

Minutes of Weldon Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th May 2021 via Zoom

Clerk: Sue Cook
Mobile: 07825 925 210
Email: scweldonpc@gmail.com
Website: <https://weldonparishcouncil.co.uk>

Councillors Present	Angela Page (Chair), Mike Page, Dick Priem, Colin Shepard, Kane Taylor, Simon Taylor, Anton Vickers and Mark Williams
Also Present	6 Members of the public, and Sue Cook (Clerk)

Cllr A Page opened the meeting by thanking David Groom, Simon Green and Joannie Perkins for all their work over the years whilst being Parish Councillors.

21.054 There were no Apologies

21.055 The Councillors completed their **Acceptance to Office**, which were witnessed by the Clerk and Chair. The Clerk is waiting for the new **Declarations of Interest** to be issued by NNC which will be forwarded to the Councillors when available.

21.056 Cllr K Taylor **Declared an Interest in item 21.066 (b).**

21.057 Public time: Residents raised the matter of the Allotment Hedge, which has been left with a large hole in it. The residents would like to purchase with the Parish Councils help some young trees and hedging, they have cleared the area of the brambles. Cllr S Taylor proposed that the Parish Council grant £100 towards the cost of the plants, this was seconded by Cllr A Page and approved by all present. Larratt Road is in urgent need of repairing, the residents have some funds available but are looking for help from the Parish Council. The Parish Council stated that this is an unadopted road and will need to take advice as to whether it would be appropriate to help fund the project.

21.058 North Northamptonshire Councillors – As this meeting took place 4 days after the election it was too late to invite the new NNC councillors to the meeting.

21.059 There was no report from **Kirstie Lloyd-Uzoegbu**

21.060 the following committees are:

Finance: Cllrs A Page, M Page, Priem, K Taylor and S Taylor

Planning: Cllrs M Page, Priem, Shepard and Williams

HR: Cllrs M Page, Priem, K Taylor, S Taylor and Williams

Parish Maintenance: Cllrs Priem, Shepard and Vickers (the remainder to made up of residents)

NDP: Cllrs Priem, Shepard and Vickers (the remainder to made up of residents)

21.061 Appointment of representations on External Bodies

Village Hall Management Committee – Cllr Priem

Friends of Weldon Woodland Park – Cllr Shepard

Rural Area Forum - Cllrs A Page, M Page and the Clerk

21.062 Cllr K Taylor proposed that the following policies be Adopted

Financial Regulations

Freedom of Information & Data Protection Policies

Press/Media & Social Media Policies

Complaint Procedure

Health & Safety and Loner Worker Policies

Cllr S Taylor seconded the proposal with everyone in agreement.

21.063 It was resolved to accept the **Minutes of the Meetings held on Tuesday 6th April** as a true record.

21.064 Matters Arising

a) **Working Party Update** – Cllr A Page informed everyone that a meeting had been held on 26th April which again was very informative and a good

Minutes of Weldon Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th May 2021 via Zoom

opportunity to highlight traffic issues along Oundle Road, Kettering Road, Corby Road and High Street. Parking issues along the High Street were also spoke about with several ideas of how to ease the problem.

- b) **Pedestrian Crossing for Priors Hall zone 1 to join Weldon**, Cllr M Page informed the meeting that Aecom have been appointed and are working on the design of the crossing in conjunction with Urban and Civic.
- c) **Road Sign for Church Walk** – No further update on this matter, previous e mail was read 2 days ago. Cllr S Taylor to chase.
- d) **Parish Ownership** – Cllr S Taylor reported that North Northamptonshire Council will be taking over the responsibility of the grass area at Brambleside and Persimmon have instructed their solicitors to draft up the legal documentation for Weldon Parish Council to take over the maintenance of the Leys with the same agreement as Francis Jackson with the Gandy Field.
- e) **Morrison RDC** – the Parish Council has written to Iain Smith with reference to the issue, with no response to date. Mr Huxtable is still taking recordings of the noise which has dropped slightly.
- f) **Planters** – it was resolved that 3 of the wooden raised bed planters should be placed by the bench on the Triangle and the other 3 on the large grass area on Stamford Road. The Clerk reminded Cllr Shepard to collect the 1st Aid Kit from her prior to the work being carried out as a precaution.
- g) **Play Equipment Project** – prior to lockdown Wickstead Leisure agreed to inspect the equipment and supply any missing parts. Mr S Green has a contact within NNC with reference to funding the installation of the equipment at the play area at the Woodlands, Cllr Shepard agreed to contact Mr Green for an update.
- h) **Land Registry of the Triangle** – on further investigation it appears that there are no legal documents to prove that the Parish Council own this land, other than previous Parish Council Clerks trying to registry it with the Land Registry and for some reason stopping short. The Parish Council have been tending this land for more 12 years and therefore should be able to proceed under Adverse Possession rules. One of the members of public believes he has documentation relating to this site and will let the Clerk have copies.
- i) **Training for All Councillors** – NCALC have published the latest courses available. Cllr A Page will register for a Chairmanship Course and the Clerk recommended that Councillors should go on “Off to a Flying Start”. All councillors need a refresher course. Brainstormer session should be set up to see just what is required.
- j) **Safe Meetings** – The Parish Council have held their Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall Car Park prior to this meeting. With the Village Hall Annexe only being able to seat 10 people under the current guidelines and the Main Hall being booked every evening it was resolved at the Annual Parish Council Meeting that **delegated powers be handed to the Clerk** and to continue to use Zoom for all meetings until September when it will be reviewed. The Parish Council is committed to think of Public Safety first.

21.065 Reports from

- a) **Parish Maintenance** - Cllr Shepard reported that he has met with Gavin Bennett from the Wildlife Trust and that Councillors should have received a copy of his report. Mr Cox hopes to be returning to light duties in

Minutes of Weldon Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th May 2021 via Zoom

approximately 2 weeks. Work is still being carried out to clear the Gandy Field of brambles and stone. The scrap metal still needs to be removed from the Hills and Hollows. The young giant hogweed has been sprayed with an herbicide by Mr Manning (who is registered to do so). The paths and lower edges in the Hills and Hollows need to be cut and the vegetation removed within the next 2 weeks, the clerk agreed to get quotes in cases Mr Cox is unable to return to work. The Clerk reminded Cllr Shepard that Risk Assessments do need to be carried out prior to any work being done and that the 1st Aid Kit should be taken on site.

- b) **NPD Committee** – Cllr Vickers stated that he has sent the Councillors the draft proposals to review. This is in turn will go to North Northamptonshire Council. There will be a 6-week public consultation period. 7 landowners have been contacted for information about their intentions concerning land they own around the village but only 2 have replied. Cllr A Page thanked Cllrs Vickers for his hard work.
- c) The Clerk had forwarded the **School Report** to all Councillors prior to the meeting. “We are really excited that our new gym equipment will be installed on the field over the Summer holiday. This will add to the running track, which is used by every class for their ‘Daily Mile’, and the trim trail that the children are finally able to use. The trim trail was installed over Easter 2020 but we’ve been unable to use it until now due to Covid safety restrictions. Once we can return to some normality after 21st June, we are hopeful our new library, IT suite and Art Studio can be shared more fully with all our children. We also hope to be able to hold a Sports Day in July, inviting along parents and carers to cheer for their children. Our school was oversubscribed for September 2021’s new intake of children. We’re proud to be such a sought-after school as it’s a reflection of our hard-working staff team, children and supportive parents. The staff and governors worked to re-establish our school vision over the last year. It’s very much set in scripture and reflects the Christian values already well embedded in school. Our children will start to become very familiar with this over their time at Weldon and it accurately reflects what we are striving for in our school.”
- d) The Clerk reported that there had been 23 **Crimes Reported** within the Parish for March, which include 5 Anti-Social Behaviour, 5 Public Order Offences, 4 other theft and 9 other Crimes.

21.066 Finance

- a) The Finance Committee continue to meet monthly and take it in turns to carry out Internal Controls. The accounts are ready to be put before the Internal Auditor with a view to approving the Year End Accounts at the June Full Council Meeting. There is currently £172,819.63 across all accounts which includes half of the precept, most of this money is allocated to projects.

The following payments were approved in line with current legislation

Payee	Reason	Amount	Power
N P Cox	Grass Cutting, Fuel & Strimmer Wire	£1185.44	OSA1906, s9
HMRC	PAYE	£91.20	LGA1972 s112
Sue Cook	Salary + Expenses	£986.91	LGA1972 s112
Came & Co	Insurance	£1046.01	
Weldon School	Grant from January 2021	£4999.00	S 137
Youth Worker	Grant for Equipment, balance of £1500 to be paid in July	£3500	S137

Minutes of Weldon Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th May 2021
via Zoom

- b) A grant request had been received from **Kirstie Lloyd-Uzoegbu** for £5000 towards purchasing equipment, other funding is being looked into by Kirstie. Cllr K Taylor confirmed that the spending of this will be monitored by himself as signatory to the bank account. Cllr A Page proposed that the grant be accepted, Cllr Priem seconded the proposal with everyone in agreement.
- c) The funding of the replacement hedge line at the allotments was discussed during public time
- d) Cllr S Taylor to obtain quotes for 2 new Vehicle Activated Signs
- e) Consultant to advise on traffic problems to be considered after a full traffic survey has been completed.

21.067 Planning Applications:

Cllr M Page gave the following update to the meeting:.. Tom Pursglove MP is continuing to be in contact with Mulberry Construction and there is an onsite meeting arranged for early June. With reference to the Oundle Road School application responses from NNC are slow and other planning applications have been considered with responses made in the correct manner.

21.068 To Consider Any Incoming Correspondence as previously circulated with no further action required

- a) NCALC Updates
- b) Great British Spring Clean
- c) Pathfinder Community Resilience Project – Spring Newsletter
- d) Heritage Cycle Route with Weldon
- e) Weekly Scheme of Works

21.069 To note any concerns raised by residents via email to the Clerk

- a) Allotments – covered in the public time
- b) Street Lighting – many have been repaired others require more attention by E-on.
- c) Dirt Bikes

21.070 Future agenda items/business for future meetings. The nature of future agenda items can be discussed at this point however no decision can be made until the next meeting.

- a) Co-option of 3 Parish Councillors to fill vacancies from the election, Notices to be placed on Parish Council Website, Village Hall Noticeboard, Londis and Park News
- b) To consider purchasing new bench for Rose Avenue
- c) To consider using a Health and Safety Advisor – The Clerk suggested contacting NCALC for their advice.
- d) To consider help fund repairs to Larratt Road – covered in public time.

20.071 Date of next meeting Monday 7th June

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8:45p.m.