

# WELLESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2010 at the Methodist Hall,  
Bridge Street, Wellesbourne



Present: Chairman Cllr Johnston, Cllrs Mrs Bartlett, Blundall, Close, Copeland, Grantham, Parton, Mrs Rose, Rutherford and Wright

Acting Clerk: Mrs Lipman PCSO Ann Samuels

Members of the public: 14 Members of the press: 1

## 1. Apologies Cllr Mrs Bolton

## 2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest (personal or prejudicial) under the provisions of the LGA 2000, Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001.

Cllr Mrs Bolton personal interest in the Village Hall as Buildings Trustee for the Village Hall

Cllr Grantham prejudicial interest in connection with Wellesbourne Conservative Club Ltd and a personal interest in the Football and Social Club 97, and all matters appertaining to Walton Estates.

Cllr Close personal interest as a District Councillor and in connection with St Peters Church as a member of the church

Cllr Wright personal interest as a District Councillor and in connection with the CAB and the Methodist Hall

Cllr Mrs Rose prejudicial interest in connection with the Conservative Club Ltd and a personal interest in the Football and Social Club 97.

Cllr Rutherford personal interest in parking matters in relation to Chedham's Yard and a prejudicial interest in letters to the External Auditor in relation to complaints submitted.

Cllr Johnston personal interest as a County Councillor in all matters regarding WCC

Cllr Grantham declared a personal interest in planning application 10/01337/TREE at 12 Church Street as the applicant is a neighbour

## 3. Confirmation of Agenda

It was agreed that item St Peter's Church café bus and the general correspondence relating to John Lawson's Circus should be added to item 10 Amenities. Also item 8.2 should be moved to be discussed immediately after item 4.

Cllr GB asked that items 2 and 3 in confidential session should be discussed in the public meeting expressing great concern that the public would not be aware of the contents of correspondence sent by the external auditor. Cllr JG stated that in item 2 the external auditor had made clear that all correspondence from him should remain confidential until he authorised publication. This was disputed by Cllr IR. Cllr DJ asked if Cllr IR wished to propose that the advice of the external auditor should be ignored. No such proposal was made. Cllr DJ reminded Cllr IR that he had declared a prejudicial interest in letters to the external auditor and asked if he should leave the room. Cllr IR stated that the prejudicial interest was only pertaining to letters sent to the auditor and not letters received.

Resolution the Council should move to the next item on the agenda	Prop Cllr RW 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cllr TC carried
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Cllr RW said that at item 17 he had been prepared to make public details of all the complaints made against him and the results of those hearings. However, he asked that, since the auditor had not given authority to publish the details the item should be deferred until the September Council meeting.

Resolution to defer item 17 for 1 month	Prop Cllr RW 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cllr JG carried
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Item 3 Confidential (Village Hall) Cllr DJ said there was nothing new to report. The Council had made an offer to purchase the hall together with the car park. The Trustees were due to meet in July to discuss the offer. The Council awaited their response, but would make contact during August to ascertain the current position.

## 4 Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meetings of 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Item 6 of the minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> July was amended to read that a meeting was to be arranged between Claire Murray (PCSO), Mr Granelly (Chair of Governors) and Cllrs DJ and TC. The minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of July were then signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**5. Matters arising** - there were none

**6. Open session** for members of the public to raise any matters of relevance to the Parish and for any Cllr with a prejudicial interest in an item on the agenda to speak on that item.

Ms Pat McDonough, Mountford Close said that although Mountford Close had enjoyed two peaceful weeks since the school holidays started she thought that the school travel plan left too many questions unanswered.

Cllr GB said that the school was making a great effort, having written to residents, employed a lollypop man and designed a banner notifying drivers of a voluntary one way system in the Close during school arrival and leaving times. Cllr JG said that there had to be give and take between residents and the school and he was pleased that the school were making more effort than had been seen previously.

**7. Finance**

7.1 Monthly accounts

Cllr RW left the room.

The accounts were approved for payment

Prop Cllr JG 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr TC against Cllr IR

Cllr RW returned to the room.

**8. Police**

8.1 Crime figures

The SNT Newsletter for Wellesbourne had been circulated.

8.2 Donation of up to £200 towards community day trip to Gaydon Heritage Centre

This item was moved to item 4. PCSO Ann Samuels was welcomed. She gave details regarding a proposed activity day for 30 young people from the Wellesbourne, Kineton and Lighthorne Heath areas (10 from each area). It was hoped to take the participants to Kineton High School in the morning to carry out community work on the youth centre. In the afternoon they would be taken to the Heritage Motor Centre for a tour of the museum and both the 4x4 experience and go karting. The day would finish with a barbeque at the High School. Participants would have to satisfy residential criteria and be regular attendees at the youth clubs. Orbit Housing had donated £500 and various businesses had pledged food. She was asking each Parish Council for a donation of £200 towards the transport costs and painting materials.

Resolution to make grant funding available up to a maximum sum of £200, to enable 10 young people resident in the Parish of Wellesbourne and Walton to take part in the community day trip to the Gaydon Heritage Centre.	Prop Cllr DJ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cllr VB carried
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Cllrs congratulated PCSO Samuels on her initiative and hoped that it would become an annual event. It was suggested that the Council be asked to budget for a similar event next year when the budget is set in November.

PCSO Samuels was then told of antisocial behaviour regarding cars racing in the layby adjacent to the Mountford sportsfield. She said the police were aware of complaints and vehicle registration numbers had been noted. Two young people had been served with section 59 warning notices and should they be issued with a third their vehicle would be seized and crushed.

Cllr TC asked that the Council be notified how often the speed camera was being used in Wellesbourne

Cllr RP asked if the police were aware of increasing vandalism around the Dovehouse sportsfield and play area. PCSO AS said it was known, but most vandalism occurred after the end of the evening shift.

PCSO AS left the meeting.

**9. Planning**

9.1 Decisions

9.1.1 Permission with conditions

10/00747/FUL	Erection of detached garage to side and erection of boundary fence		
At	161 Dovehouse Drive	For	Mr and Mrs N Jenkinson

Noted

9.2 Applications

10/01257/FUL	Change of use of land to domestic curtilages to the rear/side of nos. 2, 16, 18, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 Whitehead Drive		
At	16 Whitehead Drive	For	Ms K Fitzgerald
Officer Dealing	Gary Moss	By	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2010

The Council reiterated its strong opposition to this application. In addition to its previous objections Cllr RW had obtained correspondence dated 08/08/2000 and 27/06/2002 from Westbury Homes which shows that when Ms Fitzgerald obtained title to the land riparian responsibilities acknowledged by Westbury Homes were also transferred. In the correspondence it states that a 5 metre maintenance corridor should be retained to allow for future maintenance. Furthermore on plans submitted by Westbury Homes the area was shown as Public Open Space. It was envisaged that the area would be adopted by SDC but this was refused and the land continued to be maintained by the developer.

Proposed Cllr JG 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr DC All agreed

Cllr RW said that he would meet with Dave Tiley (SDC). Cllrs were concerned that a response had not been received by the Environment Agency.

ACTION: Contact Environment Agency	BY: Cllr DJ
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2.

101/01337/TREE	T1 cedar fell		
At	12 Church Street	For	R N Spinney
Officer Dealing	Ruth Rose	By	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2010

It was noted that strong winds had recently split the top of the tree and when it fell it brought down a number of branches narrowly missing the outbuildings. SDC Forestry Officer was recommending that the remainder of the tree should be felled. The Council raised no objection.

It was noted that WPC had received a letter from Mr & Mrs Littler objecting to an application 10/01211/FUL for a change of use of holiday units and a farm workshop to 3 dwellings. Cllrs were concerned that despite Kingsmead Farm being on the Wellesbourne Parish boundary, WPC had not been asked for comment.

ACTION: To contact SDC planning for explanation and to ask for time extension in order to comment	BY: Office
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9.3 Date of next Area Planning meeting 4<sup>th</sup> August 2010 - Noted

**10. Amenities Committee** – Last meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010

10.1 Chairman's update – report appended

Cllr RP reported the gate on the Dovehouse sportsfield had been vandalised and needed replacing. Limebridge had sourced a replacement at an approximate cost of £125. As residents frequently climbed over the gate to get access to the ground it was suggested a pedestrian access should be facilitated to the side of the gate. This could be achieved at minimal cost. In addition the drop bars on the internal fence gate had been stolen.

Resolution: to replace Dovehouse sportsfield gate, provide a pedestrian access and commission new drop bars	Prop Cllr JG 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cllr DC carried
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A quote was to be obtained for cutting the front and side hedge to the sportsfield. WPC had registered an interest in purchasing a slide for the Dovehouse play area. The spring animal in the playarea had been broken. Cllr RR had removed it for safe keeping. Greenbelt Ltd had written to WPC regarding the Daniell Road play area. They asked for WPC cooperation in canvassing residents on their wishes for the future of the play area. It was agreed to help distribute letters to the estate.

10.2 Sports Association

WPC congratulated the Cricket Club on their recent charity event which raised £20,000. WPC would encourage the Club to stage the event again.

ACTION: Write letter of congratulations to Cricket Club	BY: Office
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The problem of dog mess on the Mountford sportsfield was extremely bad. The new dog signs were expected and would be erected shortly.

ACTION: Contact dog warden for enforcement	BY: Office
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10.3 Youth Club

Members of the Youth Club had recently won £500 in a cricket tournament – the prize was donated by Orbit Housing

10.4 Football club building

Report of a meeting held between the Amenities Committee and representatives of the Sports Association held 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010 – appended. It was expected that transfer of the lease would take place in the next day or so.

The Rugby Club had written to inform the Council they had signed an agreement to play at Tiddington for 1 year. They very much hoped to return to Wellesbourne September 2011.

#### 10.5 Correspondence

Cllr DC said that St Peter's Church has for two weeks a single decker bus modified for young people to meet and have a drink under supervision of members of the church. The Council welcomed the initiative and it was agreed that posters advertising the cafe bus could be displayed on fences and benches on the Dovehouse play and sports areas.

WPC had received a request from Lawson's Circus to visit Wellesbourne. It was noted that it required an area 125yds x 125 yds. This appeared to be a bigger area than was currently available. The area between the Football Club building and the Bowls Club was thought to be unsuitable due to the position of the water main. Item referred to the Amenities Committee.

10.6 Date of next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010 - noted

#### 11. Highways Committee – Last meeting 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010

11.1 Chairman's update – Chairman's report appended

11.2 Wellesbourne in Bloom

Arrangements for the judging day had gone smoothly and there had been a positive response. The results would be announced in September.

11.3 Correspondence

E mail from County Council re changes to routes of X15 and X18	Dennis Young
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Noted

Copy of letter sent to school in opposition to banner informing of voluntary one way system	Mr Dobson
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Noted

Cllr Mrs VB said that at a recent Ferrari owners' day at Walton Hall vehicles had been directed to use Walton Road. This had become congested for several hours. It appeared that coaches and taxis were also being directed away from Jubilee Drive because of the speed bumps.

ACTION: To meet with hotel management to discuss the situation	BY: Cllrs
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The date of the Walton Fete – 8<sup>th</sup> August – was noted

Cllrs noted the unacceptable short notice for closure of Newbold Road, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010

ACTION: To send a letter of complaint to WCC Highways	BY: Office
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11.4 Date of next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> September 2010

#### 12. Finance and Administration Committee – Last meeting 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010

12.1 Chairman's update – nothing to report

12.2 Date of next meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2010 – this meeting was deferred until September 2010

#### 13. Office and Staffing Committee – last meeting 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010

13.1 Chairman's update – nothing to report

13.2 Date of next meeting to be agreed

#### 14 Emergency Committee - Last meeting -10<sup>th</sup> February 2009

14.1 Chairman's update

14.2 Correspondence

Letter about further flood prevention works to be carried out to rear of Willow Drive	Environment Agency
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Noted

14.3 Date of next meeting to be agreed

#### 15. Chedham's Yard

15.1 Chairman's report - appended

15.2 Steering Group Minutes of meeting 2010 – appended

It was noted that the project was running within budget. Project Manager JA had agreed to be available at regular intervals to answer Cllr questions. Thanks were given to Emma Banks, Heritage Project Officer, for the commitment she has shown since joining the project and to Cllr DC for his clear, concise report.

**16. Burial Grounds** – update by Cllr Wright

Expenditure had been approved (cheque list appended) for the discharge of a landscaping condition for the burial ground extension. Tenders had been invited for the works to include levelling, seeding and planting. Recommendations would be brought to the September Council meeting. This was a phased project in which the PCC would invite sponsorship.

**17. Complaint raised against Cllr Wright by Cllr Rutherford**

This item was deferred to the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

**18. Parish Council Website**

It was noted that this was fully operational, but the link from the SDC website was to the old WPC website instead of the new one.

ACTION: To contact SDC to ask for information to be updated	BY: Office
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**19. Parish Plan** – report by Cllr Copeland

A good response had been achieved from the stalls at the Wellesbourne School and the drop in session at the Village Hall. After the Walton fete all suggestions would be analysed before a definitive questionnaire was produced.

**20. WALC/NALC**

Legal topic and Guidance Notes	June 2010
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Noted

Progress on Legislative changes to Allow payments other than by cheque	22 July 2010
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Noted

**21. General Correspondence**

Application for permission to bring circus to Wellesbourne	John Lawson Circus
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This item was referred to the Amenities Committee

Christmas Nativity Cribs	Wellesbourne Churches
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It was agreed that WPC should take part in this project

**22. Councillors Exchange of Information**

Cllr DJ reminded residents that the next Wellesbourne and Kineton Community Forum would take place at Wellesbourne Primary School on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30 for 7.00pm

The programme for the meeting would include a representative from the Police Authority, a representative from the Health Authority and a review of the Open Space and Sports Provision in the District.

Cllr TC said David Morgan from VASA had information on a wide range of funding opportunities. He would like WPC to facilitate a semi public meeting to discuss these.

Cllr GB asked WPC to look into provision of more bus shelters in Wellesbourne.

Cllr VB said that following a meeting with WIB the sponsorship of the Stratford Road roundabout was looking more hopeful.

Cllr RW said that Andrew Winterbottom (Saturn) had now compiled an expenditure report which would be forwarded to SDC. This would enable WPC and SDC to negotiate an exit strategy.

Cllr JG said that the Fair had visited the village the previous week. Cllr RW asked that a complaint should be forwarded regarding noise nuisance when dismantling equipment.

ACTION: To complain to Mr Muggerridge re noise nuisance	BY: Office
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**23. Date of Next Meeting:** 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Resolution:**

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the public and press be excluded from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, Section 1

**Confidential**

**1. Salaries**

Prop Cllr JG 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr RW carried

**2. External Auditor response to complaints by Cllr Rutherford – consideration of the response of the Council**

Cllr IR was asked by Cllr DJ, noting his declared prejudicial interest, if he intended to leave the meeting. Cllr IR stated that he had not received a copy of the letter from the External Auditor addressed to the Clerk. A copy of the letter was shown to Cllr IR. Cllr IR declared that his prejudicial interest only covered letters to the External Auditor and not replies received. He was asked by Cllr DJ to consider his position carefully and decided to leave the meeting.

Cllrs noted the recommendations made by the External Auditor following Cllr IR's objections. It was agreed that the acting Clerk should write to the Auditor making clear the Council's intention of raising the emergency delegated authority sum which the clerk is entitled to spend in line with inflation and to request that all correspondence could now be published as a matter of public interest. The Council also noted an estimate of costs so far incurred by the Auditor in dealing with these and other complaints raised by Cllr IR. An interim bill of £1,500 was to be submitted for approval at the next Council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September.

**3. Village Hall/Walton Estates**

This item was discussed as item 2.above. There was nothing to report.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Chairman .....

Signed .....

Date .....