

Wetton Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of Wetton Annual Parish and Monthly Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 17th May 2021

Meeting opened at 7:30 pm Meeting closed at 9:01 pm

NOT YET Signed by Councillor Chair of Wetton Parish Council

Role	Name	Present	Interests declared	Dispensation requested	Confirms minutes	Confirms Finances	Notes
Rotating Chair for this meeting - Councillor	Denise Noble	Y	N	N		Y	Also representing First Responders and
Councillor	Margaret Hodgkinson	Y	N	N	Seconded	Seconded	
Councillor	Lucy Powis	Y	N	N	Proposed		
Councillor	Graham Stubbs	Y	N	N			
Councillor	Carol Kimberley	Y	N	N		Proposed	
Fire Service	Helen Bowers	Y					
Police	Sargent A. Bland	Y					
Chatsworth Estate	Charlotte Leech	Y					
National Trust and Peak Park	Deborah Webster	Y					

Annual Parish Meeting – Chair not elected as no candidates nominated. No minutes from 2020 meeting as Covid lockdown was begun in May 2020.
Closed at 19:21 hours

Monthly meeting commenced at 19:30 hours.

Agenda item 1	Legal Formalities regarding Interests and Dispensations, Minutes of Previous Meeting, Matters Arising
Minute 17/05/21/01	Councillor Mark Goodridge has resigned from the Parish Council. Councillors asked the Clerk to write to him and thank him for his years of valuable service to the Parish. No It was suggested that the Chair of this and subsequent meetings would be carried out in turn by Parish Councillors. Councillor Denise Noble agreed to be acting Chair at this meeting and Councillor Graham Stubbs at the next meeting in July. The Acting Chair handled all formalities and requested whether any Councillors had any pecuniary interest in any agenda items including planning applications, or required any dispensation. Interests were declared and dispensations unanimously granted as per attendance table above. Minutes of previous meeting not yet available due to Clerk's recent illness.
Agenda item 2	Public Speaking and Announcements by Principal Councillors
Minute 17/05/21/02	2.1) There was a constructive discussion of the problems with large visitor numbers and the following problems were identified Advertising of Thor's Cave on websites and via organic use of social media which exacerbates the problem Cars arriving , driving around trying to find Thor's Cave, asking for directions. Cars parking in narrow lanes and in front of residences and business entrances. Not having change or not wanting to pay £3 parking fee. Although toilets are available, visitors don't find or see them and the result is a very significant public health nuisance.

Wetton Parish Council

Littering, starting fires for barbecues, damage to footpaths, walls and fences and damage to the attraction itself from xs footfall and deliberate vandalism.

Danger to the visitors, from sheer drops and scree. Danger created by visitors being improperly equipped, poor footwear, lack of knowledge of Countryside Code, lack of respect for farming community and other residents. Extreme sport enthusiasts such as Base Jumpers.

Danger to all present by roads being blocked to emergency vehicles, plus huge inconvenience to livelihoods by restricting free movement of delivery vehicles, agricultural vehicles which must work when the weather and crop status dictates..they cannot wait till visitors choose to leave the area..

Difficulty for emergency services to identify exactly where an incident is in a rural area with no street names or identifying buildings, especially with a significant three dimensional aspect. This could pose problems for dispatchers advising emergency drivers best approach route. For example vehicles need to approach via a very different route if the incident is above or below Thor's Cave.

There is more night time activity in the Cave and its surroundings.

Solutions

Police gave advice on what can be done to manage parking in residential lanes and connecting single track roads. Police also offered to make visits and bring Police Cadets to advise visitors on responsible behaviour during their visits.

Fire Service is making more training events in rural areas to improve knowledge of best access routes. The Fire Service and First Responders had a discussion of how identification of exact locations of casualties and incidents could be communicated more efficiently.

Chatsworth are already considering a project to improve matters by installing better information signs for visitors

National Trust are looking at their volunteers spending more time in the area.

The Parish Councillors asked if these tourist management organisations would come to Wetton at midday or shortly after on any Saturday and see for themselves the level of the problems listed above. They will then be in a better position to understand the villagers needs. National Trust/Peak Park agreed to do so.

Notes from Deborah Webster, included in these minutes to assist residents who were unable to attend.

- **Could National Trust website offering walks that include Thor's Cave be taken down?**
 - o I explained that although the walk that included Thor's Cave was live, Lucy had put in lots of information about staying local, which we hoped was more beneficial than taking the walk down. Charlotte very kindly backed me up when I said lots of sites and social media platforms carried info about Thor's Cave and us taking ours down wouldn't probably make a noticeable difference.
 - Action: Despite this, their preference would be for us to take the walk down. I said I would bring this back to the team. (Jo – can you and Lucy confer and let me know what the outcome of

Wetton Parish Council

the request is? If appropriate, can Lucy take that to the Partnership MarComms Group for others to consider?) Jo, Lucy

- **The Peak District National Park should provide a car park**
 - I explained there was fairly certain there were not funds available for the PDNPA to be able to provide car parking, but I would pass the request on (they accepted this was the case). Suggested local landowners open a pop up car park as an alternative. Villagers frustrated because even with that in place, people park on the road for free. A resident shared a story that she went to visit a relative, and when she returned, someone was parked in her drive. Police at the meeting explained the difference between bad parking and obstructive parking, and made it clear that could not police bad parking due to capacity. Fire service discussed different engines that could be dispatched in an emergency. Fire service raised importance of using 'what three words' in an emergency to facilitate help as quickly as possible.
 - Action: The group are interested in learning more about (COVID emergency) double yellow lines. I said I would put them in touch with Thorpe Parish Council to discuss measures taken there, and how they approached that. Debbie
- **Litter, toilets, bins, waste collection**
 - The village already have litter picking equipment
 - Amount of litter being collected in village bins excessive and hard to manage
 - People in village collecting litter dealing with human waste/nappies/etc.
 - There is only one toilet in the village – I was asked if the PDNPA or PDNT would be able to provide toilet facilities. I had to say that unfortunately, we were not in a position to be able to do that, and was fairly certain it was the same for PDNPA. They accepted this.
 - Village felt we needed to see it on a Saturday about dinner time, whatever the weather.
 - PDNPA, NT & Chatsworth to explore working together through volunteer involvement to tackle litter issues and improve visibility; involve statutory services as appropriate re waste collection; Chatsworth will look at this too. Charlotte, Rose, Debbie, Anna/Fiona
 - Visit the village on a Saturday to understand their concerns. Debbie
- **Signage & Countryside Code**
 - Frustration is mainly around behaviours. Folks at meeting said they didn't want to stop people from coming, just asked that they respect

Wetton Parish Council

their village and the people who live there. Spent some time sharing that they are a working agricultural village, and that people didn't understand how things like the above impact them. Concerns about silage season and traffic management.

- o They'd like to see a real increase in signage in the village. Charlotte explained that Chatsworth & PDNPA are currently working on signage for Thor's Cave. Villagers would like to see some signage that got across the respect, protect, enjoy at entrance point to village. Debbie said that we did not have funding for signage, Charlotte said Chatsworth may be able to look at that. Suggested Fiona be pulled into this conversation when she is back from A/L. Debbie explained that unfortunately signage didn't always provide the results one hoped for, but this was not an area of her expertise.
 - I think there could be a social media story here – a video for instance – real people sharing real stories. Debbie to follow up with Lucy to see if such an approach could be possible. Listening to people from the farming community was really quite inspiring. **Charlotte, Rose, Fiona**

Community Litter Pick

Would you like to take part in a community litter pick (in the Manifold Valley)?

Please contact Rose.Clarke@peakdistrict.gov.uk

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Agenda item 3	Report by lengths-person and response from Councillors
Minute 17/05/21/03	There was no report from the lengths person.
Agenda item 4	Highway Defects to report to Staffordshire County Council Highways
Minute 17/05/21/04	4.1) None reported
Agenda item 5	Periodic Review of Council Policies
Minute 17/05/21/05	5.1) None
Agenda item 6	Planning
Minute 17/05/21/06	6.1) No comments on Lee House, Back of Ecton.
Agenda item 7	Chairs Announcements, Councillors Any Other Business and updates from the Clerk

Wetton Parish Council

Minute 17/05/21/07	7.1) None																																				
Agenda item 8	Parish Managed Works including status of playground																																				
Minute 17/05/21/08	8.1) Clerk to inspect zip-wire and seek quotation for repair/replace.																																				
Agenda item 9	Finance																																				
Minute 17/05/21/09	<p>9.1) Recently received bank statements and up to date accounts were made available to the meeting confirming the summary balance sheet as;</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Date</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Account</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Balance</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Notes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5th May 2021</td> <td>Capital Replacement Reserve</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£10,000.00</td> <td>Includes £5000 playground grant from SMDC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30th April</td> <td>50% precept received</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1722.60</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5th May 2021</td> <td>Working Funds</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9,810.27</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5th May 2021</td> <td>Bank Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£19,810.27</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>9.2) The following payments by the Parish Council were presented to the meeting and agreed for payment.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">Chq No</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Payee</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Item</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>000720</td> <td>D Noble for Direct365</td> <td>Defib spares</td> <td style="text-align: right;">36.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>000721</td> <td>S Mansfield</td> <td>Salary 2 month Feb/Mar 2021</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£115.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>000722</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>PAYE 2 month</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£28.80</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>9.3) Figures for the C of E were agreed.</p>	Date	Account	Balance	Notes	5 th May 2021	Capital Replacement Reserve	£10,000.00	Includes £5000 playground grant from SMDC	30th April	50% precept received	£1722.60		5 th May 2021	Working Funds	£9,810.27		5 th May 2021	Bank Account	£19,810.27		Chq No	Payee	Item	Amount	000720	D Noble for Direct365	Defib spares	36.32	000721	S Mansfield	Salary 2 month Feb/Mar 2021	£115.20	000722	HMRC	PAYE 2 month	£28.80
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Agenda item 10	Items for future agenda and the next meeting dates																																				
Minute 17/05/21/10	10.1) Next meetings in 2021 scheduled as 7:30 June or July TBA, 2 nd Aug, 20 th Sep, 8 th Nov, 13 th Dec.																																				