

Wetton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 15th April 2019

Agenda item 1	Attendance Register, Public Attendees, Apologies
Minute 15/04/19/01	<p>1.1) Present: Parish Councillors Mark Goodridge (Chair), Margaret Hodgkinson, Lucy Powis, Graham Stubbs, Carol Kimberley, Diane Higton, Principal Councillors Edwin Wain SMDC Clerk S. Mansfield (Incoming Clerk of Wetton Parish Council), M. Risby (Outgoing Clerk of Wetton Parish Council), Charlotte Leech (Chatsworth Estate Land agent), Justin Heslop (Peak Venues) and 11 members of the public.</p> <p>1.2) No Parish Councillors had sent apologies and all were present.</p>
Agenda item 2	Variation of Order of Business
Minute 15/04/19/02	<p>2.1) The Chair proposed that the agenda item on Public Speaking be brought forward to allow members of the public to leave promptly after their business was completed. The meeting unanimously agreed to this proposal.</p> <p>2.2) The Chair invited representatives of Peak Venues Limited to speak. Minuted under 15/04/19/06.1</p> <p>2.3) This was followed by the Chair leading an “open meeting” discussion on the proposed upgrade of Wetton Playground with members of the public being invited to express opinions on and provide information about the playground/pavilion priorities and their childrens’ preferred items of play equipment. Minuted under 15/04/19/06.2</p>
Agenda item 3	Declarations of Member's Interests
Minute 15/04/19/03	<p>3.1) The applicant’s name on the Planning Application for discussion was noted. No Parish Councillors declared an interest.</p>
Agenda item 4	Dispensations requested regarding Pecuniary Interests
Minute 15/04/19/04	<p>4.1) None needed.</p>
Agenda item 5	Determination of Confidential Items
Minute 15/04/19/05	<p>5.1) This item was determined as “there are no confidential items”.</p>
Agenda item 6	Public speaking
Minute 15/04/19/06	<p>6.1) Charlotte Leech from Chatsworth owner of Redhurst Barn and Justin Heslop representing Peak Venues – commercial tenant of Redhurst Barn, addressed the meeting on the subject of Redhurst Barn holiday let in Wetton Village. Redhurst Barn has been open for approximately one year and Peak Venues believe that all complaints have been dealt with promptly. The policy on selecting appropriate parties of guests was explained and assurances given that only those applying who Peak Venues believe to be quiet family groups are given the booking. The guests are shown and talked through documents, several times before and after arriving in Wetton, to clarify the need for responsible behaviour and an outside noise curfew of 21:00 hours applies every evening. Peak Venues felt that they had adequate local supervision of this property but if that proved not to be the case then they were prepared to consider funding a warden to monitor noise levels or other nuisances and report breaches of the terms and conditions quickly to Peak Venues who would respond immediately with staff arriving to control the situation before it became a serious event in the village. The Chair thanked Peak Venues for reaching out to the Parish Council and invited the Parish</p>

Councillors to ask questions or raise issues with Peak Venues.

Councillors expressed concern over excessive drinking and associated noise levels. Recent incidents, including one of an inebriated elderly guest of Redhurst Barn being found lying incapacitated and semi-conscious in a farm gateway late at night were recounted. Councillors expressed deep concerns about finding themselves, along with other residents of the village, being responsible for policing the extraordinary and unacceptable behaviour of some of Peak Venues' guests. It was pointed out that Wetton is a quiet village and sound carries clearly and far in the night air. Councillors asked how noise can be controlled and after some further discussion the suggestion arose of one or more village wardens being appointed who could possibly be funded by Peak Venues. Residents in the meeting asked if there were any financial penalties imposed on guests for breaching noise and nuisance related rules. Also, they suggested improved vetting procedures for potential parties staying in the village. Councillors added that during the Planning stages for this venue it was put forward that the venue would bring business into the village but visitors usually arrive with many cases of bottles of alcohol, then order a supermarket delivery van for groceries. They very rarely spend any money with local businesses.

Peak venues gave the following telephone numbers for use by Councillors or Residents if there are any further problems; 01298 83288 – Hurdlow Royal Oak and 07866778847 mobile for on-duty Peak Venues representative.

The Chair summed up the discussions with a proposal that the Parish Council would seek residents who may be prepared to act as wardens. The Chair again thanked the representatives of Chatsworth and Peak venues for coming forward and taking part in useful discussions on improving the situation.

6.2) The Chair began the open part of the meeting with an update on the current situation with the Playground. He explained that the Parish Councillors make regular safety inspections of the play equipment and that there is annual inspection by Rospa who specialise in providing professional playground safety inspections. From both these sources it is now clear that the playground equipment needs to be reviewed. Funding is needed to do this and SMDC Councillor Edwin Wain has very kindly come forward with the sum of £5000 as a starter donation for the Playground Fund.

The Chair summarised the current condition of the equipment as follows;

Pavilion – An “old friend” that is still useable but needs lots of work.

Zip wire – Metal column has moved possibly due to dry weather last summer. Timbers are rotting at ground level and seat beginning to crack

Tyre swing – Cracking and swivel joint seized up.

Climbing Frame – Surface water around it, paint peeling

Swings – Concrete base had to be removed and replaced with playbark.

Goal posts – still useable

Mower – may need new one.

The Chair asked the parents amongst the members of the public to give an idea of which types of play equipment children wanted and used most;

The space in the playground is good for children to run and play ball games.

The tree climbing is popular

The Zipwire is very popular with resident and visiting children alike.

Smaller goalposts for younger players would be good.

An all weather surface would be very useful

	<p>Golf facilities or just a putting green. Climbing Wall More facilities designed to be useable by children with disability A skate park where children could also use bikes and scooters. Timber castle There was a suggestion that cricket facilities should be restored but a Councillor recalled there being problems with insurance when a cricket pitch is near a public road and large nets being needed to save the ball from hitting passing cars. Improvements to the pavilion to provide kitchen, better toilet facilities for young children would need electricity supply.</p> <p>Councillor Edwin Wain offered the services of SMDC leisure dept who have much experience of design, maintenance and cost effective purchasing of play equipment. Councillor Wain recommended that Wetton Parish Council should look first at tidying the existing facilities and then plan a project to upgrade the playground in manageable stages. The Chair suggested that a working group of volunteers drawn from parents and others could be formed and have a days work planned three times a year to begin phased improvements. Some parents present were happy to volunteer for this proposal.</p>
<p>Agenda item 7</p>	<p>Managed Works</p>
<p>Minute 15/04/19/07</p>	<p>Highways and defects: 7.1) Councillor Edwin Wain had noted that there had been a request for more bins suitable for dog waste in the Parish. He thought that SMDC could both provide them and manage the regular emptying of them. He would make further enquiries with the correct department in SMDC. 7.2) There is a complaint from a resident, Mr DH, that a street light in the village is staying on all day wasting power. The Clerk will assist in getting it reported to SCC Highways on the fault reports website if he can get the exact location of the street light clarified.</p> <p>Lengths-person's Report: 7.3.1) Anne Morgan has bought a new mower to enable the verges to be kept trimmed. A report was made to the Parish Council that there was a backlog of work to be tackled in the village and large quantities of grass, vegetation, leaves and other materials had been removed and disposed of. There was possibly no need to trim some of the areas specified in the work instructions and that needed to be reviewed. There was a lot of dog waste and other assorted rubbish around the village coming from residential and agricultural properties in the parish. The Parish Council may need to make residents more aware of the problems this causes for the lengthsperson and ask residents to take more care to prevent rubbish being dispersed around the village. The Chair agreed to walk around the village with the lengthsperson and rewrite the work instructions to be more practical and cost effective. Those work instructions could be distributed to residents along with a request for them to understand the lengthspersons role and fulfil their part in keeping the village in good order. <i>After the meeting: Within in an hour of leaving the Parish Council meeting, the lengths-person wrote to the councillors resigning from the post.</i></p>
<p>Agenda item 8</p>	<p>Minute of the meeting held 2019</p>
<p>Minute 15/04/19/08</p>	<p>8.1) Minutes for the meetings held on 04 March 2019 were examined page by page and were unanimously agreed by the meeting.</p>

	Proposed Cllr Hodgkinson , seconded Cllr Kimberley and signed off by the Chair Cllr. Goodridge
Agenda item 9	Matters arising
Minute 15/04/19/09	9.1) None.
Agenda item 10	Planning
Minute 15/04/19/10	<p>10.1) New applications reviewed</p> <p><u>NP/SM/0319/0271 Barn Carr Lane Wetton</u> Rebuilding and amendments to agricultural building, creation of a single vehicle parking space and a change of use to a holiday let. Lodged with PDNPA on 29 Mar 2019.</p> <p>The Parish Council resolved that this application should be refused because they feel strongly that there should not be any more holiday lets in the parish. They are destroying the community and produce noise and nuisance.</p> <p>10.2) Planning decisions received were made available to the meeting. None made.</p> <p>10.3) Previous responses – None made.</p>
Agenda item 11	Policy and Procedures
Minute 15/04/19/11	11.1) No revised policy documents were presented by the Clerk.
Agenda item 12	Chairman's announcements
Minute 15/04/19/12	<p>12.1) The executor of the Estate of Rosemary Crafts reached out to query a payment of £216 from the Parish to Rosemary's account. Wondering whether this was in connection with her salary as Parish Clerk. The payment was a reimbursement for Play field play bark purchased by Rosemary using her credit card.</p> <p>Rosemary's salary for the year 2017/2018 had not yet been paid, as this typically was an annual payment at the end of the financial year. As such for the period April to August 2017 the Parish owes Rosemary's Estate £312,50 in unpaid wages, for which support is requested from the councillors.</p>
Agenda item 13	Updates from the Clerk
Minute 15/04/19/13	13.1)
Agenda item 14	Parish Management
Minute 15/04/19/14	14.1)
Agenda item 15	Representation at other meetings
Minute 15/04/19/15	15.1) None planned this month.
Agenda item 16	HR matters
Minute 15/04/19/16	16.1) The current Clerk, Maggie Risby, is acting as a temporary stand in and the Parish Council have advertised for a permanent Clerk. Stephen Mansfield has applied for this position and has been interviewed by the Chair. The Chair invited Councillors to ask any questions of the applicant and then requested a proposer to appoint Stephen Mansfield as Clerk to Wetton Parish Council. Councillor Margaret Hodgkinson proposed, Councillor Carol Kimberley seconded and the meeting approved the appointment of Clerk Stephen Mansfield with immediate effect. The Chair proposed that the salary should be set based on workload estimates by the previous permanent Clerk, Rosemary Crafts and at

the request of the incoming Clerk, that the agreed number of hours paid should be reduced to account for the legal requirements to meet holiday pay, pension entitlement and the National Association of Local Councils standardised pay rates. The incoming Clerk made it clear the he did not want the Clerk's salary, expenses or payroll management costs to create an increase in the precept requirements imposed on residents.

Agenda item 17 **Finance**

Minute 15/04/19/17 17.1) The most recently received bank statements to the 31st March 2019 were made available to the meeting by the Chair acting in the capacity of Responsible Financial Officer.

Bank balances at : 31st March 2019:

Current Account balance **£13,273.24p**

As a reminder of the discussion at the previous Parish Council meeting, highlights of comparisons of actual expenditure and budgeted expenditure were brought to the attention of Parish Councillors by the Responsible Financial Officer as follows;

The budgeted figure for the lengths-person is £1300 (158 hrs @ £8.50) to date and the actual expenditure is £1536.50 (181 hrs @ 8.50)

17.2) The following liabilities of the Parish Council were presented to the meeting for payment.

Cheque No	Payee	Item	Amount
	Craig Durose	Mower Service	£249.49
	Estate of Rosemary Crafts	Wages	
		Previous permanent Clerk's unpaid salary (Apr-Aug 2017)	£312.50

Payment of the above liabilities having been proposed by Councillor ? and seconded by Councillor ? were unanimously agreed by the meeting and the cheques were signed off.

Agenda item 18 **Date and time of next meeting**

Minute 15/04/19/18 Next meeting date and time was agreed originally set as 20th May 2019 but was changed at the request of a Parish Councillor unable to attend on that date and is now set as:

May 13th 2019 at 7.00 pm in Wetton Village Hall. This is the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the usual monthly meeting at 7:30 pm.

The remaining meeting dates for 2019 are proposed and agreed as

Monday 8th of July 2019

Monday 19th of August 2019

Monday 30th of September 2019

Monday 11th of November 2019

Monday 16th of December 2019

The meeting was closed at 21.40 hours.

These minutes are draft until reviewed & approved by the Parish Councillors.

Agenda item 19	Confidential information
Minute 15/04/19/19	None.
	A.O.B. for inclusion in next agenda.