Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 7 January 2025

8pm at Waresley Village Hall

Present: Councillors Richard Jerman, Eleanor Jack, Malcolm Gordon & (after co-option) Joshua Morris-Lowe. Also present were District Councillor James Catmur and Jon Hutton, Robyn Brack & the Clerk, Rod Kerr.

1. **Apologies for absence. Councillor Laura Edge & County Councillor Stephen Ferguson.**

2. **To co-opt a new Parish Councillor: There had been no requests submitted to hold an election to replace John Archer so the Councillors unanimously voted to approve co-option of Joshua Morris-Lowe from Tetworth the fill the vacancy. This was proposed by Eleanor Jack & seconded by Richard Jerman. Councillor Morris-Lowe signed the declaration of acceptance of office form (witnessed by the clerk) and will complete a Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests form within the next 28 days.**

3. **Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests. None received.**

4. **The Minutes of Parish Council meeting of 3 December 2024 had been circulated and were approved and signed by the chairman.**

5. **Matters arising not on the agenda. Councillor Jack corrected a statement made at the last meeting on 3 December that The Forge was a listed building – it is not.**

6. **Reports from District & County Councillors: The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is opening the £1m Climate Change Opportunity Fund to support innovative, collaborative, and impactful capital projects that align with the region's Climate Action Plan. This funding aims to empower not for profit organisations including local authorities, parish councils, community organisations and social enterprises to tackle the impact of climate change. CIL funding. Huntingdonshire District Council is contacting all Parish and Town Councils and infrastructure providers to advise that they have launched a new Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding round inviting requests for funding from the 'Strategic Portion' of the CIL funds. Note that the Parish will need to fund 50% of the costs. East West Railway Company (EWR Co) has officially launched its third non-statutory consultation today for East West Rail (EWR). The purpose of this non-statutory consultation is to obtain feedback on the early designs, including areas where they're considering options. 14 November 2024 to 24 January 2025['**

7. **Planning : Proposal: Erection of estate fencing and gates and Retrospective planning for an EV/car charger and satellite dish: Waresley Hall Manor Farm Road Waresley 24/02270/HHFUL**
Councillors Jerman & Jack met on site – they were both happy with the plans but asked if the fence could be as near to the line of trees as possible. It was confirmed

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that there are no public rights of way involved, only permissive paths & access. Councillor Gordon thought the fencing looked agricultural & ugly and there wasn't enough room to pass on the track – but these were his opinions and he was in favour of the proposal. The plans were approved by 3 votes to nil with one abstention and one absentee.

8. **EWR – Comments regarding Scoping Opinion Consultation. ; Cpouncillor Jack said this consultation was to set guidelines for the environmental satatement before the DCO. She went to the exhibition at St Neots today. A big query is the positioning of the new station at Cambourne to the north of the A428 – there is poor vehicular access to it from the town. There was also a debate about the position of Tempsford Station whether it will be north or south of the Back Cat Roundabout. It was agreed that Cllr Jack would reply to the non-statutory consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.**

9. **Net Zero Villages Fund – Application A cycleway between Waresley & Gamlingay was suggested – Councillor Jerman did not think this was viable. Councillor Jack wondered if we could use it to create a permissive path from the village to Sugley Wood - this would involve using land owned by the Bank's & Waresley Park. Councillor Gordon mention the Greensand Cyclepath. There has been no progress on the proposed cycleway from Gransden to Cambridge. Jon Hutton wondered if the fund could be used to convert oil heaters & heat pumps to Bio Fuel and also bulk buy the oil. This could be a trailblazing demonstration project. The funding could go towards a feasibility study. Councillor Jerman will take this off line and discuss.**

10. **LHI Application for 2025/26 . The clerk will put in an application for an additional interactive speed sign to alternate between the Village Hall & ELtlsey Road posts and for the sign near the Garden Centre to be wired up or solar powered.**

11. **Confirm Precept for 2025/26 – The councillors had been considering this since the last meeting using the spreadsheet provided by the clerk. If we were unsuccessful in the LHI bid, we could purchase the additional unit ourselves. It was agreed by 4 votes to nil (with one absent) to request a precept of £6600.00**

12. **Finances**
    - **Clerks Salary for January 2025 £60.00**
    - **PAYE for January 2025 - £15.00**
    - **Npower Quarterly Bill – £233.29**
    - **R Jerman purchasing card & engraved Tankard for John Archer £32.95**
    - **Donation the Waresley Village Hall - £1000.00**

    The Councillors agreed that it had been some time since a donation to the Village Hall had been made and agreed to donate £1000.00 approved 4-0 with one absentee. The payments were proposed by Councillor Jack & Seconded by Councillor Jerman.

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13. **AOB & Confirm date of next PC Meeting**

JUBILEE LAMP – Councillor Jack is attempting to put in for a grant from the A428 fund for the remaining amount of the cost for repairs. We need to provide Health & Safety & Equality Policies as part of the application. The clerk will ask our neighbouring parishes if they have such policies and will look to getting our own produced. It is uncertain if we will be successful in this bid.

OLD CHURCHYARD BENCH – This is currently being renovated - Councillor Jerman will ask Mel Banks for an update and when it is due to be put back.

Councillor Jerman noted that the HDC Planning Portal is a mess with lots of duplicated documents. District Councillor acknowledged this an will feed back.

An engraved tankard had been presented to John Archer in acknowledgement of his service to the Parish Council. John had sent a thank you card.

Jon Hutton asked the best way to report potholes. He was advised to use the Highways Portal online but also to let Councillor Jerman know & he will forward to Highways.

Fly tipping should be reported on the HDC portal.

No progress on the Duncombe Arms – the solicitors have been on holiday since 18 December and only came back yesterday.

The Date of the Next Meeting was agreed for Thursday 13 February 2025 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

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