**Meeting of Warcop Parish Council**

**Held on Thursday 16th May 2024 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mr A Parkinson (Chairman) Sydall, McDowall, Deighton &

Clee

**ALSO PRESENT**: Clerk Mrs Strong + 4 members of the public.

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| **01/0524** | **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  None | **ACTION** |
| **02/0524** | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  Item 06/0524 Councillors McDowall and Parkinson |  |
| **03/0524** | **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**  Councillor Sydall proposed these as a true and accurate record and Councillor McDowall seconded them.  These were approved and signed. |  |
| **04/0524** | **CHAIRMANS REMARKS**  Councillor Parkinson was elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year. |  |
| **05/0524** | **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**  Councillor McDowall has been unable to put up the new cemetery rates, as the noticeboard lock will not open. Action ongoing. The clerk has contacted the company to purchase a new lock.  Councillor Deighton will start to put in the posts for Appleby Fair on the 19th May 2024 as agreed. The Chairman reported that he has a meeting arranged with Eden Valley railway on Sunday and will ask about the use of sleepers this year along Brookside. [Note: Eden Valley Railway are happy for us to use their sleepers]  The Chairman reported that he is due to attend the Local Liaison Meeting at Warcop Camp on 21st May and will ask about their plans for D-Day [Note: As a Training Camp, there are no army units stationed at Warcop and no celebrations are therefore planned].  Councillor McDowall reported that she had looked into the possibility of having a Parish flag and concluded that there is no obvious Parish emblem (e.g. coat of arms) that we could use and we would need to employ a designer to come up with design suggestions. It was felt that the money needed could be better spent elsewhere at this time and we should continue to fly the Union Flag. | NM  HS |
| **06/0524** | **APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT**  2024/0753/TPO – The Pines, Sandford – no objections.  Councillor Parkinson & McDowall declared their interest on this and did not take part in any discussion. |  |

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| **07/0524** | **FINANCE**  Income Received –Cemetery plot reservation fee £643.00  It was agreed to deposit all monies received from plot reservations and internments in the Cemetery into one of the savings accounts to provide a source for Cemetery improvements.  **To note payments.**     |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **CHQ BACS** | **PAYEE Name** | **Amount** | **Reason** | | BACS | J Noel Paul | £66 | Process clerks payroll | | BACS | N McDowall | £16.75 | Squirrel signs | | BACS | A Parkinson | £12.00 | Land search | | BACS | Village Hall | £20.00 | Meeting fee | | BACS | A Parkinson | £26.31 | Strimmer Line | |  |  |  |  |   No expenditure is planned that will deviate from the budget at this time.  The 3 monthly bank reconciliation was checked and signed by the Chair.  The end of year accounts have been prepared and will be sent to the Chair for checking and signature.  The Certificate of exemption for 2023/24 has been prepared and will be sent to the Chair for checking and signature. | **HS/AP** |
| **08/0524** | **SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION & INFORMATION**   * **Emergency Plan –** The Chairman has now completed this document which will be passed on to W&F Council. The full document will remain confidential amongst the Councillors but an abridged version will be created and published on the website. * **Fencing in Warcop –** Councillor Clee mentioned that permanent decorative but functional fencing around certain areas in the village (e.g. around the war memorial) would be better and to hopefully stop vehicles from churning up the grass. This is not something that does need doing immediately. It was agreed to find out some costs and prices for the materials. * **Cemetery –** The trees have now been taken down and the retaining wall is still intact. The stonework is in a poor state from prior root damage and will need some remedial work doing on this in the future. Councillor Clee offered to do some re-pointing to stabilise the wall. The old part of the cemetery needs some attention and it was agreed to organise a working party to help tidy up this area. Councillor McDowall and the Chair reported that they had recently visited Hilton/Murton Cemetery to view their memorial wall, which has plaques on in memory of people who have had their ashes scattered. It was agreed to ask all residents to see if this was something that they would like to see in our Cemetery. The Chair spoke to the A66 NTP regarding using Castlehill Road for access to the new playing field for the MOD which has to be relocated due to the dualling of the A66. The Contractors have expressed a wish to help the affected Communities where possible with small projects so it is proposed to approach them for help towards the cost and construction of the memorial wall. * **Himalayan Balsam –** Following agreement of a plan for working parties to help eradicate the Himalayan balsom from the beck and river banks, Councillor McDowall reported that she had contacted Eden Rivers Trust who are unable to provide physical help, but they may be able to help with advice and equipment. A few residents have offered to help, but not as many as expected initially. Once we have firmed up on dates, another request for volunteers will be made. The best time to start pulling the Balsam is in June/July before it seeds. * **Traffic Sign –** The Chairman spoke to Mr Sandland who is on the Eden Valley Railway trust committee and the trustees would like someone from the PC to discuss with them the possibility of putting up a parent and child sign on the Railway Bridge. The Chairman proposes to meet with them on Sunday. * **Fencing on B6259 above ‘Penkeld’–** The Chairman has made the owner aware of the damaged fencing and he has said he will fix this. * **Risk assessment –** This was discussed and agreed and can now be published on the website. * **Barrow planter –** It was agreed to locate this on the grass verge near the playing field once the travellers leave the village, so it can be seen as soon as you come into the village. | NM  AC  AP |
| **09/0524** | **OTHER URGENT COMMUNITY ISSUES**  Mr Burgess mower has broken down and is awaiting a new gearbox. The approx. cost is £500. It was agreed to offer a donation of £200 towards the repairs as he is now taking on a lot more of the mowing in the parish.  The Chair requested all parish councillors have a look at the maintenance and improvement plan (copy on website) compiled by former Councillor Mallett and see if it is of use. | **All** |
| **10/0524** | **PUBLIC SESSION**  A resident asked if he could cut back some trees overhanging on the footpath. No objections from the PC.  A landowner who owns the field next to the Cemetery has asked if no artificial flowers could be used in the Cemetery as he found a plastic flower with a long serrated edge spike on it. This could have been potentially dangerous as animals or people could have stood on this causing injury. It was agreed to put up a notice requesting only natural flowers or plants and no artificial plants in future. The Chairman agreed to publicise this via the Warcop facebook page. | **AP** |
| **11/0524** | **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**  **Thursday 11th July 2024 at 7pm**  **Meeting closed at 9.15pm**  **Chair …………………………………**  **Date ……………………………………….** |  |