## Minutes of Meeting of Wixford Parish Council

## Tuesday 8th September 2020 at 7.30pm

## MINUTE: 336

**Note:** **This meeting was held virtually via Zoom due to Government restrictions during the Coid19 crisis, and in accordance with Government regulations which came into force on 4th April 2020.**

## Present: Cllrs Jon Haworth (in the chair), Dean Morris, Jack Fryer, Colin Hales (audio only) and Andrew Reekes.

## Cllr Mark Cargill, County and District Representative.

## Clerk: Lynne Reekes.

## No members of the public attended.

**1. Apologies:** there were none.

**2. Disclosure of Interests**. *Councillors are asked to declare personal interests in any items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that the Code of Conduct that takes effect from May 2018 provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion they should withdraw from the room and not seek to influence a decision about the matter.*

**Cllr. Morris declared an interest in the report under S6 below on the suggested Petanque Alley**

**outside Wixford Grange.**

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**3. Report from District and County Council Representative:**

(Note: this was given after S8 below, as Cllr Cargill joined late due to having to attend another meeting)

Cllr Cargill reported on the following matters:

* Two important Government White Papers are due to be released in the Autumn. The White Paper on Planning Reform is likely to be contentious. It proposes to simplify procedures for certain Planning Applications, raising fears of unchecked development. The Paper on Local Government Reform favours a unitary system of local government. Most Councillors in Warwickshire favour a double unitary system for the County ie South and North sections. The Paper has been delayed until October. It is unlikely that Warwickshire will be in the first tranche. SDC and WCC will continue to work more closely with the aim of reducing waste.
* The Mop Fair is likely to go ahead but if there is a second Covid spike, it may be reduced in size – is unlikely to be as full on as normal anyway.
* Cllr Cargill invited contact from anyone who would like to speak at the meeting planned for 22nd September to discuss the unitary authority proposal.

The Clerk mentioned the problem of the drainage ditch which had been filled in by the new Oversley Castle owners some time ago. The Flood Management Team at WCC has been contacted, but a reply is awaited. It is understood that TheEnvironment Agency may be the correct body to contact. Cllr Cargill will make enquiries.

**4. Comments from the Public :**

There were none.

**5. Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 2020:

**Approved** as a true and and accurate record and signed by the Chairman

accordingly. The Chairman showed the signed Minutes on screen to all present.

**6.** **Matters arising (from Minutes of the previous meeting)**

**(i)** Village Speeding/Traffic Volume

Cllr Haworth reported a new highest speed of 80mph through the village (at 00:10am.)! There are many instances of excessive speeding (ie 45-50mph+) at all times of day. He is not quite ready to make a full report, as volume is not yet up to pre Covid figures, but **it was agreed** that, once ready,the report should be sent to the Chief Constable**.**  Cllr Fryer’s police contact has left the force,and he has not been able to confirm who best to contact locally. Cllr Morris suggested it would be useful to compare speed figures when the traffic lights were recently on Wixford Bridge to enable works to be carried out just before the bridge.

**(ii)** Telephone kiosk refurbishment

Cllr Morris has emailed Joanna Manning, the Conservation Officer, but is not

hopeful that her decision will differ from Tony Horton’s (SDC Planning Department)

who confirmed that, in his opinion, Listed Building Consent should be obtained for

the refurbishment..

**(iii)**  George’s Elm Lane Sign: Clerk confirmed that Alan Caldwell-Jones of WCC has

provided details of the appropriate contact at SDC and she has emailed. Will

chase if noreply received shortly.

**(iv**) Gulley cleaning: Alan Caldwell-Jones is aware that the work is outstanding. Fairly

hopeless situation as only one jetter for the whole of Warwickshire. The Clerk will

continue to press.

**(v)** Petanque Alley, Wixford Grange: Cllr Haworth has heard nothing further from Nic

Allen since his request for plans.

**7. Finance**

**(i)** The following payments **were approved for payment by the Clerk**

**online**, proposed by Cllr Haworth; seconded by Cllr. Fryer:

* Clerk’s salary and expenses July and August 2020. Salary: £348.20;

expenses: £27.59 (total:£375.79

* PAYE: £47.79 (due by 22/10/20).

**(ii)** The direct debit payments to Payroo Ltd (PAYE software) for June and July of

each were noted.

**(iii)** The Accounts reconciliation to 31st August 2020, already circulated **was noted.**

**8. Planning.**

(i) Wixford House, Wixford Road, Wixford B49 6DA: Ref: 20/02104/FUL:

Single storey rear extension, first floor extension, along with fenestration changes

and a detached garage. **It was agreed** that an objection will be lodged. It

was noted that the detached garage would be hard against the boundary of the

adjoining property in Church Fields. Cllr. Fryer pointed out that his property (in

Church Fields) is affected by this application.It was felt that the plans are out of

keeping with the rest of the village and the rural surroundings.

Suitable wording for the objection will be provided to the Clerk so that the objection

can be lodged by **17th September** as required.

(ii) Galloway House, George’s Elm Lane, Wixford B50 4JY: Ref: 20/00312/FUL

Demolition of house and outbuildings, erection of a replacement house and

outbuildings with associated landscaping and the creation of a new access with

existing vehicular access to be closed. **Noted: granted subject to conditions.**

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**9. Equality and Diversity Policy**

This had been circulated beforehand. There were no queries, and the policy as drafted

was **approved.**

**10. Dog waste bins**

**It was agreed in principle that 2 bins should be obtained** subject to agreement on

siting, and costs of the bins and the emptying service (Clerk to check on costs).

Siting to be further discussed at next meeting.

**11. To deal with any correspondence**

Clerk referred to email correspondence from Gilli Costain in connection with Stratford

Time Bank.It was felt unlikely to be of interest to a sufficient number of Wixford

residents to make it viable.

**12. Any other business to note**

(i) Cllr. Haworth pointed out that vegetation growing out of the wall supporting the bank

on the left hand side of the road from the Bidford direction just before The Fish, needs

be cleared. It is causing the wall to be unstable. Cllr Hales confirmed that he had

noticed this recently too. Cllr, Haworth will provide photographs so that the Clerk can

report, initially to Alan Caldwell-Jones of WCC.

(ii) Clerk requested feedback from the recent email correspondence with SOAR

regarding queries raised in connection with the website, including advice on the

Accessibility Regulations. **It was agreed** that we should move on from SOAR as soon

as possible, although the annual hosting fee has only recently been paid. Cllr. Morris will

make enquiries of Hexagon. Clerk to ask SOAR for details of the current website traffic.

**The meeting was declared closed at 8.25pm**