

Minutes of Weldon Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5th July 2021 via Zoom

Clerk: Sue Cook

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Councillors Present	Angela Page (Chair), Mike Page, Dick Priem, Colin Shepard, Kane Taylor, Simon Taylor, Anton Vickers and Mark Williams
Also Present	10 Members of the public, North Northamptonshire Councillors (NNC) Macaulay Nichol and Kevin Watt and Sue Cook (Clerk)

Cllr Page opened the meeting by explaining the reason why the Parish Council are still using Zoom to conduct meetings.

21.087 There were no Apologies

21.088 Cllr A Page thanked Cllrs K Taylor, S Taylor and the Clerk for their attendance at the interviews for the 3 **Council Vacancies**. There were 10 applicants and interviews took place over 2 days. It was resolved to **Co-opt** Mrs Janet Gibson, Mr Peter Dowsett and Mr Graham Stray onto the Parish Council. The Declarations to Office will be signed remotely.

21.089 Following from the interviews all the candidates offered to join various **Parish Council Committees**. Cllr Priem would like to resign from Finance Committee, NDP Committee and the Village Hall Management Committee. Cllr Gibson agreed to become the representative for the Parish Council on the Village Hall Management Committee, the Clerk will contact the Village Hall Secretary.

Finance: Cllrs A Page, M Page, K Taylor and S Taylor plus resident Peter Higgins

Planning: Cllrs M Page, Shepard and Williams plus resident Helen Watt

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

Parish Maintenance: Cllrs Dowsett, Priem, Shepard and Vickers with Residents Chris Manning, Donna Johnson, Nigel Cox, Joannie Perkins, Phil Watts, Simon Green, Mark Mulrooney and Prue Wullems

NDP: Cllrs Dowsett, Shepard, Stray and Vickers with residents Brian & Jo Turner,

Traffic Working Group: All Councillors, Macaulay Nichol plus residents Gavin Merrington and Peter Higgins

21.090 Cllr Priem **Declared an Interest** in item 21.100 (b) Grant Request. Cllr Dowsett **Declared an Interest** in item 21.095 as a resident affected by the overdue opening of Weldon Relief Road and the Closure of Kettering Road.

21.091 **Public time:** One resident thanked the Parish Council for installing the planters they enhance the area. He also asked about the late opening of Spine Road. To be covered in Working Party Update (item 21.095).

Another resident welcomed the new Councillors and stated that he has noticed heavy plant machinery moving in at the Cowthick site. Cllr M Page stated that the site only has outline planning permission. No building construction can take place until the appropriate planning consent has been given.

2 residents raised concerns over the allotments via the chat room on zoom by asking that they would like to know more about the elected persons at the allotments on Larratt Road and are you dealing with racist homophobic xenophobic bullying on the allotments. Due to the language being used by these residents, Cllr A Page reminded them via chat that the Parish Council has a code of conduct for the public and that the language being used was inappropriate (Appendix A). Any complaints

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or concerns they have about the running of the allotments should be put in writing to the Clerk.

- 21.092 North Northamptonshire Councillors – Cllr Nicol** commented that this was his first attendance at a meeting of Weldon Parish Council. Since he was elected onto the North Northamptonshire Council he has worked hard to provide more parking spaces on Woodlands Road. Cllr Nicol also stated that if anyone see a HGV travelling in the village where there is a weight restriction to take a note of the name of the haulier along with registration and inform the police via the website. It was agreed to invite Cllr Nicol to the Traffic Working Party meetings. **Cllr Watt** reported that the community Developers have not got details of the full traffic survey, there was a full traffic survey carried out last year and was ignored. Graham Lawmen, the lead for Highways, has visited the parish. Due process at NNC needs to be improved there is no interface between departments. The Kettering Road Recycling Centre is not fit for purpose and continues to raise concerns, it has been noted that some residents are travelling to the Kettering or Market Harborough sites. The Joint Core Strategy is under review. One of the major concerns is residential butting up against industrial/commercial. There has been no progress on the Incinerator at Shelton Road. The wrong link had been issued for the survey on charging points, Cllr Watt will forward the correct link to the Clerk.

Cllr Dowsett asked Cllr Watt why there is nothing showing on the highway's website with reference to Kettering Road closure.

The Clerk also asked for an update on emergency services still using Church Street as a rat run.

- 21.093 The Youth Worker, Kirstie Lloyd-Uzoegbu** report had been circulated to the councillors prior to this meeting (appendix B). Cllr K Taylor confirmed that 22 young people were currently on the Big Blue Bus at the Corby Business Academy Student Car Park on Priors Hall which gives them access to the playing field as well. The Councillors agreed that the report says it all and to keep up the good work.

- 21.094** It was resolved to accept the **Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th June** as a true record.

- 21.095 Working Party Update** – Cllr S Taylor informed the meeting that Persimmon have now committed to opening the Spine Road on 9th August. They are currently erecting fencing to protect their site. The current 20mph speed limit signs will be replaced with 30mph. The planters that had been ordered have been cancelled as they were deemed not fit for purpose. The Maintenance Committee will make proposals regarding the planters for approval at the September meeting. There is no update as of yet about the Double Yellow Lines.

- 21.096 Training for All Councillors** – The Clerk will circulate the updated training record which shows which councillors should be attending what NCALC courses, once complete the councillors should forward the Clerk a copy of the certificate and update the training record.

- 21.097** Mr Nigel Cook has shown an interest in becoming the **Parish Path Warden** and was duly selected being the only applicant. Mr Cook will walk the public footpaths shown on the definitive map and any issues will be reported to "Fix my Street". He will not be reporting on the tarmac footpaths.

- 21.098** Appointing a Flood **Warden** follows on from the Pathfinder III. It was agreed to form a Committee to set out the Community Flood Plan following from the course

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that Cllr Priem and Mr Simon Green took part in. Committee Members are Cllrs Dowsett, A Page and K Taylor with 2 residents Phil & Helen Watt.

21.099 Reports from

- a) **Parish Maintenance** - Cllr Shepard reported that he had asked the Clerk to circulate the approval of works forms to all councillors. 19 large bags of shrubbery have been removed from the Gandy Field with the help of David Groom, who Cllr Shepard thanked. Cllr Shepard had arranged for a scrap metal merchant to clear the metal from the hills and hollows however he failed to turn up. Cllr Shepard suggest that it would be good to know what services if any lie along the Gandy Field and in the Hills & Hollows. The hedge along Kettering Road needs cutting back, the clerk to report it on Fix my Street. The grass in the pocket park will be cut on Friday 9th by Mr Cox.
- b) **NPD Committee** – Cllr Vickers stated that a small highly selected team are working on 2 residential site's assessments which when completed the Neighbourhood Plan will be complete.
- c) **School Report** appendix C.
- d) The June **Crimes Report** was not available at the time of the meeting.

21.100 Finance

- a) It was reported that there is currently £159673.58 across all 3 banks accounts and that includes £1115.86 VAT refund.

The following payments were approved in line with current legislation

Payee	Reason	Amount	Power
Sue Cook	June Salary & Expenses	£1000.41	LGA1972 s112
Sue Cook	July Salary & Expenses	£986.91	LGA1972 s112
HMRC	PAYE for June & July	£182.60	LGA1972 s112
Sue Cook	Reimbursement for Skip	£220.00	LGA1972 s111
Sue Cook	Reimbursement for H&S Book	£16.36	LGA1972 s111
Local Traders	Delivery of Park News	£178.20	LGA1972 s142
PHPNA	Park News	£200.00	LGA1972 s142
N P Cox	Grass Cutting & Expenses	£1224.57	OSA1906, s9
N P Cox	Village Maintenance & Expenses	£541.52	OSA1906, s9
NCALC	Off to a Flying Start - Cllr Vickers	£44.00	
NCALC	Chairmanship Course – Cllr A Page	£44.00	

- b) A grants request has been received from Weldon British Legion for the upkeep of the War Memorial for a total of £460, it was resolved to approve this under Section 137 to be included with the above payments.
- c & d) It was resolved that the Maintenance Committee should provide a full presentation of proposed **benches and planters** for consideration at the September full Council Meeting.
- e) With work of clearing the **Gandy Field** almost complete it was resolved not to consider hiring a tractor and trailer to complete the clearing of the Gandy Field
- f) Maintenance Committee to present their comments at the next full Council Meeting on applying for funding for fencing, kissing gates at the Hills & Hollows and a bridge over the Leys with a view to lease the land for grazing.
- g) **Parish ownership of The Leys** – the Clerk reported that the transfer documents have been signed by the Parish Council and are now back with Persimmon solicitors awaiting signature.

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21.101 Planning Applications: Cllr M Page reported very little is happening with regards to new planning applications however the Parish Council continues to talk with representatives from Kirby Lodge, Cowthick and Oundle Road School.

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

- a) NCALC Updates
- b) Letter from Councillor David Howes, Executive Portfolio Holder for Rural Communities and Localism
- c) Weekly Schemes Works Programmes
- d) Funding List
- e) Corby Library Newsletter
- f) Newsletter from Jason Smithers, Leader of North Northamptonshire Council
- g) Inspectors Report on Part 2 Local Plan for Corby
- h) Morrison RDC – a follow up letter which Cllr Williams drafted has been sent to various North Northamptonshire Council Personal along with Tom Pursglove MP. Awaiting response.

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

- a) Missing gate at the Lagoon, top of Larratt Road (Anglian Water notified)
- b) Height of trees along Corby Road (Fix my Street)
- c) Heavy Traffic noise from the A43 (NNC notified)
- d) Overgrown hedge along Kettering Road (Fix my Street)

21.104 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) To consider forming an events committee for the **Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons Event** – Cllrs Gibson, A Page, Priem, K Taylor and Vickers put their names forward along with residents Mr Hudson and Mr Mulrooney.
- b) Re-instate **Village Walkabouts** – clerk to contact Suzanne Preston
- c) To consider using a **H&S Advisor** – suggestions were to employ a professional H&S Advisor for 20 to 40 hours per year, North Northamptonshire Council may have some resources and resident Mrs Watt has some experience in H&S.
- d) Resident William Gerrard is interested in forming a **Youth Council**.
- e) To consider forming a **Communication Sub-Committee** – Cllrs Dowsett, M Page and Vickers along with resident Mr Fordyce put their names forward.

20.105 Date of next meeting Monday 6th September, the Clerk has provisionally booked the Village Hall Annexe

This being all the business the meeting was closed at 21:10 after Cllr Page thanked everyone for attending.

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Appendix A



Weldon Parish Council

Code of Conduct - Public

No member of Weldon Parish Council should be required or feel obliged to deal with any customer either face to face, over the phone or in correspondence, who is exhibiting threatening, abusive or violent behaviour.

In any of these circumstances they have the right to refuse to serve that member of the public and should refer the person to The Chair or HR Committee Chair of Weldon Parish

Threatening and uncivil behaviour is defined as, but not limited to,

- threats of violence to any member of Weldon Parish Council, (civil right to report to the police)
- sexist, racist or homophobic; including intimidating language,
- swearing and/or aggressive body language,
- defamation of character,
- continual harassment.

It is very important that the Chair of the Council or HR Committee Chair speak to member who has been involved in any incident. Members should be aware that there are support avenues available to them

The refusal by a member of the public to be dealt with by any particular member of Weldon Parish Council for any reason such as gender or ethnicity is offensive and totally unacceptable. The person in question should not be given the opportunity to be dealt with by another member of the council unless the member specifically requests this.

In all circumstances involving potentially violent/threatening or abusive customers, the Chair of the Council, or Chair of HR Committee, should explain to the customer that their behaviour is unacceptable and the customer should be asked to apologise and/or behave in a civil manner. Subject to the customer's behaviour improving sufficiently, and where possible an apology received, the customer should be dealt with as normal.

#Members of Weldon Parish Council – all councillors and Clerk

Adopted by Weldon Parish Council on 10th May 2021

To be reviewed May 2022

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Appendix B

Weldon Parish Youth Work update 05.07.21

- **issues**

The biggest youth work news is that the first weekly youth club session open to all young people of Weldon aged 11-16 years, will be running this evening while you are holding your Parish Council Meeting. We have hired the Big, Blue Bus which is an adapted double decker which serves as a mobile youth centre. The youth club is being advertised across Weldon through both primary schools to target incoming Year 7 students and on Weldon Facebook sites. We also have a core of young people who attended our last campfire event in May who we have managed to retain and will be attending each week. The youth club will be held at CBA with use of their playing fields, which has enabled me to start to build a relationship with the school as a foundation for future work.

We have a team of 10 volunteers, including 2 young leaders aged 16 & 17. All have attended our Volunteer training session, will have completed online safeguarding courses and be DBS checked. The Parish grant has so far enabled us to buy sports and outdoor equipment, as well as indoor crafts and games, and membership to the Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs, which gives us access to a wide range of resource as well as training of staff, and a variety of activities delivered to young people.

The club runs straight after the Rock Solid Youth Church session which will also continue to run weekly for young people who are interested in learning more about the Christian faith. We run topic-based sessions on subjects such as social media, kindness, prejudice, emotional well-being and generally looking at how it is being a teenager today.

The youth club will run for 3 weeks before breaking over the summer, reconvening in September.

I have made strong connections with various youth work projects and charities across the county to look at how we can work together moving forward as well as establishing a valuable support network and source of ideas, training, resources etc.

I have continued to work alongside Safer Corby Partnership, Parish Council, Neighbourhood Association and Urban and Civic to enable strong partnership working and to ensure issues are addressed at the earliest opportunity.

Future plans:

- Continued development and planning on securing a building for youth work and other community-based work
- Securing strong relationships with CBA and Souster Youth to further explore partnership working in the area of the Emotional Well-Being of students if the school are open to this. I have had no response as of yet from the school but have established a good link with Souster Youth who are a well-regarded resource for offering in-school workshops for young people
- Co-facilitation of a parenting course – Handling Anger in the Home – with the Hope For Families charity in September. Again, I will ensure this is advertised across Weldon.
- First Aid training of volunteers
- Ongoing weekly youth club to include additional activities and events

Continue to build on partnership response to community

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Appendix C School Report

It's certainly been a different school year for us all this year! We did have hopes of a return to some more normality as we neared the end of term, but this obviously wasn't to be with the delay to the easing of Government restrictions. As always, our children and staff have coped brilliantly with the ongoing constraints on normal school life and continue to impress us with their resilience and ever-cheerful outlook.

Our year 5 children enjoyed Bikeability cycle training recently – some of you might have seen them cycling along Chapel Rd! It's offered every year and is always a great success, teaching the children the skills to ride their bikes safely and confidently.

There is still lots to look forward to before the end of term. Our Sports Day will still go ahead, just without parents in attendance, and our year 6 pupils (dressed in their leavers' hoodies) will have their leavers assembly outdoors, weather permitting. Our year 6 children are also very excited at the prospect of a sleepover to mark the end of their time at Weldon CE Primary.

We're all looking forward to a well-deserved break over the summer holidays and are crossing our fingers ready for a return to school-as-we-know-it in September!