

# Wootton Rivers Parish Council

## Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

### Present:

Dean Cowley	Parish Council Chair
David Butler	Councillor
Cindy Creasy	Councillor
Nick Jones	Councillor
Steve Rawlings	Councillor
Julian Beames	Clerk

**1. Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Clare Bamforth and Anne Swift

### **2. Agreement of Minutes**

The Draft Minutes Parish Council Meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2022 were agreed as a true record and will be signed by Dean Cowley - Chair.

**3.** Councillors were reminded of the Code for Conduct and the need to declare any interest relating to the items on the agenda. No declarations were made.

### **4. Report from Wiltshire Councillor**

Jerry Kunkler reported that the next Area Board Meeting would take place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October at Woodborough. He stated that there was some monies available for Health and Social projects and that if we had any projects that might need funding to make a submission before the meeting. The Chair raised the possibility of a retrospective application for money towards the cost of the recently replaced defibrillator.

Jerry also mentioned that Wiltshire Council were looking at funding for next year and are aware of the effects of rising inflation especially in regard to internal staff costs. Councillor Cindy Creasy asked to be kept informed of any changes in funding policy which might affect the Parish Councils

The recent notifications regarding road closures were mentioned which are to carry out work on the main Forest Road drains and the Clerk requested that if the work was being done to improve the drain covers then the issue of root growth blocking the drain also needed to be addressed as this was the real issue which led to flooding of the road. Jerry suggested that Matt Perrot the Highways Engineer was contacted to discuss this.

Jerry also mentioned that role of the Parish Steward was being reviewed to see if it could be made more effective by giving them extra capabilities and responsibilities.

### **5. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- i) Relocation of the Railway Ticket Office – No progress has been made and it was agreed to meet in the near future with the Village Hall and Recreation Ground sub-committee representatives to discuss the proposal

- ii) Recreation Ground Tree Survey - The agents for St John's College have notified the Parish Council that a tree survey has been commissioned and we await their report
- iii) Emergency Planning - Councillor David Butler mentioned that he had not been able to do any work on the Emergency planning item with which he had been tasked. The Chair proposed that a small subgroup should be formed, potentially bringing in people with good local knowledge. This will be progressed in the coming weeks.

## 6. Planning

### Applications Approved

It was noted that the following application has been approved by the planners:  
 PL/2022/06538 – Noyes House – Listed Building Consent - Approved

### Applications Received

PL/2022/06538 – Coppicing of Hazel Tree on canal bank – A No Objection submission was made to WC in regard to this application under the Clerks delegation.

## 7. Roads & Drainage

The Clerk reported that a Road Closure Notice has been circulated by Wiltshire Council in regard to Forest Road. The road will be closed to through traffic in order to carry out drainage repairs works as well as upgrade several drainage collection points to reduce flooding. The road will be closed from 07 November 2022 and the closure will be required between the hours of 08:00 and 16:30 until 18 November 2022. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works.

A second advanced warning of road closure has also been sent out which covers the whole of the village road from its junction with the A346 all the way to the Railway bridge and this closure will take place sometime between 14<sup>th</sup> November and 19<sup>th</sup> December when resurfacing works will take place. As soon as the exact dates are known these will be communicated to residents.

David Butler raised concerns over the condition of the road edge on Martinsell Hill. Due to the fact that the grips have collapsed water is now running down the road edge and washing out the sides leaving very deep gullies which are dangerous and could easily damage vehicles if they enter them. It was agreed the Clerk would report this although it is actually outside our parish boundary.

## 8. Finance Report

The Clerk reported that the bank balances were as follows:

Treasurers Account	£3,124.15
Business Bank Account	£6,574.08

Payment to be approved since the last meeting was:

Information Commissioners office	£35.00	Registration Fee
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A motion was proposed by Cindy Creasy and seconded by Steve Rawling to approve the payment made, and this was passed unanimously

## 9. Report on Police Matters - Nothing to report

**10. Correspondence received**

An email has been received from Wiltshire Police asking if there are any regular Coffee Mornings which the local PCSO could drop in on. The Clerk will respond and mention the weekly coffee meeting held at 11:00am at the Royal Oak each Thursday.

**11. Matter raised by the Public**

Anthony McGarry wanted to highlight the excellent efforts of all those involved in the village’s Ukraine Support Group especially Nick Mitchell-Briggs, Gavin Maxwell-Hart and Roger Geen, and also all the other local residents who have given their support to the cause. The Chair publicly thanked the team for their magnificent efforts.

**12. Date of the next Meeting**

The date of the next scheduled meeting will be on the Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Signed as a true record.....Date .....  
Dean Cowley – Chair