



WELLESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Council meeting on Tuesday 4th October 2011 at 7.30 pm at the Methodist Hall, Bridge Street, Wellesbourne

Present:

Chairman: Cllr Johnston

Clerk Mrs Scriven

Councillors: Mrs Bartlett, Mrs Bolton, Close, Grantham, Kendall, Parton, Mrs Rose

Members of public: 13 Members of Press: 1 District Cllrs: Mrs Main, Wright

1. Approval of Apologies for Absence – apologies were given and approved for Cllr GB

The Chairman announced the resignation from the Parish Council of Cllr Wright (Item 5)

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 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 member of the Board & Chedham’s Yard as the husband of a Trustee.

Cllr Kendall personal interest as a District Councillor and as a member of Vision 4 Wellesbourne

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 CAB & the Methodist Hall

3. Confirmation of the Order of the Agenda and identification of any items that might be resolved for confidential session – Agenda accepted

4 Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meetings of 6th and 13th September 2011

Cllr DC typing error Pg 34 – “Council ‘got’ libel – should read ‘for’ libel – Minutes of 6th September accepted with amendment and signed as true record

Minutes of 13th September accepted and signed as true record

5. Matters arising

5.1 Call for Election re: Vacancy for a Parish Councillor notice 7th September 2011 – It was noted that an election had been requested for the vacancy on Mountford ward replacing Mr Copeland and noted that if an election were to be called for the vacancy on Mountford ward replacing Cllr Wright it would be dealt with at the same election on 24th November 2011.

Resolution: To agree to provide poll cards in the event an election is required	Prop: Cllr DC, 2 nd Cllr JG Carried.
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Cllr DC said he believed that Cllr Wright had resigned over an out of hand matter that had escalated, and he was not been interested in the information but felt the Council should investigate the matter in order to learn for the future. He said Cllr Wright and he had not always agreed and he had often been challenged by him especially regarding Chedham’s yard but he respected his view as an independent minded person and believed this to have always been in the best interest of the Council. He said Cllr Wright was a strong personality and that he regretted Cllr Wright’s resignation and proposed that a letter of thanks be sent Cllr Wright for his work. Cllr JG 2nd. Carried

ACTION: Letter of thanks to Cllr Wright	By: Chairman
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Cllr JG said he had probably worked with Cllr Wright longer than anyone else and agreed he had not always agreed with him, but had always worked with the same aims. He said it was unfortunate this matter had escalated out of all proportion, but it had. He offered his thanks personally to Cllr Wright.

Cllr VB said words could not express what or why, Cllr Wright was loyal, true and just and had taken on so much and succeed, and it was a very sad day for the village and Council.

Cllr DJ thanked Cllr Wright for his contribution over the years, and who was the third longest serving Councillor. He said we all know the work done and the challenges taken; criticisms taken on a number of sources. I did hope it was possible to prevent but the events of my not reading my emails one evening made it too late although I did try to deal with this the next day and I am frustrated about that.

Resolution: Hold an external investigation re the resignation of Cllr Wright	Prop Cllr DC 2 nd Cllr VB 6 For. 2 abstention: Cllr RB on grounds too soon to decide, & Cllr JG as no grounds for proposal as procedures being breached, it is an employment issue, it is not a legal move
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6. Open session for members of the public to raise any matters of relevance to the Parish & for any Cllr with a prejudicial interest in an item on the agenda to speak on that item.

Mr Rutherford, Chestnut Square, said if Cllr RW made a complaint there is a procedure to follow and as not on the agenda so unlawful. He said less than 10% of residents were interested in the Football Club building and asked do the Council feel this was the best use of funding. He asked if subsequent meetings would be held in secret and asked if there had been a risk assessment for the project, saying there was no reference to this in the Council minutes.

Cllr DJ questioned where the 10% had come from and said that the Council had taken the decision to acquire the building when the opportunity arose saying the Council would have been severely criticised if they had not. The Council had agreed a strategy for the process of what the building might be and said as no proposal had been made, a risk assessment was not relevant at this time.

Cllr JG said that there were no references to multi-million pound developments as there have never been any discussions about it.

Miss McDonaugh, Mountford Close, said although only 4 weeks into the school term already there were vehicles using drives of residents and turning on the bend. This included evening activities at the school, visitors as well as commercial vehicles. She said it was inappropriate and dangerous on a blind bend and where four drives converge at the same point; and whilst the policy by the school may protect the interests of some residents, it was extremely damaging to others. It had been noted that during some events, the staff car park was being used whilst others were excluded and asked if the car park could not be opened up in the evening in order to stop the traffic congestion. She said there had been a condition attached to the planning application approved in 2009 requiring an annual monitoring report on the effectiveness of the school travel plan to be submitted to the planning authority; and asked if one had been submitted and what were the conclusions reached. She said the possible proposals to build more houses in Wellesbourne would only exacerbate the problem.

Cllr Mrs BR said some of the teaching staff attend evening events such as Zumba classes and that is why some cars were in the staff car park making room for other cars without a pass.

Actions: Arrange meeting between County Travel, Cllr DJ and Miss McDonaugh Cllr Mrs BR to check with school to ask if non staff could be permitted to park in the staff car park during evening events.	By: Cllr DJ By: Cllr Mrs BR
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District Cllr Wright said when the independent inquiry was held he hoped and expected that he and his representative would be permitted to attend. He said Mr Rutherford's comments illegal or otherwise holding an inquiry was essential. He thanked his colleagues, especially Cllrs Close, Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Bolton. He said although the Parish Council was one member less it was not detrimental and new blood was needed. He said he could be forthright at times but on a business form and that the most important thing was the residents of Wellesbourne. He said he had enjoyed his time on the Council and would be happy to work alongside in a questions/answer capacity for the remaining work on the burial ground and WSCC to discharge if required to do so.

Mr Podbury, Kineton Road, said the double yellow lines adjacent to Duncan's pet shop had not been reinstated and asked WPC to take this matter up with the County Highways dept.

Mr Rose, Kineton Road. Said he endorsed the comments regarding Cllr Wright made by Cllr DC and said it was a shame that his time on WPC had ended this way.

Cllr DC said he could give Cllrs the background to the Chedham's Yard item 17 at this point in the meeting or during item 17. Cllrs agreed it would be better discussed at item 17 for clarity.

7. Objections to the External Auditor by Mr Rutherford - Noted

7.1

Charges made for Clement Keys Counsel's advice in connection to objection to Chedham's Yard by Mr Rutherford	£2700 net
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8. Finance and Administration Committee

8.1 Minutes of the meeting of 27th September 2011 - noted

8.2 Approval of monthly accounts (circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting)

Cllr RP queried the invoice from Jessops as he believed the work had not been completed to date. He suggested that the work on the tiling had been completed and should be paid for separately.

The accounts were approved for payment with the exception of Jessops where part of the work would be paid only	Prop JG, 2 nd Cllr RB Motion carried
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8.3 Approval of staff salaries (circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting)

These were approved for payment	Prop RR 2 nd JG Motion carried
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8.4 Christmas Lights – Quotes received for installation of lights (circulated to Cllrs prior to meeting)

Recommendation: To agree contract for Christmas light installation
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Quotes had been sought but only two companies had quoted.

Resolution: Accept quote from GS Adams Ltd	Prop JG, 2 nd DK, Motion carried
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It was noted that the wrong lights switch on date had been recorded by GS Adams Ltd. (Date 25th Nov)

8.5 Date of next meeting – October date to be arranged and 29th November 2011

9. Police

9.1 SNT Newsletter (circulated to Cllrs prior to meeting)

9.2 Office provision for the SNT

Recommendation: Accept the provision of room facility for SNT at the Parish Council offices (f.o.c)

Resolution: Offer room facility to Police	Prop RB, 2 nd RR Motion carried
Action: Let Police know of approval	By: Office

10. Planning

10.1 Decisions

10.1.1 Approvals

1.

11/00050/FUL	Change of use of ancillary visitor facility (connected to D2 used Wellesbourne Mill) to A3 café and restaurant and proposed change of use of equine barn to sensory play barn (D2 use) with construction of linked walkway		
At	Wellesbourne Water Mill	For	Ingleby Foundation

Noted – Cllr DJ said he had attended EAPC to discuss the provision of a footway as original application in January cited as in walking distance. The revised application cited cycling only, with no mention of walking. He said SDC planning nor County Highways felt a footway was required.

2.

11/00258/FUL	Retrospective application for the retention of the hotel waste compound located at the south east corner of the site, including: 2m high close boarded fence, cardboard compactor, general waste compactor, two steel containers, general waste skip and glass/metal recycling skip		
At	Walton Hall	For	Barcelo UK

Noted

10.1.2 Refusals

1.

11/00447/FUL	Use of land for stationing of mobile home for residential occupation by a warden (retrospective)		
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At	Newlands Caravan Site	For	Mr Warr
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Noted

10.2 Applications

1.

11/01929/FUL	Ground floor link extension and first floor side extension		
At	33 Pembroke Gardens	For	Mr Minton
Officer dealing	Ann Banks	Due date	6 October 2011

No Objection

2.

11/01943//FUL	Part retrospective re-roof increasing roof height by 150 mm		
At	58 Elliott Drive	For	Orbit Heart of England
Officer dealing	Ann Banks	Due date	7 October 2011

No objection

3.

11/02056/TPO	T1 beech: lift crown by approx 5m. Thin canopy by 20%. T2 Prunus fell		
At	10 Sunderland Place	For	Mr Cook
Officer dealing	Ruth Rose	Due date	12 th October 2011

Support subject to opinion of arboricultural officer.

4.

11/01193/FUL	Discharge of condition 2 material samples of planning permission		
At	St Peter's Church, Church St.	For	Wellesbourne Parish Council
Officer dealing	Sue Wright	Due date	8 th November 2011 (8wks)

No comment

10.3 Correspondence - none

10.4 Date of next Area Planning meetings 5th and 26th October 2011 - noted

11. Amenities and Highways Committee

11.1 Chairman's update(circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting)

11.2 Wellesbourne Sports and Community building – report from Working Party – Cllr Mrs RB asked if an independent legal adviser had been sought to scrutinise the Tender documents – Cllr RP confirmed that one had been appointed and would be visiting the office & site on 11/10/11 at 12 noon.

11.3 Sports Association - minutes of the club had been circulated to all Cllrs

11.4 Youth Club – Cllr DJ said a meeting with Walton Estates management had been most productive regarding both the Youth Club and village hall. He said a valuer had been asked to approach Mr Faulkner in an attempt to reach an amicable figure which represented value for money. It was noted that whilst the Council were happy to open a dialogue on this matter, purchase of the village hall would depend on funding being available to the Council as it did not have the means to purchase the building at this time. The Estates management also confirmed that they were happy for the Youth Club to continue for the next 12 months on the existing conditions, giving WPC the option to work on proposals for the future. Next Management Committee meeting 18/10 – Cllrs DJ & GB to arrange meeting.

11.5 Wellesbourne in Bloom – GOLD AWARDED! - The Council expressed their congratulations for the success of WIB once again getting a gold award. Cllr DC Prop the Council send a small bunch of flowers or box of chocolates for each of the ladies in recognition of their hard work. 2nd Cllr Mrs VB Motion Carried.

11.6 Date of next meeting 8th November 2011 - noted

12. Office and Staffing Committee

12.1 Minutes of meeting of 27th September 2011 – to follow

12.2 Draft Vexatious and Repeated Request Policy (Clerk) – Circulated to all Cllrs for comments, for approval at November full council meeting.

13. Emergency Committee – Last meeting 9th November 2010

13.1 Date of next meeting to be agreed

14. **Parish Plan/Village Design Statement-** update Cllr Kendall – Printing would be within the month, the Village Design Statement was still ongoing. The Housing Needs Survey would be a stand alone document. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan would not come into play until after the Localism Bill comes into force.

15. Burial Grounds - update Cllr Mrs Bolton – The footpath was now installed, some outstanding work remained on the pillars. The opening ceremony went well and the success of this project is the result of effective work between the PCC and WPC over many years.

16. Wellesbourne and Kineton Community Forum

16.1 Report of meeting of 8th September 2011 – Cllr Johnston said that members of the public asked what had been agreed by SDC regarding development & SDC had given assurances that no decision had been made on any piece of land, just the number of houses.

Cllr DC said other subjects discussed had included the Waste Strategy (operation by volunteers) queries were raised and SDC gave a display regarding waste disposal and reduction in landfill use. The district had been outlined as one of the highest percentages of people in fuel poverty, Community transport & affordable housing were also topics of discussion. Cllr DC to give full report next meeting

16.2 Date of next meeting to be announced - noted

17. Chedham's Yard

17.1 Trustee request to vary condition of the Lease (report circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting) Cllr DC said he would give the Councillors the details of the request then leave the meeting as per agreement in item 6.

Cllr DC said the bellows on site had been in poor condition but had been restored. Later they were damaged again in the flood and were once again in poor condition. It was the feeling of the Friends that the bellows should be used in demonstrations and this is what the Trust would like. However, professional advice is that they should not be used as it would be detrimental to the artefact. The Trust are asking WPC to waive the lease agreement conditions on the bellows in order that they might be used. Cllrs questioned the originality of artefacts which have been repaired extensively.

Cllr DC left the meeting

Recommendation: Accept Friends proposal to use the bellows	Prop Cllr JG, 2 nd DJ Motion carried
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Cllr DC returned to the meeting

Cllr DC said the restoration of the original building was phenomenal, with the biggest compliment being “What have they done” showing the high quality of the restoration. The new visitor building was progressing, roof tiling to be installed shortly along with the paving. If Councillors wished to visit the yard again, please let Emma Banks know.

18. WALC/NALC

18.1 Newsletter ADH\96 – (circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting)

18.2 Correspondence – none

19. Consultation Documents

Proposal to close Pupil Referral Unit	WCC
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Noted

The 2013 Review of Parliamentary constituencies in England	Boundary Commission for England
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Action: Accept saying Wellesbourne back in with SDC.

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options & Policies Consultation	WCC
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Noted

20. General Correspondence

Letter to Council Chairman re: Sad loss of Cllr Copeland	Mr John Morley
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Cllr DJ proposed that Cllr DC take over as tree warden, 2nd RB, motion carried.

Cc letter to Jeremy Wright re: Closure of Police Station & cut backs	Mr J Morgan
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Cllr DJ said even if WPC purchased the police station, he did not believe the police would use it as they had moved to a new policing model.

Action: Cllr DJ to prepare draft letter and send to the Clerk

Wellesbourne Allotments National Garden Scheme Open Day notice	Wellesbourne Allotments
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Noted

Plea for Parish Council support re soup kitchen in Africa	Anglican Church/Hope Africa
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No power to support, write back to say cannot assist.

21. Cllr Exchange of Information

Cllr Mrs RB said the Index proof had been received and it was hoped distribution would be within the month, volunteers were asked for to deliver.

Cllr DC said he had attended a meeting at SDC with the potential developers of Ettington Road site. Written report to follow.

22. Date of next meeting 1st November 2011 – noted

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Chairman...Cllr Johnston...

Signed.....

Date.....