

WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.30 P.M.

Item No	
23(11)1	<p>Chairman's Welcome: Cllr John Stannage (Chairman) welcomed all Wansford Parish Councillors present, our Ward Councillor, 3 members of the public and guest Clerk Charlie Newman. The Chairman explained our Clerk was presently very unwell and good wishes be sent.</p> <p>Chairman informed that the Agenda for this meeting was not present on the Parish Council website, due to lack of administrative permissions for the website whilst the Clerk is on unplanned leave. The Agenda was however advertised on the public noticeboard. Normal distribution of Agenda will be resumed as soon as possible and the Chairman thanks the public for their understanding at this time.</p>
23(11)2	<p>Attendance: Cllr John Stannage (Chairman), Cllr Richard Clarke (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Jane Taylor-Pitt, Cllr Graham Garner, Cllr Gavin Elsey, Ward Councillor; Cllr Martyn Handley, guest Clerk Charlie Newman and three members of the public.</p> <p>Apologies for Absence: Cllr Graham Stevens</p>
23(11)3	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Councillors were reminded of their obligation under the Codes of Conduct to declare personal and pecuniary interest. No declarations of interest were made.</p>
23(11)4	<p>Public Time</p> <p>(a) No.9 Swanhill. It has been observed and reported to the Parish Council that cuttings from the leylandii trees at this location have not been cleared in an area between the fence and boundary. Further information is required to establish responsibility in order for follow up with necessary stakeholders and arrange for cuttings to be removed. Cllr Stannage was surprised to see that the trees had been reduced lower than 5m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Elsey</p> <p>(b) Engaging with residents. To improve engagement of residents throughout the Parish, the Chairman proposed 'Ask the Chairman' meetings commence in the Community Hall. It is hoped that this will encourage interest for anyone who may want to join as a Parish Councillor, in addition to hearing views of residents to better serve and represent them.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action Cllr: Stannage</p> <p>(c) Discussion took place about the potential for inserting a dropped curb in Nene Close. Further information would be required to understand the extent of the grass edges but this will be explored when further information is available on the Designated Funding availability, or indeed from PCC Highways.</p>
23(11)5	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2023. After review and minor amends, the Minutes were agreed and adopted.</p> <p>During the review of minutes, discussion took place regarding the Strategy document currently available on the Parish website; where it was requested to highlight and recognise that the Wansford Parish Council Strategy document (proposed by the working group) is a concept or working document and further refinement will come in due course. Amends to the document on WPC website would follow soon providing the Chairman could acquire the necessary administrative access to the website.</p>
23(11)6	<p>Matters arising - updates of progress on the following items:</p> <p>23(03)11. A47 Dualling. No further information available at this time regarding the A47 dualling</p> <p>23(06)12. Wansford Bridge. A Teams meeting is scheduled for 3pm on 6th December 2023 between the Highway Agencies, Historic England and Parish Councils. The purpose of this meeting is to receive feedback from stakeholders on potential proposals which will ensure the preservation of the Grade 1 Listed Bridge.</p> <p>The Chairman had chaired a meeting where potential traffic management solutions were discussed and explored, with the primary objective to protect the bridge which is recognised as having significant historic and cultural value to the village. Feedback and potential solutions were requested to be</p>

	<p>presented at the Teams meeting on 6th December. Feedback to the Parish after this meeting will also be provided. It is noted that there is continued uncertainty regarding who is responsible for the walls which extend beyond the immediate bridge, particularly the collapsed section in the vicinity of the Haycock Manor Hotel garden.</p> <p>It is believed that the A1 night closures are also leading to increased traffic over the bridge due to A1 South diversions; communication regarding this has been made to National Highways but this is yet to be acknowledged.</p> <p>23(08)16. Peterborough Mayor's donation towards Wansford & Wittering Parishioners' transport to receive healthcare at Wansford & King's Cliffe surgeries. At the time of the meeting it was reported that 2 people have used this service. The Good Neighbours charity will work in conjunction with the surgeries to ensure administration of the service has a common approach to ensure the allocation is correctly assigned for its purpose.</p> <p>21(11)12. Community Hall. At the time of the meeting there has been no further communication from Hunt & Coombs.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Stannage</p> <p>23(09)15. National Highways Designated/ Social Fund. Funds are available via an application process. An application will be made for three aspects: Nene Close parking, sound barriers & Low noise surfaces A47 adjoining Black Swan Spinney/ Robinswood and a Defibrillator . Advice for completing the applications will be sought from Keeley Russell of Galliford Try.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Stannage</p>
23(11)7	<p>Planning Reference: 23/01120/HHFUL Proposal: Proposed first floor and rear extension, porch and dormer windows to frontage and replacement roof to existing bungalow Site address: 20 Old North Road Wansford Peterborough PE8 6LB 23/01120/HHFUL. Proposed first floor and rear extension, porch and dormer windows to frontage and replacement roof to existing bungalow. 20 Old North Road Wansford Peterborough PE8 6LB</p> <p>The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had previously objected to the original plans submitted for this property. A review of the amended plans took place and during the review by residents and Cllrs it was recognised that the updated drawings included in this application show a removal of the Velux, but serious concerns were raised regarding the accurate representation of property boundaries and the boundaries of neighbouring properties. In addition to the boundary accuracy there were obvious features omitted from the application such as guttering and with the information available it would suggest that guttering would in fact be over the neighbouring boundary should the amends be made in accordance with the proposed plans. It was also noted that a footprint plan view was lacking from the application, which would aid better understanding of the planned work in comparison to the existing property on the site. It was highlighted that the current application includes proposals to go 6m beyond the rear of existing neighbours and therefore has the potential to affect available natural lighting at various points for neighbouring properties. There were also concerns raised about the need for party wall agreements. Therefore it was decided that the Parish Council would object (with support from Ward Cllr) to the planning application for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not in keeping with bungalow style properties in the vicinity. The plans clearly show this is not a bungalow design. • Planned property design is intrusive to neighbours • Supporting neighbours objections (x3) <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Stannage and Cllr Clarke</p>
23(11)8	<p>Accounts to Date 2023/2024 To approve the Receipts and Payments accounts for October - November 2023. The Chairman proposed and Councillors agreed that the accounts be accepted.</p>
23(11)9	<p>Budget 2022/2023 The Chairman proposed and Councillors agreed that no changes were needed to the budget.</p>
23(11)10	<p>Finance The Chairman proposed and Councillors agreed to approve the following payments: (a) Parish Clerk's Salary (20 hrs x £14.21 for Oct. – Nov. 2023 = £284.20 retrospective) (b) Barker Signs Ltd against invoice dated 9th Oct 2023 (£284.40 already paid)</p>

23(11)11	<p>Councillors Reports</p> <p>(a) The Chairman reported on attendance at a Christie Hall Management committee meeting, and reports that the existing management team for Christie Hall would be very keen to hear from people who may be able or interested in helping with the oversight and management of the hall. The existing management team feel they are coming to the end of their ability to commit time and effort to the hall and to ensure the hall remains a cornerstone of the community. Help in the management would be very much appreciated. As a rough guide, duties include management of bookings, bookkeeping / invoicing, light maintenance duties and cleaning. The next Christie Hall AGM is scheduled for 15th Feb 2024. It was also reported that the hall continues to see good uptake and usage particularly after the COVID-19 recovery period, there are also requirements for on-going maintenance but larger expenditures would be avoided pending lease renewal (expires 2026) prompting the need to enter into negotiations with the RBL and being well prepared.</p> <p>(b) Cllr Garner provided a general update on the Thornhaugh and Wansford Parish Council Burial Ground Committee meeting which took place on 17th Oct. Including mention of on-going work on the boundary wall which is planned to be completed in full after the Winter period. The management group are looking for grants to assist with lighting over the gateway but also report that finances are within the expected budget.</p> <p>(c) Cllr Taylor-Pitt provided an update on the Youth Council, sharing thanks to Cllrs who supported the 3 bulb planting sessions. Remaining bulbs are to be planted outside the church and around seats on the green soon. Cllr Taylor-Pitt also reported that there has been positive engagement which in turn appears to encourage parents to engage with Parish activities and generally raising awareness of the Parish. Cllr Taylor-Pitt shared news that the next planned event would be the Window Advent. Requests for houses to sign up to the scheme and take up has been pleasing so far.</p> <p>(d) Cllr Taylor-Pitt also provided feedback after attending NALC online youth event, with general feedback around the event being more tailored to large councils. Cllrs who wish to watch back the online event should get in touch with Cllr Taylor-Pitt to gain access to this resource.</p> <p>(e) The Chairman reported back on attendance at the Augean Presentation on Restoration of Cooks Hole Quarry. During the meeting a due completion date of 2040 was shared, but requests made for accurate information on the size of the site were lacking. The Chairman fed back very positively of the efforts being made by the organisation who at present appear to be trying to do things to the utmost highest standards and appear to have good intentions. They are currently dealing with the issue regarding the incorrect infill of land and plan to restore the path. It was also noted that Augean are in negotiation with Galliford Try to ensure necessary arrangements are in place in order to avoid aggregate moving through the area on days where there are planned road closures on A47.</p>
23(11)12	<p>Peterborough City Council's Budget Simulator and Annual Finance Meeting</p> <p>There has been no correspondence from residents in relation to this. The Finance meeting has been scheduled for 20th November 2023 where a proposed budget will be shared with Cllrs for review, feedback and approval. Noting that the precept submission will also need to be completed and submitted before 5th January 2024 .</p>
23(11)13	<p>Parish Council Projector</p> <p>After discussion on the most appropriate course of action to acquire a new projector, it was agreed that a decision to replace the projector be postponed, and the item should return to the Agenda should the existing projector show signs of fault. Cllrs recognised that there is the potential for an allocation of PCC Community Leadership Funds should this be required.</p>
23(11)14	<p>Wansford Parish Council Strategy</p> <p>As mentioned in 23(11)5 the strategy concept has been approved in principle, but continues to be a work in progress and will likely require further review in due course via the working group. Updates to the strategy document on the website will be made in due course.</p>
23(11)15	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>No additional committee reports</p>
23(11)16	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) Police. Meeting with the Community Policing Team in the new format consisting of a Rural Parish Police Surgery, with Sgt Andy Gladders. The surgery is scheduled for 8th Feb 2024 5pm to 7pm in the Community Hall. Items to be discussed at the surgery should be raised at Jan 2024 Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>b) Cross Keys Homes. Newsletter on general performance.</p>

	<p>c) Picnic site (A47). It has been observed that there has been work done by heavy plant machinery which appears to be levelling the land adjacent to the Picnic Site north of the river. PCC Planning department has been contacted over concerns for the contaminated materials on that site, which will likely have been covered over by the work being completed there. Expecting a visit by an enforcement officer and awaiting feedback after further comms between the Chairman and PCC. Chairman provided background and context around the site to enable PCC to investigate accordingly with all necessary information.</p> <p>d) Parish Liaison Meeting scheduled for 15th Nov 2023. Where comms will be made to clarify necessary arrangements for Clerk Pay and CAPALC training for which the Vice Chairman wishes to attend and Cllrs agreed.</p>
23(11)17	<p>Matters for future consideration</p> <p>a) 4G Network</p> <p>b) Overgrown Footpaths</p> <p>c) Streetlight outages - communicated to Fix My Street</p> <p>d) Enforcement Notice for 1 Peterborough Rd</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Stannage</p>
23(11)18	<p>Wansford Parish Council contributions to Living Villages</p> <p>November: Cllr Jane Taylor-Pitt</p> <p>December: Cllr Martyn Handley</p> <p>January: Cllr Graham Stevens</p> <p>February: Cllr Richard Clarke</p>
23(10)19	<p>Dates of next meetings</p> <p>Parish Council Meeting: Monday 11th December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Community Hall, Peterborough Road, Wansford.</p>

Signed: Charlie Newman

Charlie Newman, Guest Clerk