

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

MINUTES

MEETING OF WIGGINTON AND HOPWAS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 2nd MARCH 2017, 7.15 P.M AT THOMAS BARNES SCHOOL, HOPWAS

Present: Cllr Stevens (Chair), Cllr Biggs, Cllr Croft, Cllr Moore, Cllr Shirtliff.

In attendance: Mrs M Jones (Clerk), District Cllr Leytham, 4 members of the public.

Open Forum

A resident living near the Tame Otter gave an update on the flooding in Hints Road, which continued to affect his property despite many representations to Highways. The promised drain jetting had still not taken place and no contact had been made from Highways or their contractors. Recently a large hole had opened up in the garden, and Cllr Stevens recommended that he reported this development to Highways. After discussion it was suggested that the priority was to find out where the water in Hints Road drained to, which would assist in locating the blockage, and this course of action would be proposed to Highways. It would also be useful to contact the County Councillor with responsibility for highway matters.

1. To receive and approve apologies.

All present.

2. To co-opt a member onto the Parish Council.

To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Caroline Gibson was co-opted onto the Parish Council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. To receive any Declarations of Interest.

None received.

4. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 2nd February 2017.

RESOLVED to approve the Minutes as a true and accurate record.

5. To receive the Clerk's Report.

SPCA/SCC workshop - The Clerk had attended this meeting on joint working between Parish Councils and County Councils. The County Council needed to make savings, due to budget cuts and increased spending on social care. Discussions had centred on how environmental maintenance could be devolved down to Parish Councils, so they would take on more responsibilities in matters such as grass cutting, sign cleaning, gully clearing and other tasks which could be done by a local contractor or handyman. Local control would pass to the Parish Councils if this was agreed following further discussions. Some Councils had expressed reservations as to how this could best be implemented.



Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

Road closures - On 9th March there would be an overnight closure of the River Tame bridge in Tamworth which would affect Hopwas as traffic would be diverted via Lichfield Road and Plantation Lane. It was not known whether there was an alternative route for HGVs.

The railway bridge at the Ashby Road near the junction with Brown's Lane, Tamworth, would be closed from 6th March for around a month. Diversions would be via the M42 so it was likely that there would be increased traffic through Wigginton and other local roads as motorists tried to find alternative routes.

Welcome leaflet – printed and delivered to properties on Memorial Drive.

Internet access – information had been received and forwarded.

6. To consider any planning matters.

- (a) Application at Swallows Barn, Wigginton Fields; amended plans had been received, there were no material grounds to object to this.
- (b) Arkall Farm; representatives of the Parish Council and local residents had attended Lichfield District Council's Planning Committee on 27th February. The application had considered outline permission to build 1000 houses on the site, which was designated a broad development location in the Local Plan. Despite a large number of objections from residents and from Tamworth Borough Council, a monitor and manage approach to build 300 houses and then consider whether the infrastructure could take more development, was approved by Planning Committee. Further building would take place, if the effects were not 'severe', up to a total of 1000.
- (c) Approach from a firm of developers; members of the Parish Council had been asked to meet representatives to informally discuss a proposal to build more housing off Brown's Lane. It was agreed that Cllrs Stevens and Croft would meet them, and the Clerk would arrange this.
- (d) Whittington and Fisherwick Neighbourhood Plan consultation; the Parish Council had been invited to send in comments by March 13th. There did not appear to be any implications for this parish.

7. To consider goal post installation at Hopwas Playing Field.

Cllrs Shirtliff and Biggs had visited the site and agreed the location; payment needed to be sent first and the sockets would be despatched. Once these had been concreted in, the delivery and installation of the goal would take place.

8. To consider parking in Hints Road, Hopwas.

Since the yellow lines had been painted there were less vehicles parked, cars had moved further along Hints Road and some vans into the Tame Otter car park. RESOLVED the Parish Council would inform Highways that the lines had a limited effect and ask whether it was felt appropriate to go ahead with a traffic order.

9. To consider traffic calming in Wigginton.

Leaflets had been distributed to residents and those received back so far displayed a mixed response, with slightly more in favour. Many indicated reservations about parking, and felt one chicane was not enough on its own, with 30 mph flashing signs also required. RESOLVED that Cllrs would study the responses, before discussing further at the next meeting.

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

10. To consider parking in Main Road, Wigginton.

Residents had expressed concerns about parking of vehicles by staff and visitors at the Wigginton Cottage care home. The Clerk and Cllr Croft had spoken to the managers who wanted to resolve the problem with the local community. They had been given permission to park at the Crown, but it was not always possible. Residents obstructed by vehicles were asked to contact them so they could be moved. However not all the parked vehicles were due to the care home. Residents of Walrand Close wished to prevent parking around the junction as it caused difficulties on leaving their road and was at times dangerous due to poor visibility. RESOLVED to contact Highways to investigate the possibility of installing posts on the visibility splays.

11. Hints Road flooding

RESOLVED that Highways would be contacted as discussed during Open Forum.

12. To receive Councillors' reports.

None

13. To receive correspondence.

SPCA bulletins.

Police and Crime Commissioner consultation on future strategy.

MOD Firing times, these had been changed at short notice, they would be requested to keep website details up to date in the interest of public safety.

14. To approve the Financial Report

Bank reconciliation – this was noted.

A transfer from the deposit to current account was agreed.

RESOLVED to approve the Financial Report.

15. To approve payments as listed on the payment schedule.

RESOLVED to make the following payments:

M. Jones, salary, pension, and expenses £562.82;

Peak Cashflow, M & GB Ltd, Hopwas grass cutting, £120;

Lichfield District Council, election 2015 charges £282.90;

Mark Harrod Ltd, goal purchase and installation £583.80;

L. Watkins, Hopwas Playing Field checks, £15.90, Comberford hedge trimming and mowing £88.60

16. Items for next meeting

Wigginton traffic and parking, Hopwas flooding

17. Date of future Meetings:

4th May, Hopwas Methodist Church if available

1st June, St Leonard's Church Hall, Wigginton

18. Date of next meeting. 6th April, St Leonard's Church Hall, Wigginton

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.