mph.</li> <li>● Councillors still wish to proceed with Number recognition ANPR - Clerk still investigating options with WCC as highways are not currently giving permission for extended pole, nor for own equipment to be installed onto it.</li> <li>● Cllr Haworth will communicate with Cllr Daniells to see what he is able to achieve.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>● <b>Wixford Bridge [Cllr Daniell] ONGOING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cllr Daniell unavailable - however, advised by email that currently no update regarding the safety survey on the bridge. Will advise when date of visit is known.</li> <li>● Councillors discussed and will formally advise Cllr Daniell and WCC that they are very disappointed in the time being taken to get this review in place.</li> <li>● Councillors consider the bridge is currently very unsafe, still very dangerous to both cyclists, pedestrians and road users.</li> <li>● Numerous near misses have been mentioned/noted.</li> <li>● Parish Councillors are very concerned that a serious accident will need to take place before the relevant departments will start to take note of the concerns.</li> <li>● Clerk instructed to with the Cllr Daniells and express that the delay is totally unacceptable, and pressure needs to be applied in order to expedite a date for this review to take place.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>● <b>Dog Bin Location ONGOING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cllr Haworth, still reviewing potential locations. Prior suggestion not been successful.</li> <li>● Clerk reported that there is a ‘dual purpose’ bin available at present from StreetScene and the emptying charge is the same as for a single bin collection.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>● <b>Village Hall update [Cllr Parker] RESOLVED</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cllr Parker updated the Parish Council. Build is going well - slightly behind schedule by a couple of weeks. Anticipated completion end April/early May.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Issue with the BT Pole and Drainage issues, has placed a slight delay in the completion dates.
- It was noted that the Village Hall will not now be open for the Annual Parish Meetings to take place on 14th May 2024.
- Once Village Hall is completed, there will be a lockable cupboard within the meeting rooms for the storage of Parish Council equipment and records.
- Parish Website update.(access and uploads) [Cllr Haworth] **RESOLVED**
  - Clerk reported that the new website provider trial website is now operational (not yet live) and all councillors have been provided with a copy to view. It was agreed that Website is being transferred to the new provider Hugo Fox. Clerk to co-ordinate and launch.
- Issues with drainage and sewers backing up **ONGOING**
  - Concern was raised regarding raw sewage on the Exhall road, being driven through, and being therefore carried on car wheels back to houses, and into homes.
  - Further concern regarding the raw sewage getting into Hay Brook.
  - Cllr Haworth will obtain video evidence of the sewage leak and the path to the Hay Brook and forward to Clerk.
  - Clerk to highlight this in communication with all parties.
- Phone Box update [Cllr Morris, Cllr Parker] **HELD PENDING FUTURE REVISIT**
  - Councillors have agreed to postpone the refurbishment of the Phone Box at the present time. Funds can be spent more effectively on other projects.
  - Cllr Parker will continue to investigate a simpler self-maintained option.
- Allotments - Councillors discussed the suggested locations for future Allotment use.
  - Clerk instructed to contact WCC in order to ascertain ownership of the land, and the process for creating allotments for the use of Wixford residents.

**211 Finance**

**a** To receive Financial Report and approve Bank Account Reconciliation to 12.03.2024 showing payments made last month.

Statement Opening balance @ 31/12/2023	<b>£27,064.09</b>
<b>Less expenditure</b> as detailed below	5,463.66
<b>Money Received</b>	39.15
Statement Closing balance @ 12/03/2024	<b>£21,639.58</b>
Current Account balance	£ 11,600.43
32 day notice Deposit Account balance	£ 10,039.15

Clerk presented an up-to-date bank statement to agree to the closing balance. Duly initialled by Cllr Haworth in confirmation of balance agreed.

● HMRC PAYE	
● Clerks Salary to 31.03.24	
● Wixford Village Hall (Coronation Stone)	1,110.00
● Email migration charges (reimbursed to clerk)	309.60

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerks Mobile Phone contribution to 31.03.24</li> </ul>	110.00
	<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 5,463.66</b>
<b>b.</b>	To consider Payments to be made as follows.:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear Insurance (formerly BHIB)</li> </ul>	£ 495.57
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TOTAL Considered Expenditure</b></li> </ul>	<b>£ 495.57</b>
	<b>Available funds after considerations</b>	<b>£21,144.01</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed Cllr Haworth, Seconded Cllr Morris, all in agreement - Clerk instructed to make online payments as necessary.</li> </ul>	
<b>212</b>	<b>Planning – to note and consider response where appropriate. NONE</b>	
	<b>Planning – to note any decisions notified from SDC. NONE</b>	
<b>213</b>	<b>To note any correspondence received. – NONE</b>	
<b>214</b>	<b>A. Chairman's Report. Nothing to report.</b> <b>B. Clerks Report. Nothing to report.</b>	
<b>215</b>	<b>To note items for inclusion on next Agenda</b>	
<b>216</b>	<b>Next meeting date – Tuesday 15th May 2024 – Exhall Village Hall @ 7.30pm</b> <b>Ordinary Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Assembly.</b>	

Meeting closed: 8.48 pm