

WELLESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Council meeting on Tuesday 7th June 2011 at 7.30 pm at the Methodist Hall, Bridge Street, Wellesbourne



Present:

Chairman: Cllr Johnston Clerk: Mrs Scriven
Councillors: Blundall, Mrs Bolton, Close, Grantham, Kendall, Wright
Members of the public: 11 Members of the Press: 1

1. Approval of Apologies for Absence – Apologies received and accepted for Cllrs Mrs Bartlett, Copeland, Parton, and Mrs Rose & also Cllr Mrs Main

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 Close personal interest in connection with St Peters Church as a member of the church and a personal and prejudicial interest in items appertaining to Chedham's Yard as a Trustee

Cllr Copeland personal and prejudicial interest in Chedham's Yard as a Trustee

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

Cllr Johnston personal interest as a County Councillor, in all matters regarding WCC, Hampton Lucy Grammar School Foundation as a member of the Board and Chedham's Yard as the husband of a Trustee.

Cllr Kendall personal interest as a District Councillor

Cllr Mrs Rose prejudicial interest in connection with the Conservative Club Ltd and the Heart of England Co-operative Society as an employee

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

3. Confirmation of the Order of the Agenda and identification of any items that might be resolved for confidential session – The order of the agenda was confirmed.

4 Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meetings of 3rd, 10th and 24th May 2011 - 3rd May - page 3 item 5 Office & Staffing meeting date incorrect. The Chairman noted the amendment and signed the minutes of 3rd & 10th May as a true record.

It was noted Item 9 of the Finance & Administration minutes of 24th May that Cllr DC had 2nd the proposal on Chedham's Yard but should have left the meeting as he had a declared prejudicial interest in items appertaining to Chedham's Yard. The error was noted and correction would be made at the next meeting of the committee.

5. Matters arising – The Queen's Diamond Jubilee ~ information published nationally

ACTION: Agenda Item for next Full Council	BY Clerk
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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.

Mr Ian Rutherford, Chestnut Square, read a statement to the Council, due to its length he was asked to send it to the Clerk in hard copy.(appended) Mr Rutherford went on to say that this information was written under a pseudo name which he indicated was one of the Parish Councillors, the Council declined to comment on the allegations made.

7. Objections to the External Auditor by Mr Rutherford

7.1 Correspondence from Clement Keyes regarding decisions on the following objections:

1.

Objection regarding audit of accounts for year ending 31 st March 2009 and 2010	cost to Council £330 (net)
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Noted

2.

Objection regarding appointment of a valuation company	cost to Council £390 (net)
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Noted

3.

Objection regarding shuttlebus project	cost to Council £410 (net)
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Noted

The Council noted that it was difficult to understand how somebody who purportedly wanted to save the community unnecessary expenditure was costing the community of Wellesbourne & Walton thousands of pounds. It also had been made clear by the response from the External Auditor that the Council had acted lawfully and that the complaints raised were unjustified and it was agreed that the public should be made aware of this fact. A summary of complaint issues and costs involved were to be published by the Clerk shortly.

ACTION: Produce summary of complaint & cost of IR complaints to External Auditor for public	By:Clerk
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7.2 Correspondence from Clement Keyes regarding further objections by Mr Rutherford:

1. Objection regarding the employment of Mrs Dane
2. Objection regarding the appointment of an architect
3. Objection regarding the appointment of a Project manager

The Council noted the further objections by Mr Rutherford to the External Auditor still to be dealt with and that the total number of objections raised to date was around fifteen, all of which incur a cost to the community of Wellesbourne.

8. Finance and Administration Committee – Minutes of the meeting 24th May 2011

Cllr DC left the meeting

The Council agreed the services of a valuer be sought regarding the council tax valuation for WSCC.

8.1 Approval of monthly accounts – Appended

These were approved for payment – prop Cllr JG, 2 nd Cllr GB	Motion carried
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Attention was drawn to expenditure item Clement Keys (External Auditor), for £1278.00 charged to the Council for the direct actions taken by Mr Rutherford.

8.2 Approval of staff salaries

These were approved for payment – prop Cllr RW, 2 nd Cllr DK	Motion carried
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8.3 Year end 2010/11

A meeting to be scheduled to approve year end 21st June 2011

8.4 Date of next meeting – 20th September 2011 – noted

Cllr DC returned to the meeting

9. Police

9.1 SNT Newsletter - circulated

9.2 Correspondence – none

The Council noted that no decision had yet been taken by the Police Authority regarding a local base for the SNT and concern was expressed about the lack of local policing when travellers arrived in Wellesbourne. Communication had proved difficult, with Leamington Station eventually dealing with the travellers, and whilst nobody's wellbeing was threatened on this occasion, it was felt that the disengagement of the police could have serious implications for the future.

The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken with the sports association to ensure the entrance to the recreation grounds were secure and checked the Council's owned land.

Cllr RW said that SDC had given their undivided attention to the arrival of the travellers with the Chief Executive and his staff working to ensure that the landowner was identified and assisted with the clearance of the site.

ACTION: Write to police seeking meeting to express concern regarding the disengagement of policing in Wellesbourne	By: Clerk
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10. Planning

10.1 Decisions

10.1.1 Approvals

1.

11/00897/TREE	T1,T3 willow re pollard back to original pollard points T2 willow fell		
At	20 Willow Drive	For	Mr Parry

Noted

11/00289/PTO	30% crown thin and the shortening back of long lateral branches to give 1.5m clearance of the gable end wall at 2 Charlecote Fields		
At	2 Charlecote Fields	For	Mr Coton

Noted

11/00571/FUL	Single storey rear extension		
At	74 Willow Drive	For	Ms Geisler

Noted

1100859/LDP	Single storey extension and dormer window to rear		
At	21 Newbold Place	For	Mr Price

Noted

11/00931/TREE	3 no red horse chestnuts: crown lift to clear highway by 4m, Leyland cypress fell, sweet chestnut: lift crown to clear highway by 4m, horse chestnut: reduce crown by 25% and reduce adjacent chestnuts to balance composite crown		
At	Ettington Rod	For	WCC

Noted

11/00978/LDP	Proposed conversion of existing integral garage into additional living accommodation		
At	12 Ash Tree Close	For	Miss Holdsworth

Noted

11/00583/FUL	Erection of general purpose agricultural building		
At	Little Hill Farm	For	G Hutsby & Sons

Noted

10.2 Correspondence

Proposed amendments to the Developer Contributions to Transport Schemes in the Stratford upon Avon Supplementary Planning Document	Liam Nevin (SDC)
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Noted

10.3 Date of next Area Planning meeting 22nd June 2011 - noted

11. Amenities and Highways Committee – Minutes of the meeting of 10th May 2011

11.1 Chairman's update – Cllr Grantham

On behalf of Cllr Parton, Cllr Grantham went through the minutes of the joint committee.

Item 12 River Dene - It was evident there was still a discharge of effluent into the water course and that further investigation would be required by the Environment Agency. A meeting had been arranged for 16/6 at 11.00am at WCC depot.

Item 15 & 17 – Meeting re Shelterbelt – Cllr RW said he had raised this at SDC and a meeting was to be arranged to look at H.WELL1,2,3 notice of which, would be given to councillors wishing to attend.

11.2 Wellesbourne Sports and Community building

There had been 27 responses to the advert placed by Cllr TC inviting expressions of interest; Cllr TC had been making contact with these. A Working Party had been formed that comprised of Cllrs TC, RP, RR, DK, JG and it was agreed that the most effective way to forward the WSCC was to identify the expertise required to enable the Council to seek appropriate assistance when required. The Council informed the public that upon taking ownership of the building it was in a dreadful state of disrepair, the electrician had reported that the electrics had been bypassed in order to use the floodlights saying it was a miracle nobody had been electrocuted.

The Clerk proposed to take photographs of the inside of the building which would be posted onto the Parish Council website to assist members of the public to understand why the Council could not open the building for use quickly.

Cllr DK said he had been in touch with Orbit Heart of England who were keen to offer their support to the WCSS offering the services of their maintenance section and possible funding opportunities.

11.2.1 Correspondence

1.

Open letter to Wellesbourne Parish Council	Wellesbourne Voice
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The content of the letter was refuted as inaccurate and it was reiterated that the Parish Council had made clear what was required; therefore no further discussion would be entered into at this time. As no objection was raised by any Councillor, the Chairman moved onto the next agenda item.

Ex Wellesbourne Football Club	Mike Podbury by email
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Noted

Wellesbourne Sports and Community Centre	Ian Rutherford
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The Council reminded members of the public that the line of action being taken regarding the WSCC was what had been expressed by 650 members of the community who responded to the Parish Plan.

2.

Section 106 Agreement	SDC
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This was ongoing

11.3 Sports Association

Nothing to report

11.4 Youth Club

A meeting of the steering group had been formed including representatives of the church to explore how youth opportunities in Wellesbourne. It was noted that the church bus was still running with the church funding the fuel and maintenance for now.

11.5 Wellesbourne in Bloom – Judging day 12th July - noted

10.6 Revision of evening bus services

Evening bus service cuts	Denis Young (Transport Operations WCC)
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The Council expressed concern regarding the poor service provided and noted that the late bus “on request” would only work if someone booked the late service from Barford to Wellesbourne which would be totally unacceptable. It was agreed that public feedback regarding the impact on rural communities would be essential.

ACTION: Place advert in the W&W News asking for feedback on the impact of service reduction	By: Clerk
ACTION: Contact WALC requesting they commission a survey to all parish councils about the impact of service reduction to rural communities.	By: Clerk

11.7 Date of next meeting 28th June 2011 - noted

12. Office and Staffing Committee – Last meeting 18th January 2011

12.1 Date of next meeting to be agreed - noted

13. Index of Shops and Amenities – minutes of meeting held on 26th May 2011

13.1 Letting of contract for printing 2011 edition of Index – report appended

Quotes for the printing work had been sought and two obtained.

Resolution: That the quote from Centre Print be accepted as this offered like for like service with the other quote but was a cheaper option Prop:Cllr RB, 2 nd Cllr RW	Motion carried
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Cllr Mrs Bolton asked that Thanks be recorded for the hard work Mrs Lipman had done in preparation and collating of the paperwork.

14. Emergency Committee – Last meeting 9th November 2010

14.1 Date of next meeting to be agreed - noted

15. Chedham’s Yard – update Cllr Close

It was noted that regrettably, Cllr TC had resigned as a Trustee due to health reasons. Congratulations were expressed regarding Mrs Dane and Miss Banks for the publicity items keeping Chedham’s Yard in the public focus. Presentation evenings continued very successfully and it was suggested that the Trust work together with other bodies in order to update the village historical records. Councillors were asked if they would like to go on a site visit, now the building work had commenced.

ACTION: Arrange a site visit for Councillors	Cllr DC
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16. Parish Plan/Village Design Statement- update

The Parish Plan document was an agenda item on the SDC Cabinet meeting 20 June for approval, the Village Design Statement required additional items and SDC were assisting the completion of the document which would be adopted as a separate item.

17. Burial Grounds - update Cllr Wright

The updated plans for phase 2 had been received to form the footpath from the existing church yard into the new part. Tenders would be sought for the next phase work in the very near future and it was noted that the new burial ground had been fully seeded and some weed and feed work would follow with eventual mowing of the site.

18. Wellesbourne and Kineton Community Forum – next meeting 30th June Gaydon Village Hall

Items for discussion at the Forum included “Transforming the Youth Service” and “Identify your priorities for local policing”

19. WALC/NALC

19.1 Correspondence

Complaint to WALC	Cllr Vaughan Owen WALC
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The Council had requested an apology and retraction as the credibility of the Council had been questioned. It was felt that having attempted to bring the Council into disrepute the response was unacceptable

ACTION: Draft letter of response to say reply was not acceptable	By Clerk/DJ
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Newsletter ADH/94	WALC
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Noted

Planning for Traveller Sites	NALC
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Noted

The Council felt that the planning for travellers sites raised concern regarding brown field sites and the appropriateness of the area. It was agreed that this may bring threat to commercial activities in rural communities and acknowledged that in Wellesbourne the commercial enterprise be it shops or amenities were important to retain along with all employment opportunities.

ACTION: Respond to the consultation & cc to WALC	By Clerk/Cllr DJ
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20. General Correspondence

1.

Free use of office facilities to Chedham's Yard Trust and CAB	Email Mr Rutherford
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Cllrs DC & RW left the meeting

It was noted that the Clerk had already responded to this enquiry.

- 2. Letters of thanks for grant funding:**
 Macmillan Cancer Support, Choral Society, Wellesbourne in Bloom, VASA, Sports Association, CAB and Shipston Home Nursing - Noted

21. Cllr Exchange of Information

Footpath from Ettington Close & Lowes Lane required sweeping.

Verges in Walton too long and sweeper unable to clean.

Path between White Bridge and burial ground – soil falling off the side onto the footpath halving the width. It was noted that once the grass had established the soil would no longer leach onto the path.

22. Date of next meeting 5th July 2011 - noted

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chairman.....David Johnston

Signed.....

Dated.....