**WORLESTON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Meeting held on 14th November 2024 @ 7.00pm Worleston Village Hall

**Present**: John Thomasson (**JT**) Peter Jones (**PJ**) John Schofield (**JS**) (Vice Chair) Gary Basford (**GB**)

Fred Percival (**FP**), Joe Foster (**JF**) Andy Hudson (**Chair**), Gary Vernon (**GV**), Richard Heaton (**RH**)

Helen Exley (**The Clerk**),

Parish members: none present

| **Point**  | **Agenda point** | **Raised By** | **Action** | **Due Date** |
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| 1. | **Apologies**:-Tommy Adams (**TA**), Vicky Higham (**VH** ) Malcolm Holman (**MH)** Becky Posnett Borough Councillor (**BP**) |  Clerk | N/A | 14/11/24 |
| 2. | **Declaration of Councillors interests & Code of Conduct:** - None declared |  Chair | All Cllrs | 14/11/24 |
| 3. | **Approval of Minutes & Outstanding Matters:-****Please see attached checklist for outstanding matters**Minutes from 26/09/24 quarterly meeting, were proposed as correct by **JF** and 2nded by **GB.** All councillors present, were in agreement. |  Vice Chair | All Cllrs | 14/11/24 |
| 4. | **Public Forum:-**No members were present | Public |   Chair | 14/11/24 |
| 5. | **Councillor Vacancy: -** It was agreed by all Councillors present that Richard Heaton be co-opted onto the Parish Council. **RH** was welcomed onto WDPC. | Clerk | All Cllrs | 14/11/24 |
|  6. | **Borough Councillor Report:-*** The 3 weekly bin collection consultation has been completed and a paper is being considered at the Environment and Communities Committee 27th November. There is significant pressure to adopt this change as the council are perilously close to issuing a S114 which effectively starts the transition to being unable to balance its budget and the government stepping in to take over control of the administration. Unless more financial savings can be made the outlook is very bleak and being under government administration means only statutory services will be delivered.
* The access road onto the Kingsbourne estate is scheduled to start in January. The efforts and commitments made by the developers about this date are the best we have seen so far and I have put a lot of pressure on the council to make sure they push the developers to deliver.
* I am in discussion with the Mersey Forest Partnership to deliver a tree planting scheme around the football club following ‘comments’ from residents that the new 3G pitch doesn’t absorb the noise levels as much as the grass pitch used to. Which is probably a fair assessment.
 | Chair | BP | 14/11/24 |
|  | * Residents on Main Rd in the village are still concerned about speeding through the village. I have raise the whole of main road to be accessed for road safety. Reaseheath college, myself and the member of Parliament, have been discussing the speed limit around the college. If possible, I would like for the Parish Council to register its views about this with me to start with. I do feel that a busy road outside of an educational facility with buses and young drivers using the access on main road is a concern.
* I have recently been to a meeting of the river Weaver/Gowy steering group which discusses a wide range of environmental issues with stake holders such as the EA, NFU, Duchy of Lancaster,  natural England and the governments new initiative Nature North. I joined these discussions to best understand the issues and works around the rivers that run through Bunbury ward.
* As a Parish Council you will have received notice that CEC are planning to charge PC’s for election costs within their Parish. This is a move related to the financial pressures CEC is under. This might cause considerable costs to a Parish Council and it needs to be fully understood. The LGA (local government association) and the group of Councillors I am aligned to (trying not to be political here) are challenging this for more information.
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| 7. | **Planning matters:-*****Pending applications****24/3343N - Holly Bank Farm Wettenhall Road, Reaseheath,* *Certificate of proposed lawful use for residential dwelling****Past Planning****24/3157N – Reaseheath House, Cinder Lane, Reaseheath – side and rear 2 storey extension**24/2300N – Millstone Roundabout, Reaseheath Advertising consent for roadside hoarding**24/1722N – Aston Lower Hall, Dairy Lane, Variation on Cond 20/2082N-undecided**24/0658N – Aston Lower Hall, Dairy Lane – erection of agricultural building retrospective.- undecided**24/0060N – Rose Hall, Dairy Lane, New annex & Porch entrance-undecided**23/4566N – Aston Lower Hall, AJM.- Erection of Rural enterprise unit & associated works- undecided**23/3507N – Aston Lower Hall Farm, Dairy Lane - Erection of covered silage store - undecided**22/0557N – New Start Park, Change of Use and erection of 2 amenity buildings - Undecided* |  Chair | Chair | ongoing |
| 8. | **Clerks Report:-** E mail regarding Pharmaceutical needs assessment will be forwarded onto Cllrs. | Clerk | Clerk | 14/11/24 |
| 9. | **Playground Matters:-*** Car park surface improvement – re check audit & send to **JS**
 | Chair | FP & JS | ongoing  |
| 10. | **Parish Compacts:-** Nothing to report from Peter Wilson. Clerk will ask for road signs to be cleaned where necessary.  | Clerk |  Chair | Ongoing |
| 11. | **Road Safety Matters:-*** *Speed limit* – request to be sent in by **BP** for the whole of Main Rd to be put under a speed limit. **JS** says the speeding is getting worse & worse. Traffic calming measure at the north end of Main Rd has now been destroyed, no reflection on it – useless deterrent. CEC highways aren’t repairing it. Speed limit is needed by RHC entrance and beyond Needs Ltd. Speeding is bad by the college entrance. WDPC to report back to **BP** that we strongly support any improvement in Speed limit from the Roundabout upto Needs Ltd. Speeding is currently being assessed in the borough, so results need to be monitored to see if this would help in the Parish. Police presence should be increased and given specific times to monitor. Early morning speeding is particularly bad.  **AH** to write to the police to ask speed monitoring to take place. United Utilities tankers are poor and need to have speeding monitored.
* *Flooding issues* - No further update – all jetting has been done.
* *Update on Road conditions* - JS stated that Road markings are very poor in the area, making driving dangerous.
* Kingsbourne Rd opening - see point 6.
 |  Chair |  Chair | Ongoing |
| 12. | **Payment of accounts & Financial Matters :-*** Precept setting to be discussed at the next meeting 16/01/25. Budget/Actual figures will be sent out prior to the meeting.
* Litter picker rates – agreed by all that the service rate be increased to £15/hr from 01/04/25.
* Clerk rates reviewed within guidelines of NALC & backdated to 01/04/24. Proposed by **FP** & 2nded by **AH**

Current bank balance 05/11/24 = £10,905.62 to include saver account. **JT** & **FP** are now online signatories.  **PJ** will be additional signatory to take over from **ME**Outstanding payments:-* *Clerk’s fees - now paid for M1-M6*
* *HMRC - paid as above*
* *Lengthsman Fees – Deferred to next meeting*
* *WVH hire costs - £32.00*
* *Alan Ackerley playground & grass cutting - £277.50 for the 1/4*
 |  Clerk | Clerk | 14/11/24 |
| 13. | **Dates of meetings for 2025:**16th January, 13th March, 22nd May, 10th July, 25th September,20th November | Clerk | Clerk | 14/11/24 |
| 14. | **Items for next agenda**:- Update of the PC Standing Orders | clerk |  Chair | 14/11/24 |

Meeting closed at 19:50 hrs

--------------------------------------------------------------------Chairman----------------------------------------------------Date

**Action list from14/11/24 minutes**

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| **Point** | **Agenda item** | **Who to complete** | **Actioned by** |
| 8. | E mail regarding Pharmaceutical needs assessment to be sent to Cllrs | HE | December |
| 10 | Road signs cleaned where necessary | HE – litter picker | ongoing |
| 11 | Ask BP to push for speed limits from roundabout upto Needs LTD | Chair | January |
| 12 | Proposed budget to be sent to all Cllrs by January meeting | Clerk | 16/01/25 |
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