Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

Minutes of the AGM & Meeting held on Thursday, 6 May 2021 Via Zoom

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Present: E.Jack (Chair), J. Lawton, J. Archer, M. Gordon, R. Jerman

District Councillor Richard West and Neil Bye

Minutes taken by R. Kerr (clerk)

Election of chairman & vice chairman:

Richard Jerman was proposed by Jonathan Lawton and seconded by Malcolm Gordon and duly elected as Chairman - he then signed the form of acceptance.

Eleanor Jack was proposed as vice chairman by Jonathan Lawton and seconded by Malcolm Gordon and duly elected- she then signed the form of acceptance.

Councillor Jerman thanked Councillor Jack for her 20 years of service as Chairman of the Parish Council on behalf of the other councillors and the village.

Councillor Jerman then took over the chair of the meeting.

Apologies for absence:

Received from County Councillor Julie Wisson (who is stepping down after today) and Becca Neale from the Wildlife Trust

Register of interests – any changes since last year

There were no changes to the register of interests since last year

Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interests

None of the Councillor's had any pecuniary interests with regards to the forthcoming agenda items

To appoint parish council representatives to other bodies and responsibilities

John Archer was appointed as the Airfield & Highways representative, David Morgan as the Tree Warden, Richard Jerman as the Village Hall representative and Jonathan Lawton as the data protection officer and responsible financial officer.

Review of inventory of land and assets including buildings and office equipment
A review of the inventory had been carried out. There was a discussion about including the new planters on the list and this was agreed.

Review and confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks.
The insurance arrangements for 2021/22 had been circulated to the councillors. It was discussed whether the Planters should be added to the insurance and if the Jubilee Lamp and pumps should be included as well and if they are actually owned by the Parish Council. St Neots Town Council do not insure their monuments. It was agreed that The Clerk will contact Zurich Municipal to ask how much it would be to increase the value of the assets to £15000 and what their views are on insuring monuments. District Councillor West will ask the legal officer at Hunts DC for any advice he can offer.

Review of the Council's and/or employees' memberships of other bodies.
It was agreed that the council will continue its membership of CAPALC – it has been of great assistance during the pandemic. Councillor Jack confirmed that she is a member of CPRE.

Review of effectiveness of the system of internal control
The system of internal control was reviewed and agreed by the councillors to be effective.

Resolution: To appoint internal auditor for 20/21
It was agreed to reappoint LGS Services

Ordinary Parish Council meeting

Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests.
None declared.

To approve minutes of Parish Council meeting of 25 March 2021
The minutes had been circulated by the clerk and read by the Councillors and were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from those minutes not on the agenda
The planning application for Repton House and the some of the Tree Works have been approved by Hunts DC.

Open Forum
Nothing was raised.

Report from the District Councillor
District Councillor Richard West congratulated Councillor Jerman on being elected as Chairman's and noted Councillors Jack's many years of service and hard work. His report covered the last year and he noted that it had been

for many sad losing family members and the lockdowns taking away the social meetings we enjoy so much. With zoom have been able to carry out council business.
Thousands of words been written and spoken about COVID 19 (coronavirus) he felt unable to add to.
For all parish councils and the district council there are and continue to be issues which demand our attention the New A428, East West Rail Consultation will run until 9th June 2021.
During the public briefings East West Rail have said the environmental is important during the planning of the route, this should mean protection of the historic landscape which is enjoyed and is important for residents and visitors in and to the ward.
He has written to East West Rail seeking detailed map with land marks and the rail infrastructure to fully understand the exact route and the migration measures.
The Huntingdonshire District Council have supported route E from their press releases speak about economic growth and housing development it is his duty to support the best interests of local villages.
He received from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority a request to become part of focus group to discuss public transport provision first meeting middle of May.
He understands parish councils will be part of focus group am sure if the service meets the needs of the residents and they have confidence in the service provided it will be used.
He recorded the loss of his good friend Chairman of Huntingdonshire District Council, Councillor John Davies he enjoyed a good working relationship as chairman and vice chairman of the council, also Councillor Jill Taverner , they worked together on the Employment Committee as chairman vice chairman, Jill was supportive and caring member of the committee with positive attitude to staff issues.
At the district council councillor West has the role of chairman of the Employment Committee, and chairman of Hinchingbrooke Country Park Joint Group working with Cambridgeshire County Council.
He is also a member of the Corporate Governance Committee and member of Licensing Committee / Licensing Protection Committee and Chairman of the Employment Committee on the Senior Officers Committee.
Service Levels do cause concern the district council are investing in equipment and staff to reduce/ improve waiting times for the telephone to be answered, the planning service have had change of leadership senior management are seeking officer performance to deliver service to meet the applicant/agent and residents expectations.
Cambridgeshire County Councillor Mrs Wisson is not seeking re-election am sad many do not see the work on behalf of the ward which Julie carriers out, always sensible and balanced wish her happy retirement.

Councillor West was thanked for his input throughout the year.

East West Railway – consultation
Councillor Jack shared her views on the response to be made to the consultation process and was happy to draft a letter with the Councils recommendations. After discussion, the Councillors agreed that their favoured route was Route 1 which follows the line of the A428 with a station at St Neots and north of Cambourne. They also favoured the line entering Cambridge from the north rather than the suggested southern route. Route 9 was their second preference - they did not want a station at Tempsford, however, as this would be likely to lead to a large development being built on Tempsford Airfield. If a station were to be built north of Cambourne, it could create an accessible transport hub with the A428 while a new infrastructure would have to be created for a southern station.
Councillor Jack will circulate a response to the other councillors for approval and the residents of the parish will be encouraged to send in their own comments.

Jubilee Lamp Restoration
Councillor jack has studied the quote received from Mr Quince and this is more expensive and invasive to the structure. It was agreed to go with Memorial Makeovers quote though Councillor Gordon was more favourable to the Quince quote as it was very detailed, and he was a local tradesman – but he agreed to go along with the majority.

Before the quote is formally accepted, Councillor jack will contact the Hunts DC Conservation Officer to seek their views and to see if permission is required first. Councillor West suggested she contacted Nick Armour - he will give her his email.

Wildlife Trust
Becca Neal, the new Communities and Wildlife Officer for the Wildlife Trust was unable to join the meeting tonight but has met with Councillor Jack & Ingrid Sims for a walk around the wood. Hopefully she will improve communications between the trust & the local community. Councillor Jack was due to meet with Zaria Bettles from the County Council to look at he issue of the waterlogged footpath near the entrance to the Wood but this has been deferred by the recent lockdown. Some parking spaces are due to be created near to the entrance of Gamlingay Wood.

Litter Pick in the Village
This will be arranged to coincide with the Great British Spring Clean between 28 May and 13 June. Councillor Archer will speak to Bill Garner to see if he is able to pick up the litter bags afterwards. It was provisionally agreed to hold the litter pick on Sunday 30 May in the morning.

Maintenance of the Tubs at entrances to the Village.
Councillor Gordon will maintain the tubs throughout May. Volunteers will be requested to carry on throughout the year and he will draw up a rota.
Councillor archer will look at purchasing gel crystals which retain moisture and save watering. He was authorised to spend up to £40.

Councillor Jerman will put out an advert to request volunteers.

Parish Council Website
Councillor Jack will meet with the Clerk shortly to show him how to update the website. This was due to happen last year but was delayed by Covid 19.

Finance:To note receipt of Precept £5300
It was noted that this has now been received.

To approve payment to Zurich Insurance £265.51
This was approved but will not be issued until an updated quote has been received – depending on the reply to the query regarding the increase in the value of the assets, as discussed at the earlier AGM.

AOB
The 50th anniversary of the Parish Council/ End of Lockdown celebrations have been confirmed for 3 July. There will be a village photograph, hog roast and live music.

There is a campaign to introduce 20 mph speed limits on minor roads and in villages. Traffic calming will be out on the agenda of the next meeting.

The Cricket Club will liaise with Councillor Gordon regarding training for the two defibrillators.

To agree date of Next Meeting
The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting on 27 May in the Village Hall.

The meeting was declared closed at 21.52.