

# WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2019 at 7.30pm  
in The Ellendune Community Centre.

### Present

Cllr P Bhardwaj  
Cllr L Campisano  
Cllr H Dosanjh  
Cllr S Harcourt  
Cllr J Hewer  
Cllr H Hodd  
Cllr G Jones  
Cllr C Kennedy  
Cllr D Phillips  
Cllr A Richards  
Cllr A Woodhead

### Clerk

Jodie Smart

### FC/193

#### Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr C Clark and Cllr A Spry. No apologies were received from Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn nor Cllr D Wells.

### FC/194

#### Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr A Woodhead declared an interest in agenda item 10 as she is Group Scout Chair and her husband is a Manager for Wroughton Youth Football Club. Cllr G Jones declared an interest in agenda item 11 as Chair of The Ellendune Hall Trust, Cllr Jones holds a valid dispensation to vote on this item.

### FC/195

#### Public Questions

There were no members of the public present.

### FC/196

#### Minutes of Previous Meeting

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 February 2019.

*The Chair moved agenda item 6 forward.*

### FC/197

#### Safe Drive Stay Alive

Members **NOTED** the presentation from the Group Manager and the Prevention Delivery Manager for Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service, regarding funding the Safe Drive Stay Alive initiative, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

Cllr H Hodd asked if bikers were included in the initiative. The Prevention Delivery Manager confirmed that the initiative covers all road traffic accidents and all vehicles.

Cllr P Bhardwaj asked if the main financial contributors were Honda and Arval. The Prevention Delivery Manager confirmed that these plus Swindon Borough Council and

Wiltshire County Council were the main financial contributors. However, the contribution from Swindon Borough Council has reduced from £10,000.00 per annum to £2,000.00 per annum for this year and next year.

Cllr S Harcourt explained that the Parish could justify a contribution if the benefit was for local school children rather than Wiltshire wide. The Group Manager confirmed that the contribution would be for Swindon projects rather than Wiltshire.

Cllr D Phillips asked if there was any interest in partnering with Insurance companies. The Prevention Delivery Manager confirmed that they had investigated this option but had not been successful.

Cllr H Hodd suggested that local community groups may want to contribute and asked for a contact card.

Cllr S Harcourt asked how much the initiative cost per pupil. The Prevention Delivery Manager replied that it is £3.90 per pupil. Cllr Harcourt further asked what age group attended the education sessions. The Prevention Delivery Manager stated that it is generally year eleven.

Cllr P Bhardwaj asked if the education sessions could be held in local Community Centres. The Prevention Delivery Manager replied that the cinema provided their venue free of charge. Cllr P Bhardwaj further asked if the sessions were oversubscribed. The Prevention Delivery Manager responded that they never turned a young person away.

The Chair thanked the representatives of Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service for attending the meeting.

*The Group Manager and Prevention Delivery Manager left the meeting at 8pm.*

**FC/198**

### **Community Safety**

The Chair gave a statement regarding the Community Safety Forum, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

Members **NOTED** the presentation from Acting Inspector David Tippetts regarding local policing. Inspector Tippetts informed members that the Swindon South Policing Team covered the area of Swindon south of the railway line, which is quite a diverse patch. It is the most diverse area of Wiltshire in terms of ethnicity and social standing. The South Swindon Policing Team is made up of:

Community Police Inspector

Deputy Community Police Inspector

Five Community Coordinators (increasing to six in the next financial year. An additional one for the rural area).

Five Community Policing Team shifts, which includes:

15-16 Police Officers

2 Sergeants

5-6 Police Community Support Officer

3-4 Local Civilian Investigator

All are managed by the Duty Inspector who covers the whole Swindon Borough and manages all incidences.

Inspector D Tippets continued that for reported crime in Wroughton over last twelve months, (February 2018 to February 2019) all categories were down year on year. The only increase was criminal damage (37% +). Swindon South Community Policing Team was down 13% year on year, which is the largest decrease within Wiltshire.

Cllr P Bhardwaj asked how this compared with North Swindon. Inspector D Tippets was not sure.

Cllr H Hodd stated that the Police have a big public relations problem. The statistics are not reported. Public confidence is down. Inspector D Tippets stated that he knows crime is not reported. However, if people don't report it, the Police cannot deal with it. Inspector D Tippets added that all police strive to improve the engagement and to promote their image. Adding that perhaps Police were not always visible but it doesn't mean that they are not always around.

Cllr S Harcourt stated that there is an issue with underreporting low level crime. Or that people just report on social media. This leads to a perception amongst perpetrators that they get away with it. Cllr Harcourt added that he has seen much increased police presence in the last month. Adding that a big problem is young people that are riding down the middle of the road doing a wheelie deliberately holding up traffic and terrifying drivers. Inspector D Tippets replied that children are the hardest area for policing. Adding that it is a society, community and parenting issue. That it is down to police to deal with when behaviour crosses over into criminality. But that it is down to parents to manage behaviour, Inspector D Tippets stated that there are schemes in place to help at risk youths, such as early intervention schemes. Youth services are massively under-resourced. When children enter the criminal justice system they are given lots of chances. Courts are reluctant to hit hard with criminal sanctions; however, their behaviour can escalate very quickly. Inspector D Tippets added that the Police are working with the Youth Offending Team to improve.

Cllr H Hodd asked how these orders were enforced. Inspector D Tippets replied that enforcement was via people reporting and patrols.

Cllr J Hewer asked whether Wroughton is on the priority list. Inspector D Tippets responded that it had been for the past month. However, this list is assessed every fortnight and Wroughton is not currently on the priority list as the Police are not getting the reports that they were.

Cllr A Richards stated that she realises how short staffed the Police are but there was much less trouble when PCSO's were at school gates. Getting to know everybody and dealing with low level issues, which then helps for later on. Inspector D Tippets replied that all police are allocated schools, PCSO Emma Turner is allocated to Ridgeway and spends lot of time there. Adding that the Police value the work with schools and that it is very high up the priority list.

Cllr A Woodhead stated that she had spent two days with the Police. Cllr Woodhead commented that Emma does spend lots of time at Ridgeway which she hadn't appreciated. In terms of knives found, Cllr Woodhead encouraged the resident to report to the police. Cllr Woodhead added that she is really pleased that we are having a police community meeting on 8 April. Adding that not all issues are reflected in statistics. Lots of people have purchased CCTV for their homes. Cllr Woodhead commented that it will be

good for our community to hear how Wroughton is policed. Cllr Woodhead encouraged lots of communications to encourage attendees. Cllr Woodhead stated that she was working on the Youth Club with other members, the fact that we have robust police support is really key and gives hope.

Inspector D Tippetts responded that he will come along and give presentation on how the police work. Adding that, in comparison to some other force areas we are in a good place but need to do better with public perception. Knife crime is in the media at the moment. Swindon knife crime is relatively low compared with the rest of the country. This is due to work behind the scenes, such as National Crime initiatives in raising awareness.

Cllr H Hodd stated that one knife crime is too many.

Cllr C Kennedy suggested that to be more visible, Police cars on their way to Devizes could drive down Perrys Lane and other side roads rather than take the main roads. Inspector D Tippetts agreed that this is a good suggestion.

Swindon Borough Councillor Cathy Martyn stated that Swindon Borough Council are involved with a multi agency approach, the Community Safety Partnership meet at Swindon Borough Council once per month. Agencies such as Police, Fire Service, Youth Services, Transport police etc. meet to discuss tackling crime in Swindon. The partnership looks at how they can change the outcomes to improve them. Cllr Martyn stated that a small percentage of children carry knives, the media is leading people to have a perception that it is very bad across the country. The Partnership is getting the message out that children carrying knives is not the social norm. Getting across to children and parents so they don't feed into the problem. Swindon Borough Council are learning from outcomes in Glasgow where they have drastically reduced knife crime.

Cllr H Hodd asked for a definition of a gang.

Cllr D Tippetts stated that there is a group of young people in Wroughton that refer to themselves as Wroughton Youngers and that for intelligence reports they are referred to as a gang.

The Chair thanked Inspector D Tippetts for agreeing to come along to the community meeting scheduled for 8 April 2019 and asked for advance notification of the presentation.

Cllr P Bhardwaj asked if lenient sentencing is an issue. Inspector D Tippetts replied that criminal behaviour in children is very difficult as courts don't like to give sentences. Cllr P Bhardwaj suggested that focus and attention was given to policing and less on the criminal justice system.

Cllr A Woodhead commented that she had spoken to Sgt Jim Neighbour and PCSO Emma Turner about key things to come up on 8<sup>th</sup> April and that she would like it very much to be around locality of Wroughton, knives found, anti-social behaviour outside shops, bikes, damage to cars, gang culture, work with Ridgeway school etc.

Cllr C Martyn added that Police working on cases received pressure on all multi agencies to work the issue outside of the criminal justice system. Inspector D Tippetts added that there is a new system for first time entrants. A Youth Restorative Intervention Panel had

been set up to issue community restorative punishments rather than go through the criminal justice system.

The Chair thanked Inspector D Tippets for attending.

*Inspector D Tippets left the meeting at 8.38pm.*

**FC/199**

**Information from Borough Councillors**

Cllr C Martyn informed members that the bridge at Wichelstowe is now in place. However, it will not be open for several weeks as infill panels are being installed.

Cllr C Kennedy asked whether a programme to assist new parents during the early years of childhood may help provide necessary parenting skills to prevent behaviour issues as children grow up.

Cllr C Martyn responded that she would speak to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

Cllr S Harcourt stated that recent downpours had highlighted that we haven't seen a Gully Sucker for some time.

*Cllr H Dosanjh left the meeting at 8.43pm.*

Cllr S Harcourt added that reinforcing netting on the footpath to Barbury Castle is now above the level of the path. Cllr Martyn responded that she would investigate both issues.

*Cllr C Martyn left the meeting at 8.45pm.*

**FC/200**

**Parish Council Representatives Report**

Members **NOTED** the report of Cllr A Woodhead regarding the Wroughton Community Asset Trust. Cllr Woodhead informed members that the Trust had not had a meeting but are planning an exciting launch event, date to be confirmed. The event is being run in conjunction with the Science museum with some quite exciting exhibits.

Members **NOTED** the report of Cllr G Jones regarding The Ellendune Hall Trust. Cllr Jones informed members that the AGM date set for 16 May 2019 at 7pm. Cllr Jones added that a grant application is in process, aspirations of being self-funding is extremely optimistic at present.

Cllr A Richards stated that it was noticeable that there seem to be more bookings in the Community Centre.

**FC/201**

**Chair's Report**

A copy of the Chair's weekly precis reports appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

Members **NOTED** the verbal report of the Chair. The Chair informed members that election nomination forms are available for collection from the Clerk. The Chair added that the Clerk's report on the conference will be circulated soon and reported at next Full Council meeting.

The Chair informed members that a response from the play inspection company had been received regarding the request for clarification of 'monitor use'. It means no action is recommended, however if an accident ever were to occur that related to the finding, then they may need to review it (but incredibly unlikely based on knowledge and experience). The Play Inspection Company often use this remedial action when referring to minor issues where an item does not meet the current standard and the risk assessment is low or very low and they do not feel that changing the item would reduce the overall risk level of the item.

The Chair informed members that the Youth Club exit interviews had been completed and will be reported to the Youth Club Working Party.

Cllr A Richards asked if candidates were going to organise a joint leaflet ready for elections. Cllr H Hodd asked how to include those that we don't know are standing. Cllr Richards replied that it would happen after nominations are announced. The Chair informed members that the Parish Office could not assist with this. Cllr A Woodhead suggested that a post on people of wroughton facebook page could be done. Cllr S Harcourt added that he would search for and resurrect the facebook page guidelines for campaigning.

**FC/202**      **Sports and Youth Facilities Working Party**

Members **NOTED** the update from Cllr J Hewer, on behalf of Cllr C Clark, regarding the Maunsell Way Pavilion Project. Cllr Hewer informed members that the next working party meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 20 March at 6.30pm. Comments have been handed to the Architect and new plans will be available for the meeting. There are some comments outstanding from the Swindon Borough Council Early Years Department but these will be available for the meeting. Secured by Design (Wiltshire Police) have been very supportive and will continue to liaise with us when we have build elevations available. The business case continues to be developed. We are now engaging with Swindon Borough Council for pre-planning advice, this is a free service for Parish Councils. Once pre-planning is complete we will start on community consultation.

**FC/203**      **The Ellendune Hall Trust – Grant Application**

Members **NOTED** the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee regarding the grant application from The Ellendune Hall Trust, a copy of which as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations from the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**FC/204**      **Burial Ground Working Party**

Members **NOTED** the report of the Clerk and recommendations of the Burial Ground Working Party regarding the provision of an additional burial ground, a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations of the Burial Ground Working Party.

**FC/205**      **S106 Monies**

Members **NOTED** the request from the Senior Planner at Swindon Borough Council to suggest allocations for potential S106 contributions from the Haskins Site, a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to request that potential S106 monies be allocated as follows: Wroughton Parish Council ask that S106 monies for offsite play facilities be allocated to the Badgers Brook Play Area. Open spaces provision be allocated to the Weir Field site. Outdoor sports be allocated the planned refurbishment of Boness Road play area of which will include sports facilities for pre-school children.

Members **NOTED** the response from the Senior Planner at Swindon Borough Council regarding allotment allocation of S106 contributions from the Carite site, also detailed in Appendix E.

Members **RESOLVED** to respond as follows:

WPC intend to provide smaller allotments therefore increasing the number available and prepare them for users, therefore enabling full utilisation. There are a lot of new houses being built within the village and we expect demand to increase, particularly mini-plots to target younger families and elderly residents.

**FC/206**      **Memorial Application**

Members **RESOLVED** to not approve any memorial applications until the memorial policy has been revised and approved.

**FC/207**      **Playground Inspections**

Members **RESOLVED** to defer the decision regarding re-siting the basket swing at Maunsell Way, to enable the Clerk to make further investigations.

**FC/208**      **Exclusion of Press and Public**

Members **RESOLVED** in accordance with Standing Order 3 (d) that 'in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw'.

Reason: Contractual matters.

**FC/209**      **Vehicles**

Members **NOTED** the report of the Clerk regarding an additional vehicle for the Grounds Maintenance Team, a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Confidential Minute File.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation that a third vehicle be purchased for the Grounds Maintenance Team and that finance options be investigated.

**FC/210**      **Maunsell Way Pavilion Project**

Members **NOTED** the report of the Clerk regarding the instruction of a VAT specialist to assist with the Maunsell Way Pavilion Project, a copy of which appears as Appendix G in the Confidential Minute File.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation within the report.

**FC/211**      **Play Area Working Party – Boness Road**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the additional expenditure of £700.00 for a utilities survey at Boness Road play area (CIL Funds).

The meeting closed at 9.32pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman of the Council