



## **WARNDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of Warndon Parish Council, commenced  
at 7.00 pm on Monday 8 January 2024, at the Lyppard Hub (Room 4)

**Present:** Cllrs K Collier, S Forrest, E Kimberley, D Merriman, J Rudge, A Taylor

**In attendance:** the Clerk, Cllr S Murray (City Councillor), Cllr A Cross (County Councillor),  
two members of the public

### **To receive and consider Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs L Hodgson and S Hodgson

### **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

### **Open Session**

Jan Scrine (member of the public) raised the issue of Footpath 660B leading from Augusta Drive in the Stableford development across "Darwin Field" which is again completely blocked by brambles and becoming unnavigable. Cllr Cross is looking into this, and it will hopefully be addressed before the coming bird nesting season. Additionally, the heras fencing around the deep replacement 'newt pond' by footpath 663B has a large gap through which children as well as dogs can enter. The developers owning the land need to fix this as it is dangerous. The footpath is a designated right of way. Cllr Merriman will contact Neil Jones (County Council) to draw attention to works needed.

### **785. To approve the Minutes of:**

- (i) the meeting of the Parish Council held on 4 December 2023

Cllr A Taylor proposed, seconded by Cllr J Rudge that the Minutes be approved. Council resolved to approve the Minutes with minor editing.

### **786. Police Report**

- (i) To receive reports and recent communications and consider if follow up action is required

There was no report. Council noted that PC Graysmark has been providing local updates on police actions on the Warndon Villages Community Facebook page.

- (ii) To consider measures to reduce speeding on Warndon Villages roads

Council considered setting up a working group to look at the continued issue of speeding in the Villages. There have been no serious accidents reported in the light of the 1,700 recorded speeding movements in the Villages but nonetheless it remains a long-standing issue and has not been subject to considered reporting. Cllr Forrest to lead on setting up a WG, with initial interest from Cllrs Collier and Kimberley (and other councillors as they wish). The WG will aim to involve the public via consultation and/or liaison.

#### **787. County Council report**

Cllr Cross is monitoring developments regarding the new secondary school and the anaerobic digester at Hindlip. For financial reporting, County council are starting to use “Power BI” which should enable users to drill down easily beyond headline figures into the detail.

Damaskfield gate – the metal farm gate has deteriorated and been temporarily secured using heras fencing for quite some time now, and residents are urging it to be repaired properly. The gate is on land still owned by the developer but county council has access rights. An option being explored, which involves consulting with neighbours, local members, and the school, is opening this gate up to allow cyclist and pedestrian access to Damaskfield. This is to reduce pressure on the narrow path from Ankerage Green to Mapit Place, and potentially designate it as pedestrian only (no cycling). Last summer there were a few accidents and near-misses involving young cyclists and car drivers; enabling them to use the Damaskfield gate may help reduce accidents and improve active travel to/from Lyppard School. A 'priority junction' at the entrance of Ankerage Green from Millwood Drive is planned, to improve pedestrian & cycling access to Lyppard Grange Primary School. Time for this has not yet been confirmed. Cllr Cross to give an update when more is known.

#### **788. City Councillors' report**

Council received the report which was noted and taken as read.

#### **789. Environmental Matters**

- (i) To receive reports from Councillors

Council received the report which was noted and taken as read. There has not been too much damage reported following the recent storms and adverse weather, although minor flooding issues have been noted. The new Parish Warden has continued with work on shrub encroachment of footpaths. Sandra Green, Head of City Services and Kevin Haines, who has taken over following Mark Baylis leaving WCC, have expressed an interest in attending the March Parish Council meeting. The Warden service costs will be reduced this financial year due to the reduction in service during July to November 2023.

- (ii) To receive the VAS/SID report

Council received the report which was noted and taken as read. Council's application to the OPCC Road Safety Grant Fund to fund an additional SID unit has been forwarded to the next budget round of the fund.

- (iii) Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Strategy

There was no report. This item to be withdrawn from future Agendas.

- (iv) Ash die-back in Warndon Villages

There has been no further progress since Harry Sims left City Council. It needs to be established whether the City Environment Team have visited Plantation Wood to view the ash tree situation and whether any trees have been reported as presenting danger to the public requiring felling. Cllrs Collier and S Hodgson will attend the next City Environment Committee to represent the interests of Warndon.

- (v) Apex Ponds

Cllrs Forrest, Merriman and Taylor met Mike, trustee of Duckworth Trust at Apex ponds on 29 December to view the site. (see Cllr Merriman's report (7,i)). There is the potential for Natural Networks funding provided by Worcestershire County Council and Worcestershire Wildlife Trust who offer free professional biodiversity surveys and grants to improve areas of land or water for wildlife which could be utilised if WPC proceeds with the transfer of the land. Council agreed that the next step should be to carry out due diligence on the legal costs, land costs and ongoing site management costs before committing to taking the site on.

## **790. Communications**

- (i) Communications Working Group

The next meeting of the WG is proposed for the end of January. The Clerk to circulate potential dates/time.

- (ii) Facebook, Website, Newsletter

The Newsletter has now been published and the majority of deliveries now completed. Cllr Merriman thanks the Clerk, councillors and volunteers who were involved in the production and delivery.

## 791. Planning and Rights of Way Matters

- (i) To receive reports from Councillors, including updates on current applications, decisions, and recent responses and notes from recent Planning & Rights of Way Committee meetings
- (ii) To consider the Parish Council's response to pending applications

APPLICATION NO	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	OBJECTION Y/N	COUNCIL COMMENT
23/00970/FUL	Nunnery Park Service Station Hornhill Road Worcester WR4 0SX	Shop extension and jetwash bay	Defer	County Highways have recommended a deferment due to increased commercial activity that includes a Burger King. If there is additional lighting, consideration to bat population needs to be considered (Chris Dobbs)
23/00945/HP	227 Newtown Road Worcester WR5 1JB	Proposed single storey rear extension	N/A	Outside Parish Council boundary, but would have objected

Worcester City Council Planning determined the following decisions:

APPLICATION NO	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	DECISION
23/00862/FUL	Acorn House Bridgwater Road Worcester WR4 9FQ	Installation of new bin store and AC compound.	Approved

### 23/00776/FUL -Transmec

To date there is no published decision

### 23/00956/HP - Howcroft Green installation of heat pump

The noise level exceeds legal guidelines and will need planning permission.

- (iii) To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

Further work is on hold pending confirmation of the legal position of the 'significant gap'.

- (iv) To receive an update on the Town Deal Board

There was nothing to report.

- (v) To receive an update on the South Worcestershire Development Plan

The review is continuing, and publication of hearing dates is awaited. The Parish Council can represent Warndon Parish's interests.

- (vi) To receive an update on the Boundary Review Consultation

There was nothing further to report on the County Boundary Review. The City review of ward boundaries should announce its results on 24 March.

- (vii) Unadopted land adoption schedule

There was nothing to report.

- (viii) Divorced footpaths

There was nothing to report.

#### **792. Leisure and Community Matters**

- (i) To receive reports from Councillors, including updates on the following matters:

- (a) Allotments

New standpipes need to be installed to rectify the water leakage problem. Plot holders have enquired about mowing the paths to allow better access to plots and define plot borders. Cllrs Forrest and Rudge to confer with Ray Morris (former councillor) regarding former maintenance arrangements for the Mabbs site.

- (b) Defibrillators

The Clerk has been notified that the unit at Haines Avenue was accessed over the Christmas break. Cllr S Hodgson to inspect the unit on 9 January and replace items used where necessary.

- (ii) To consider proposals for engagement projects; approve budget and delegated authorities

- (a) Platinum Jubilee commemorative projects

There was nothing to report.

#### **793. Financial Matters**

- (i) To receive the Clerk's Financial reports 2023-24 YTD

- (a) Annual budget by centre

- (b) Cashbook report showing receipts and payments

- (c) Trial balance

Council received and noted the financial reports.

- (ii) To approve accounts for payment and receive details of cash receipts for information

<b>Accounts for payment (retrospective)</b>	<b>£</b>
O2 Clerk's mobile phone contract December 2023 (direct debit)	28.15
Waterplus (allotments water supply)	71.51
<b>Accounts for payment</b>	<b>£</b>
Susan Carr (Clerk salary (December 2023))	1439.00
HMRC – (Clerk PAYE November 2023)	55.85
DandD Services (IT software licence December 2023)	82.94
DandD Services (IT support December 2023)	240.00
Michelmores LLP (legal work)	4094.40
Lyppard Hub (room hire)	3.25
<b>Cash Receipts since last meeting</b>	<b>£</b>
Redwood Bank Interest – December 2023	227.28
Neil McKillup - donation Cllr Roberts memorial bench	489.80

Council noted and approved the accounts.

#### **794. Reports from outside bodies**

- (i) Lyppard Hub Management Board

There was nothing to report. The Board is next due to meet at the end of January.

- (ii) Worcester City Standards Committee

There was nothing to report.

- (iii) CALC updates which affect the Parish Council

There were none.

#### **795. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agendas**

Benches project

Memorial Bench policy review

Future Parish Surgeries

WPC deposit account options

**796. Date of the Next Meeting: Monday 5 February 2024, 7.00 pm, Lyppard Hub**

**The meeting closed at: 9.10pm**

**Signed:.....**  
**(Chair)**

**Date:.....**