# Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 8 July 2021, 8pm in Waresley Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors Richard Jerman (Chairman), Eleanor Jack (Vice-Chairman), John Archer, Jonathan Lawton & Malcolm Gordon.

Also present, District Councillor Richard West, Stephanie Gordon & Clare Clark.

Minutes taken by the Clerk Rod Kerr

**1 Apologies for absence.** County Councillor Stephen Ferguson, Richard Nash

**2 Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests.** None

**3 Minutes of Parish Council meeting of 27 May 2021.** These had been circulated and read by the councillors and were confirmed as a true and correct record. They were signed by the Chairman Richard Jerman.

**4 Matters arising not on the agenda.** Ian Winfield has changed roles at Highways and it was agreed that Councillor Archer would drafta letter of thanks for his efforts for the village over the years. It is not yet known who is replacing him.

Simon Slater is to be contacted by Councillor Jack regarding the he maintenance of the Old Churchyard and to clarify his remit.

**5. Open Forum:** There are problems with the surface drains in the village. Some have been dealt with Ian Winfield has been informed verbally of the issues. Many of the drains in Vicarage Road, Eltisley Road and Gransden Lane are still blocked. **Councillor Archer will follow this up.**

**6. Reports from County & District Councillors:** A report was received from County Councillor Stephen Ferguson which was read out by the clerk (appendix A). District Councillor West presented his report to the meeting (Appendix B).

**7. Planning:**

**a) Proposal: Removal of existing horse walker, erection of new horse walker and pesticide store Site Address: Manor Farm Manor Farm Road Waresley - Reference: 21/01079/FUL–** The Councillors agreed to APPROVE this application unanimously 5-0. They thought that moving the horse walker was a sensible idea & would be beneficial for the neighbours and the pesticide store would ensure current & future regulations are complied with.

**b) Proposal: Single storey rear extension to form a kitchen/garden room Site Address: Vicarage Farm Vicarage Road Waresley - Reference: 21/01212/HHFUL** The Councillors agreed to APPROVE this application unanimously 5-0. The plans will make a good use of the space, is an improvement on what is there and is sympathetic to the original building. It is not visible from the road.



2/9/21

**c) Proposal: Removal of existing Rayburn, installation of an electric range cooker and an external oil-fired boiler. Site Address: 1 Manor Farm Cottages Manor Farm Road Waresley Reference: 21/00738/LBC:** The Councillors agreed to APPROVE this application unanimously 5-0.The Councillors thought there was nothing to object to and that it would improve the living conditions of the inhabitants

**8. LLA & NATS Consultation – update:** NATS have made two changes - they have rotated the stack slightly so that it no longer flies above Huntingdon and increased its height by 1000ft to 9000 ft to reduce noise concerns. However, the new stack location is still above St Neots and Great Paxton and will be used in flight operations from February 2022.Councillor Jack noted that they will still be able to fly at 8000 feet in busy times and this will be the normal height over Waresley as they descend. Councillor Archer thought this demonstrated that the findings of the consultation were ignored. Luton Airport do not think they will need additional runway capacity until 2035 so the current plans for expansion of the stack are not yet required. Dominic Offord is considering raising a judicial review**. It was agreed that the Council would write to our MP and the Transport Secretary Grant Shapps to ask for the decision to be changed. Councillor Archer will follow up regarding the Luton Airport report regarding 2035. Councillor Jack will contact other parishes in the proposed flight path to encourage them to comment. Councillor Jerman will contact Dominic Offord regarding the Judicial Review.**

**9. Vicarage road traffic, erect a sign to indicate public parking outside the pub:** Concerns have been raised about parking in Vicarage Road and the effect it has on traffic using the road. Larger vehicles accessing Wood Farm are finding it hard at times to get down the road without having to drive on the verges. The problem is especially bad during bluebell season when many think there is road access to the wood or park along the road and then walk. It was suggested that a "residents only" parking sign be put up at the entrance to the road**. It was agreed that Councillor Jack would contact the Wildlife Trust to ask them to ensure their members are aware that the village land in front of the pub is available for public parking and there is a dedicated car park along Gransden Lane. Councillor Archer will speak to Highways to see what the options are.**

**10. Local Highway Initiative – proposals for application:** There are two potential projects to be considered for submission – the first is a mirror on the junction of Manor Farm Road & the B1040 to allow pedestrians to see what traffic is approaching from Eltisley. Highways are in favour of this and the landowners have agreed that this can go on their land. There were concerns that drivers could be dazzled if it were positioned wrongly. The cost of the mirror could be more than £1000.
The second project is to have a sign on the road surface warning of children playing on the B1040. There is currently one on Gransden Lane. This could be looked on favourably due to the increasing number of children using the cricket ground. Councillor Jack also noted that there should be freshly painted white lines at the junction to the cricket ground turning – highways have said this is not a budgetary priority but it could be considered as part of the project. **It was agreed to investigate the cost of purchasing and erecting the mirror and to put in a bid for the road markings.** Councillor Archer noted there had been another accident by the Jubilee Lamp. The bollards will be checked for damage and Councillor Jerman will put on the accident log**. Councillor Gordon said he will obtain a costing to replace our current 30mph flashing sign with an interactive speed awareness sign.** These are expensive and Highways will not pay for them.

**11. Dog waste bins:** Karen Flood asked if the council could fund a dog waste bin on the village. This has been looked at before and the issue is with servicing them – Abbotsley has a volunteer who empties them. It was also discussed where the best place to put it (or them) should be. **Councillor Jerman will get back to Karen to discuss further.**

**12. Litter Pick –** This is currently on hold until the verges are cut.



2/9/21

**13. Standing orders to allow planning only meetings:** It was thought that it was just as easy to have a brief Parish Council meeting when planning needed to be discussed urgently – there are always updates to other matters that can be discussed. **The clerk will look to see if the council should have any standing orders for other matters.**

**14. Constituency Boundary changes:** Councillor Jack noted that we are currently in the Huntingdonshire constituency and there is a proposal to move the village into a new constituency stretching from St Neots to Swavesey. She thought the council should oppose it as we have been in Huntingdonshire since at least 950AD. It was noted that the village had been in the South West Cambs constituency from 1983 to 1997. Councillor Archer wondered if it should be for individuals to respond rather than the council. Councillor Lawton did not think we should oppose it. **A vote was taken and the majority of Councillors agreed not to oppose the proposal.**

**15. Planters update:** Stephen Scurfield has kindly donated larger tubs and flagstones - the cost to the Parish Council has been nil so far. The verges need to be cut before they can be put in place. People will be asked to donate plants - hopefully some with a bit of colour. **Malcolm & Stephanie Gordon will organise the installation of them.**

**16. Insurance of Monuments Update:** Zurich Insurance has said the Jubilee Lamp can be insured for £5000 for an additional premium of £40 per annum. They have agreed to waive the fee for this year. It was agreed to accept this and to issue the cheque for the current year' insurance.

**17. Defibrillator training:** This has been postponed due to Covid but Councillor Gordon & the Clerk will arrange for face-to-face training to be arranged in the cricket pavilion after 19 July when restrictions are due to be eased. Simon Messer is not due to leave the village until September now and will be asked if he can run the session.

**18. Website update:** Problems with the website have prevented it being updated. Cllr Jack and the clerk are liaising with Andy Ottley the website designer and once the site is fixed they will meet to discuss uploading procedures. Meanwhile the minutes will be made available via the Facebook page.

**19. Jubilee lamp repairs – update:** There has been no response from the District Council so Memorial makeovers will be given the go ahead to proceed.

**20. AOB & Confirm date of Next Meeting:** Councillor Gordon & Stephanie will look to see if Waresley can be twinned with another village overseas. It was suggested we could do this with somewhere in New Zealand, Nevis or Germany. They will investigate the protocols and procedures and if funding is still available.

The streetlights in the village will be checked to see if any are not working properly.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 2 September 2021 at 8pm in the Cricket Pavilion – the Village Hall will be undergoing renovations.

The Meeting was declared closed at 9.45pm

Rebecca Clarke

2/9/21

**Appendix A County Councillor Report to Waresley-cum-Tetworth Parish Council**
**8th July 2021**

## EWR Consultation

Since we last met the following responses have been submitted to the EWR Consultation:

- St Neots Town Council
- Huntingdonshire District Council
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority

All of these responses agree that there is not enough information in the consultation to favour any of the routes.

All of the responses argue against the commissioning of a diesel railway in the midst of a climate emergency.

Although the current EWR "preferred routes" will have minimal impact on Waresley, there is still the potential for EWR to change their minds and so we need to guard against complacency.

The current EWR "preferred routes" will negatively impact St Neots East (with proposed 39-foot viaducts), Toseland and Yelling.

Many other Parish Councils have contacted me with their own responses, and the vast majority seem to be questioning the viability of the railway in a post-pandemic world. EWR clearly has much work to do to justify that the economic benefits to rural communities outweigh the enormous potential social, environmental and ecological consequences of the construction of the railway.

## NATS Luton Airport Stack Consultation

NATS announced the results of the consultation on the Luton Airport Arrivals, in which they acknowledged the concerns of residents from St Neots and the surrounding villages.

As a consequence of this, NATS have made two changes - they have rotated the stack slightly so that it no longer flies above Huntingdon and increased its height by 1000ft to reduce noise concerns. However, the new stack location is still above St Neots and Great Paxton and will be used in flight operations from February 2022.

I think that it is unlikely that the Stack will have a large negative impact on Waresley (which lies to the east), but it is difficult to judge because of the paucity of technical information in the consultation. Like most of these consultation processes, it rather seems that these decisions are determined before the consultation process.

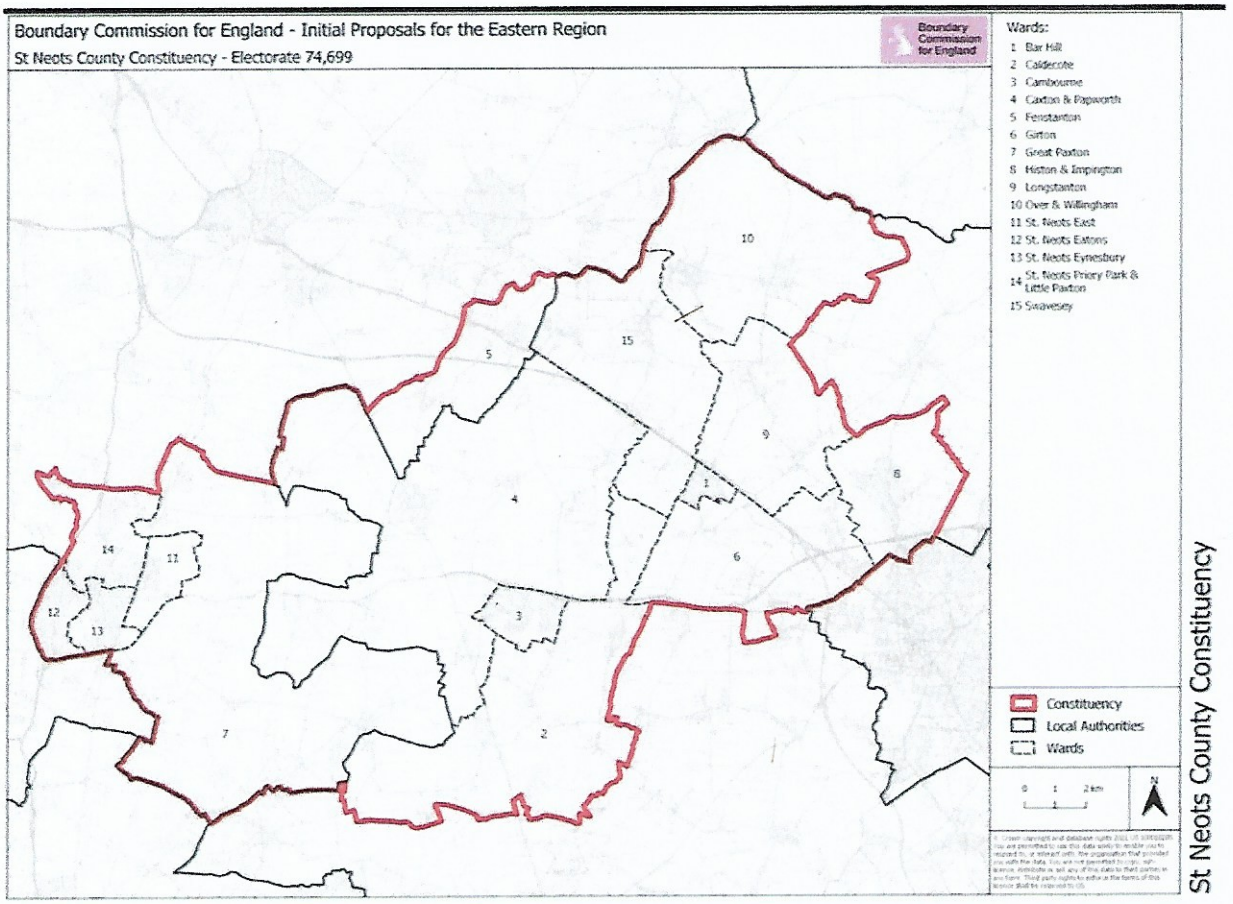
https://www.nats.aero/news/airspace-change-final-design-modified-following-consultation-feedback/

**Parliamentary Constituency Consultation**

This week the Boundary Commission published proposed changes to the Parliamentary Constituency boundaries. The most significant potential change is the formation of a new "St Neots Constituency" which will include St Neots, Abbostley, Great Paxton, Waresely, Gransden, Longstowe, Cambourne, Girton, Willingham, Elsworth, Swavesey and other areas.

If enacted, this means that we would no longer be part of Jonathan Djanogly's Huntingdon Constituency and would likely mean that we are represented by a different MP.

The consultation is open until August 2 2021, and I would respectfully ask that Waresley-cum-Tetworth Parish Council submits a response:
https://www.bcereviews.org.uk




## Highways

The Local Highway Improvement window opened at the start of this month and will close at the beginning of August. Most of the 20/21 submissions were funded, including applications from Abbotsley, Great Paxton and Waresley. There is £210k set aside for Huntingdonshire projects for 2021/22, so you should consider applying.

I heard last week that Ian Winfield, our patch Highways Officer, is leaving his role next week. There are currently 7 vacancies for Highways Officers, so it might take some time before we are allocated a new one.

I spoke to the Highways director today and he assured me that they are interviewing candidates and that they should be able to make an announcement next week.

## Household Recycling Centres

The Household Recycling Centres are currently operating under a booking system, for reasons of Covid-19 safety. I spoke to officers today, who assured me that the

booking system will be retired shortly after the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted nationally on July 19. There might be a delay of a few days while CCC reconfigures operations.

**Grass Verges**

CCC is supposed to cut verges INSIDE the village boundaries THREE times a year. The first cut should have taken place on June 21.

Due to a change in policy (for reasons of biodiversity and probably cost-cutting) verges OUTSIDE the village boundaries are supposed to be cut TWICE a year, with the first cut planned for mid-July.

**Contact Me**

Stephen

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## Appendix B Report from District Councillor Richard West for 8 July Meeting.

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT and NATS FLIGHTPATH PLANS.

London Luton Airport and NATS have announced they are to proceed with flight path plans over Huntingdonshire

They have announced the new holding stack will be near the A1 - A14 junction.

London Luton Airport and NATS have explained they have adjusted the lowest standard altitude of the hold and raised this by 1,000 feet to reduce potential noise impacts on residents.

Am disappointed with the consultation process seems option one had been decided decision taken in the interests of the airport.

I am sure will receive support from the parish councils and Cambridgeshire County Council, Councillor Ferguson to monitor the outcome need now to find out what this means in practice the effects on St Neots and surrounding areas will be.

SERVICE LEVELS

I am delighted the district council received award for the Most Improved Refuse Collection from the Association for Public Service Excellence Performance Network Award.

PLANNING

There is ongoing work to improve planning services now in place is Interim Planning Service Manager Adrian Harding.

CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY CHANGES

I do hope local residents will fill in the consultation need to ensure with increased population have strong voice on national issues.

RIchard West