

# WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

[www.wansfordvillage.com](http://www.wansfordvillage.com)

*Clerk: Mrs Jill Sardeson*

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## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE WANSFORD COMMUNITY HALL ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021 AT 19.30 Hrs

Present: Cllr J Stannage – Chairman  
Cllr R Clarke  
Cllr G Garner  
Cllr M Handley  
Cllr D Johnson  
Cllr V Thorley - Secretary

There were no members of the public in attendance

Item N°		Action:
Item N° 1	<b>Chairman's Opening Address</b>	
21(7)1	Cllr Stannage welcomed everyone to the Meeting	
Item N° 2	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	
21(7)2	Cllr Pearson, Cllr Elsey, Mrs Jill Sardeson (Parish Clerk)	
Item N° 3	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
21(7)3	Cllr Stannage declared a personal interest as he lives in close proximity to a tree felling planning application.	
Item N° 4	<b>Public Time</b>	
21(7)4	It was agreed that members of the public could participate in the discussion on items on the Agenda but on a time limited basis (10 minutes).	
Item N° 5	<b>Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021</b>	
21(7)5	The Minutes were approved and signed.	
Item N° 6	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes</b>	
21(6)27a	<b>Website;</b> almost all the information on the WPC website is now out of date. Excitant/Phil Jones has, for many years, had a Contract with WPC to manage the	<b>Cllr Stannage</b>

Signed: ..... Date: .....

J Stannage, Chairman

	site but the nature of this Contract is not clear. It was agreed that Phil Jones would be asked to update all the information on the site and then the Council will hold a Working Party Meeting on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021 to discuss website matters.	
<b>21(6)27b</b>	<b>Cllr's e-mail Addresses;</b> it was agreed that the default arrangement for contacting the Council should be via an email with a joint Clerk/Chair address. This can be arranged through PCC.	<b>Cllr Stannage</b>
<b>21(6)27c</b>	<b>Defibrillator;</b> WPC pay a maintenance fee of £198 p.a to the Community Heartbeat Trust. There was a discussion on what level of maintenance and replacement this fee covered; there was a concern that the battery may be reaching the end of its life. Cllr Stannage inspects the equipment monthly and reported that it has, as yet, never been used. Cllr Stannage would contact the Community Heartbeat Trust for more information.	<b>Cllr Stannage</b>
<b>21(6)27d</b>	<b>Painting the Telephone Box;</b> time for sprucing up as it has now faded to pink. It was agreed the Parish Council purchase a purpose designed kit containing all the appropriate paint and equipment for refurbishing it.	<b>Cllr Clarke</b>
<b>Item N° 7</b>	<b>Planning</b>	
<b>21(7)7</b>	There were four applications, all tree related. Two had already been permitted and it was agreed to pass the other two to the Tree Officer for consideration.	<b>Parish Clerk</b>
<b>Item N° 8</b>	<b>Accounts to Date</b>	
<b>21(7)8</b>	The Councillors were appraised of the current amounts in each account as on 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2021: Business Premium a/c    £31,809.31 Business Current a/c    £ 2,092.81 Business a/c                £ 269.03 Councillors discussed the need to re-evaluate the purpose of each account and if the current account should be transferred to an interest account.	<b>Cllr Stannage</b>
<b>Item N° 9</b>	<b>Budget 2021/2022</b>	
<b>21(7)9</b>	It was agreed that no changes were required to the Budget.	
<b>Item N° 10</b>	<b>Finance</b>	
<b>21(7)10</b>	Matters relating to the Clerk's salary, expenses, taxation and contract were held in closed discussion.	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Item N° 11</b>	<b>Wansford Play Area</b>	
<b>21(7)11</b>	There were no problems to report; all is in good order.	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Item N° 12</b>	<b>Wansford Community Hall</b>	
<b>21(7)12</b>	1. There has still been little progress on locating the original deeds or Land Registry Title. An historic article in The Stamford Mercury might hold a clue and the original Barclays Bank branch (Leicester ?) will be contacted.  2. As the Lease of the Hall has now expired, there was a proposal to draw up a five-year lease between the Community Hall Committee and the Parish Council who own the Hall. Legal advice will be taken to pursue this.	<b>Cllr Stannage</b>  <b>Cllr Stannage</b>

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<b>Item N° 13</b>	<b>Footpath Warden</b>	
	Cllr Garner volunteered to be the Footpath Warden and It was unanimously agreed that he be responsible for all matters relating to footpaths in The Parish. He will liaise with PCC and neighbouring parishes to establish a plan for routes, maintenance etc.	<b>Cllr Garner</b>
<b>Item N° 14</b>	<b>Old Leicester Road/A47 Junction</b>	
<b>21(7)14</b>	PCC has agreed to send someone out to look at the junction to assess the safety aspect.	<b>Parish Clerk</b>
<b>Item N° 15</b>	<b>Vehicle Activated Speed Sign</b>	
<b>21(7)15</b>	It was thought to be achieving its aim of slowing down traffic coming into the village on the Old North Road. A proposal was made to turn the sign around to monitor vehicles heading north towards the roundabout as an informal 'traffic modelling' exercise.	<b>Cllr Clarke</b>
<b>Item N° 16</b>	<b>King's Cliffe Industrial Site</b>	
<b>21(7)16</b>	There has been no response to date from Nassington Council to our correspondence regarding the disputed signage to turn right towards Wansford.	<b>Parish Clerk</b>
<b>Item N° 17</b>	<b>Additional Road Signage outside 23 Old North Road</b>	
<b>21(7)17</b>	PCC has agreed that it will erect the speed sign.	<b>Parish Clerk</b>
<b>Item N° 18</b>	<b>Highways – Road Signs in the Village</b>	
<b>21(7)18</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Handley is progressing the removal of the existing road signs and the purchase and erection of new finger post signs in the village. PCC has informed the Council that they must have three finger post signs, not two as planned.</li> <li>It was agreed that the Parish Council should apply for a grant being offered by The Community Leadership Fund and will ask for £350 towards the cost of the new signs.</li> </ol>	<b>Cllr Handley</b>  <b>Chairman</b>
<b>Item N° 19</b>	<b>A47 Dualling</b>	
<b>21(7)19</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Clarke gave an update; the DCO documents have now been sent to the Planning Inspectorate. Within a few weeks a Notice will be served whereby the public can register to comment on the proposals.</li> <li>Meanwhile, Highways England have produced a 55 page report on traffic modelling at the Wansford Western roundabout that dismisses the use of "intelligent" traffic lights to help ease traffic flow. However, an independent expert modelling report has shown that there would be a 30% improvement in traffic flow if lights were used, replacing the roundabout.</li> </ol>	
<b>Item N° 20</b>	<b>Wall near Telephone Exchange</b>	
<b>21(7)20</b>	Sacrewell has accepted responsibility for the wall and will undertake its repair.	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Item N° 21</b>	<b>Right of Way (Nene Close to Community Hall)</b>	

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<b>21(7)21</b>	A document verifying the provenance of long-term use of the right of way has been sent to PCC. Now awaiting a response.	
<b>Item N° 22</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
<b>21(7)22</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An email has been received from 8-year-old Lucy Hunt enquiring about changing the plastic bins to wooden litter bins around the village. WPC responded that it would request the bins to be replaced by wooden ones, as and when, they need replacing.</li> <li>2. An email was also received from her mother, Janet Hunt, enquiring about the feasibility of a village litter pick in regard to insurance for volunteers. The Chairman responded that, as they would be authorised by WPC they would, indeed be insured.</li> </ol>	<b>Closed</b>  <b>Closed</b>
<b>Item N° 23</b>	<b>Items for Consideration at the Next Meeting</b>	
<b>21(7)23</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cllr Garner instigated a discussion after talking about “the wonderful facility we have with the River Nene to which we have no access.” The question was asked, why can’t the picnic area be reopened and the river bank configured to allow public access?  The owners of the various parcels of land around the picnic area and the Nene Way path. Sacrewell, Highways England and travellers make this a complicated issue but it was agreed to begin investigating how WPC could progress this idea.</li> <li>2. Now that our regular litter picker (David Knibbs) has left, there is a need to find someone who could undertake a couple of leaf sweeps around the village this Autumn. It was agreed that we should put out a request through Living Villages.</li> </ol>	<b>Parish Clerk</b>  <b>Parish Clerk</b>
<b>Item N° 24</b>	<b>Date of next Meeting in the Community Hall</b>	
<b>21(7)24</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 7.30pm	<b>All</b>
	<b>Village Magazine Rota</b> – reports for:  September – Cllr Handley October – Cllr Stannage November – Cllr Garner December – Cllr Clarke January – Cllr Pearson February – Cllr Johnson March – Cllr Thorley	

The meeting closed at 21.55 hrs

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
J Stannage, Chairman