

WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

www.wansford-pc.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Mrs M Lewis

clerk@wansford-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 07899732049

The Community Hall, Peterborough Road, Wansford, PE8 6JN



MINUTES OF WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 15 MAY 2023

Item No	
23(05)1	Chairman's Welcome: Cllr John Stannage (Chairman), Cllr Richard Clarke (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Jane Taylor-Pitt, Cllr Martyn Handley, Cllr Graham Stevens, Marie Lewis (Clerk)
23(05)2	In attendance and Apologies for Absence: Cllr Gavin Elsey, Cllr Graham Garner
23(05)3	Declarations of Interest The Chairman reminded Councillors of their obligation under the Codes of Conduct to declare personal and pecuniary interest. There were none declared.
23(05)4	Public Time: A parishioner in attendance brought to the attention of Councillors that a large volume of traffic had entered Wansford via London Road that very day due to a road traffic accident on the A1. The traffic, which included coaches and 44 tonnes trucks, had driven over Wansford's old bridge, which has a weight limit of 3 tonnes. Traffic had found it difficult to back up from the bridge. The parishioner believed that the traffic could have left the A1 at Peterborough Road instead of using the old bridge and that signs should have indicated this better route. The Chairman said National Highways had previously indicated that they would review the signage on the A1 to prevent traffic from entering the village via London Road in the event of road traffic accidents. Cllr Clarke suggested that Navtech Mapping be contacted because many satnavs were still showing the Old North Road as an 'A' category road (formerly the A6118) which was no longer the case. He also said that legally enforceable cameras existed to record the registration numbers of vehicles unlawfully crossing this type of bridge but the problem was the difficulty in funding such a camera. After a lengthy discussion, the Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that a meeting take place with Peterborough City Council (PCC) Highways to seek a solution. The Chairman said that PCC Highways had very recently brought to the attention of the parish council that there was a structural issue with the bridge and remedial work would take place on this in the summer which would involve its temporary closure. (Clerk's note: PCC hope to keep the bridge open to all traffic until the work commences but they may have to invoke a closure to motorised traffic if the structure deteriorates more rapidly. Subject to the consent of Historic England and the Environment Agency, the work should start in July 2023 and it will be necessary to close the bridge to motorised traffic throughout the works but pedestrian and cycle access will continue). The parishioner also referred to the large amount of seemingly redundant signage that had been left in parts of the village and which needed to be tidied up. After some discussion of this, it was recognised that the signage would likely need to remain until the work on the A1 and A47 had been completed.
23(05)5	Minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2023: The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that they were an accurate account of the meeting and were adopted.
23(05)6	Matters arising - updates of progress on the following items: 21(11)12 Wansford Community Hall: Cllrs Clarke and Stannage had met with the new manager of Sacrewell who was researching background documentation relating to the Hall's curtilage. The new manager was informed by the Cllrs Clarke and Stannage that, for the purpose of the new lease, Wansford Parish Council would wish to have access of the curtilage and to the road but not to own the retaining wall at the back of the Hall. Cllr Stannage said that it would be good to own the fence which he believed had been there since 1976. 22(4)14 Weight restrictions on vehicles entering the village via the Old Leicester Road: The Chairman said that PCC had written to the Parish Council with some suggested signage for weight restrictions in the Old Leicester Road. Cllr Clarke said that there ought to be a sign at the Old Leicester Road/A47 junction to indicate the weight limit. A meeting would be arranged for Councillors to discuss this further with the representative of PCC. Action: Clerk 22(11)16 King Charles III Coronation Celebrations: The Chairman reported that the celebrations went well and that a 'wash up' meeting would take place to address the finances of the event which had been achieved within the agreed budget. Action: Clerk

	<p>22(12)15 Access to Wansford Pasture from the Old Leicester Road and Standen Pastures: The Chairman reported that a meeting had been requested to meet with the Wildlife Trust. Cllr Clarke reported that both gates were still locked for access to Wansford Pasture and Standen Pastures. Action: Cllr Stannage</p> <p>23(02)16 Signage for the parish: The Chairman reported that he been working on the size of the finger posts and a discussion took place on whether to have metal or wooden signs. Cllr Stannage would bring some prices to the next meeting for both wood and metal signs. There was a preference expressed to have consistency in the style of signage within the parish.</p> <p>23(03)11 A47 Dualling: Cllr Clarke reported that Galliford Try were arranging a full day 'drop in' presentation of the A47 dualling project on 22 June 2023 in the Community Hall. Clarification had been given by Galliford Try relating to a cross section of footpaths by the A47 where there would be a 2.5 m separation from the highway to the edge of the footpath. Site works would begin in December 2023. There would be a 16-day window when the A47 would be completely closed and diversions would take place on the A1. There was also dialogue taking place with PCC about representation from the parish councils in future PCC meetings with Galliford Try and the former Head of PCC Highways had been amenable to this idea, although there had since been a change in headship of this department and representation of the parish councils was now unknown.</p> <p>23(03)14 Natural England: Cllrs Clarke and Stannage had attended a Natural England event at the Kings Cliffe Active centre where a presentation had been given about the Rockingham Forest Launch to highlight how to improve the environment by letting it go back to nature. Natural England would be visiting the Parish Council at some time in the future. Cllrs Clarke and Stannage had learned at the event that there was hope that the nearby quarry - currently being excavated by Bullimores - would be put back to nature rather than to agricultural land on conclusion of their work.</p> <p>23(03)15 Parking in Nene Close: There was an issue with vehicles parking towards the end of Nene Close near the Old North Road junction and also visibility for vehicles leaving Nene Close and driving onto the Old North Road was poor. The Chairman informed Councillors that PCC had been asked to clear and repaint the double yellow lines at the junction of the Old North Road and Nene Close as they had been hidden by vegetation. The Parish Council would go back to PCC to seek clarification of what they intend to do about the possibility of placing a mirror opposite the junction and about erecting a 'No Parking' sign. Action: Clerk</p> <p>23(03)16 Teak bench: The Chairman informed Councillors that an order had been placed for the teak bench for the Old Leicester Road/Robinswood junction.</p>
23(05)7	<p>Planning Reference: 23/00431/TRE Proposal: T1 Ash Tree (64/00001/TPO) - Removal, suffering with dieback and has several fungal brackets higher in the crown (see images) recently dropped a large limb on the summerhouse. T2 Sycamore Tree (64/00001/TPO) - Removal, growing next to the ash tree at a 45% angle, not suitable for retaining once the ash is removed. T3 Twin Stemmed Lime Tree (64/00001/TPO) - Removal, one stem already dead and in decline. Site address: 6 Robinswood Wansford Peterborough 23/00431/TRE T1 Ash Tree (64/00001/TPO) - Removal, suffering with dieback and has several fungal brackets higher in the crown (see images) recently dropped a large limb on the summerhouse. T2 Sycamore Tree (64/00001/TPO) - Removal, growing next to the ash tree at a 45% angle, not suitable for retaining once the ash is removed. T3 Twin Stemmed Lime Tree (64/00001/TPO)- Removal, one stem already dead and in decline. 6 Robinswood Wansford Peterborough PE8 6JQ</p> <p>Cllr Clarke said that documents submitted to PCC for the planning application were not entirely clear. However, after some discussion, the Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, to inform Peterborough City Council's Planning Department that Wansford Parish Council had no objection to the proposed tree works taking place. Action: Clerk</p> <p>A discussion ensued about all trees growing within the parish and a view that, whilst the Parish Council quite regularly accepted the advice of PCC's Tree Officer, it would help their decision-making to have a record of the population of trees within the parish and to review those trees that are subject to Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and areas of Woodland Orders. The Clerk would ask the Tree Officer to provide such information to the parish council. Action: Clerk</p>
23(05)8	<p>Accounts to Date 2023/2024 The Receipts and Payments accounts for April 2023 - May 2023 were approved. It was noted that the accounts for the financial year 2022 to 2023 had been audited externally and approved by Peterborough Accounting Services.</p>

23(05)9	Budget 2022/2023 Expenditure continued to remain within budget.
23(05)10	Finance (a) Councillors discussed options for a process improvement in payment of the clerk's salary. The Clerk stated her preference for electronic payments to reflect her contractual term. (b) The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, to the following payments: Parish Clerk's Salary (31 hrs x £14.21 for April - May 2023 = £440.51); Clerk's expenses for Coronation Picnic: £45.98; Cllr Stannage's expenses for King Charles' celebrations: £129.44; Chown China Ltd. for 90 Coronation mugs for children within Wansford & Sibson cum Stibbington parish (£663.00 + £132.60 VAT = £795.60), this is retrospective authorisation; Wansford Ukelele Folk (£150 for performance at Coronation Picnic); Yarwell & Nassington Britannia Band (£300 for performance at Coronation Picnic); Ascot Graphics for 500 Coronation Picnic leaflets (£59); Aqualoos for Coronation Picnic (£330 + £66 VAT = £396). Action: Cllr Clarke
23(05)11	Councillors Reports (a) Natural England: The Chairman stated that a representative of Natural England would be invited to attend a future Parish Council meeting for Councillors to agree upon the Parish Council's level of support for the Parish Nature Recovery Plans. Natural England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) . Action: Clerk (b) A Wansford Youth Council: Cllr Taylor-Pitt explained that the Parish Council's recent survey had indicated that young people within the parish would wish to have more involvement with their community. Cllr Taylor-Pitt felt that a Youth Council would give young people opportunity to better represent their interests and their ideas could be presented to the Parish Council. Potential activities for young persons were given as a treasure hunt in the summer and an event at Christmas time. The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that this initiative be taken forward. A Youth Council and the potential for this would be announced in Living Villages and the Wansford Community site, and Cllr Taylor-Pitt would also network with parents within the village and which may achieve in getting parents more involved in the parish. It was noted that a budget may be needed for this initiative at some time in the future. Action: Cllr Taylor-Pitt
23(05)12	Thornhaugh & Wansford Burial Fund The Chairman briefed Councillors on how Wansford Parish Council's annual contribution of £2k to the Thornhaugh & Wansford Burial Fund, was spent. The Chairman reported that the monies contributed were spent on the church yard, mostly on its perimeter wall. Thornhaugh Parish Council contributed the same amount each year. The Chairman said that the £2k was spent appropriately by each Parish Council and that the Thornhaugh & Wansford Burial Fund had a good and effective committee.
23(05)13	Wansford Bridge This agenda item was addressed through the earlier Public agenda item 23(05)4. Peterborough City Council had informed Wansford Parish Councillors of forthcoming major maintenance work taking place on Wansford Bridge in July 2023.
23(05)14	Compliance A discussion took place relating to the use of Councillors' computer devices for Parish Council business and their email addresses. Wansford Parish Council was registered with the Information Commissioner's Office and had certain regulations to follow for compliance of General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The Clerk asked that Councillors confirm to her that all electronic devices used for business relating to Parish Council business and which held personal data be password protected. Also, the Clerk reminded Councillors that personal email addresses must no longer be used as they were all in receipt of a gov.uk email address. Action: Councillors
23(05)15	Matters for future consideration There were no Agenda items proposed for the next meeting not already covered above.
23(05)16	Wansford Parish Council contributions to Living Villages May: Cllr John Stannage June: Cllr Graham Garner
23(05)17	Date of next meeting Monday, 12 June 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Hall, Peterborough Road, Wansford.

Signed: *Marie Lewis*

Marie Lewis, Wansford Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer