

# Wellow Parish Council

BATHAVON SOUTH WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
held at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 2 June 2015 in Wellow Village Hall

*Actions – marked **A** at right– are on the Clerk and on any Councillor whose initials also appear*

**Present:** Councillors B. Wright (Chair from Minute 15.73), H. Andrews, S. Betts, P. Caudle, S. Chauveau, J. Handel. M. Hartigan

**In attendance:** District Councillor N. Butters, R. Campbell (Clerk), seven members of the public

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** In the absence of Cllrs Wright (whose train had been delayed) and Clarkson the Public Forum was chaired by Cllr Caudle. Comments included the following, noted in *italic*. They do not form part of the minutes

- *Susan Rodford of St Julian’s School and Church Valley Schools Federation gave a presentation on St Julian’s School, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. She said the school was lucky in its facilities, which included paddock, a gazebo and an adventure playground. The School wanted to support the community in any way it could.*

Cllr Andrews said that as School Rep on the last Council she had found St Julian’s School to be an amazing place.

- *Richard Cromwell noted that at the gateways to Wellow from Bath Hill and Peasedown the reflectors were broken. The areas were scruffy. Had any progress been made in beautifying them?*

Signage to be a July agenda item

- *Chris Wordsworth said the previous white lines forming the virtual pavement at Bath Hill had not been keyed in properly and so had not lasted. He wondered if B & NES could get a guarantee next time.*

Cllr Caudle thanked the speakers and closed the public forum.

Cllr Wright, who had joined the meeting, took the Chair.

15.73 **Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs S. Chivers and D. Clarkson

15.74 **Declarations**

Cllr Hartigan declared a pecuniary interest in relation to item 15.77 (i) Brook Lodge.

15.75 **Minutes**

The minutes of the PC meeting of 19 May 2015 were agreed to be a true record. They were signed by the Chair.

15.76 **Clerk's Report**

A report on action from the preceding meeting had been circulated to Councillors. The B & NES surveyor's report on the wall at St Julian's had been passed to the Friends. To be a July agenda item.

1577 **Planning**

(i) Applications - trees

Councillors considered the following applications:

**15/02163/TCA** The Maltings, Mill Hill, Wellow BA2 8QJ.

Proposal: 1x Rowan - pollard or reduce and thin and 1x Holly - thinning out of overgrown to re-shape crown.

Cllr Andrews had visited the site with Cllr Chivers, to whose knowledge she deferred. She said the application did not seem controversial and represented sound tree management.

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Andrews, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Caudle, unanimous) to recommend the application be permitted.

Cllr Hartigan took no part in the following item.

**15/02191/TCA** Brook Lodge, Bull's Hill, Wellow BA2 8QS.

Proposal: 1x Cherry - reshape crown by up to 1 m. 1x Mulberry - remove lowest limb over limb and reshape crown by up to 1 m. 1x Yew - fell. 1x Yew - raise crown by up to 1.5 m. 1x Hawthorn - fell. 1x Birch - fell. 1x Holly – fell

Cllrs Andrews and Chivers had visited the site Again the application was considered uncontroversial and a programme of replanting was under way.

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Andrews, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Caudle, unanimous) to recommend the application be permitted.

Application

**15/02202/FUL** The Old Works Railway Lane Wellow Bath BA2 8QG. Conversion of The Old Works building to form dwelling with detached garage and associated works including the demolition and rebuild of the north elevation.

This item was postponed until July, a time extension having been obtained from B & NES.

(ii) There were no planning or enforcement decisions or updates

15.78 **New Sports Facilities**

(i) Update Chris Wordsworth of the Parish Council Sports Project Management Group gave an update, which included the following:

- The weather had been unhelpful and the tennis courts had not yet been painted; it was hoped this would happen later in the week
- He apologized that the temporary fencing was piled up; it would be collected imminently
- Once the courts were painted, nets, posts and basket would be up in time for the low-key opening on 21 June
- The opening would not get in the way of Open Gardens. There would be a barbecue, informal opening and free coaching on the Sunday
- £184K of the £204K cost had been received. The remaining funds were conditional on completion of the work.

Cllr Betts said that the crack in the wall at the foot of the drive had not been caused by the sports project works after all (cf Minute 15.64 (ii)a).

(ii) Outdoor gym equipment A letter had been received from a resident living near the playing field, whose six-year-old daughter had fallen from the outdoor gym equipment when playing on it unsupervised. It was agreed that the Clerk should send a letter expressing the Council's concern and best wishes.

After discussion it was agreed to seek advice from ALCA and B & NES on

- a) the legal position and
- b) whether WPC was following best practice, which it believed it was, in the siting and signing of the equipment.

15.79 **CIO**

It was reported there would soon be a meeting about the formation of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation, which had been proposed to manage the whole Playing Field, including the Village Hall (Minute 14.008) .

15.80 **Highways and Rights of Way**

(i) Cllr Betts reported that

- A Speedwatch session had recently been carried out and more were earmarked for June. Radstock police will come and monitor traffic speed in Wellow
- At least 30 out of 50 vehicles were exceeding the speed limit

There was not news about white lining. Ward Cllr Butters confirmed that Nick Sperring was still the right officer to approach about this.

Cllr Caudle had reported to B & NES dislodged stones on the raised pavement outside the Church.

(ii) Traffic calming to be a July item; also signage

15.81 **Clerk**

Cllr Wright had read and was content with the Clerk's contract, which would be signed outside the meeting.

15.82 **Defibrillator**

Cllr Handel praised the British Heart Foundation's offer of a defibrillator for £400, (which WPC had already pledged) when the normal price is £900.

She thought a further £400 would be required for a heated outside cabinet with door-activated alarm. There would have to be an electrical supply and pads would need replacing if used.

Cllr Handel said Wellow Square and the Village Hall were both good sites. She recommended buying the defibrillator now and then deciding where to place it. Cllr Wright agreed: it should be purchased, with consideration in July as to how the cabinet was funded and where it should be placed. This was agreed. The Clerk to find out if the BT phone box in Wellow Square is available under the £1 purchase scheme.

15.83 **Broadband**

Cllr Wright said there were two options to bring faster broadband to Wellow:

- through B & NES, using BT Openreach
- via Truespeed, a fibre network planned to cover different parishes in the area

He was due to meet the B & NES broadband officer the following week.

15.84 **Procedure**

(i) The Clerk said that the draft Standing Orders he had circulated did not include a statement that meetings could now be filmed, tweeted, etc. A revised draft to be circulated for consideration in July.

(ii) A revised Code of Conduct also to be considered in July.

15.85 **Finance**

(i) The current financial statement was noted.

(ii) The Accounting Statements for 2014/15 were approved and signed by the Chair. The Annual Governance Statement for 2014/15 was considered line by line, completed and signed.

(iii) The revised Asset Register was noted.

(iv) A reply was awaited from AON as to whether inclusion of the gym equipment would increase the insurance premium..

(v). There was considerable discussion about whether £850 of the grant allocated to the CIO in the budget 2015/16 should be paid instead to the Village Hall Committee (VHC), which had received this grant in previous years, given that the CIO was not yet in existence.

- Cllr Hartigan said the VHC should supply accounts. Cllr Betts, VHC Chair, said they had been supplied to the Chair of the last Council, but she would provide them again.
- Does the VHC really need the money? Cllr Betts said they were investigating provision of a disabled loo and needed to build up funds.
- The Chairman said he thought that on balance the grant should be paid to the VHC on this occasion, though this set no precedent.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) to pay the following

<b>Sports Project</b>	<b>£</b>
Caloo Limited – supply and fit outdoor gym equipment inc. VAT	10,794.00
Duotech – key fob system	2,510.06
Greensward Sports Consultancy Ltd – Interim Payment Certificate No 2(Minute 14.123)	8,748.35
Andy Smith – refund cost of tarpaulin	50.40
Luminance Pro – Valuation No 2 inc. VAT	22,044.00
<b>General</b>	
British Heart Foundation – contribution to defibrillator (Minute 15.25)	400.00
CPRE – membership renewal 2015/16 – (budgeted)	50.00
S. Cole – wages	209.28
R. Campbell, salary May 2015 (26 hours + 3 hours Sports Project)	357.19
Grant to Village Hall committee	850.00
Jane Rees – refund expenses for Village Histories Exhibition at Radstock Museum (Minute 15.51)	158.87
Avon Local Councils Association (Budgeted)	90.96

15.86 **Training**

Cllr Handel will attend the Being a Good Councillor course on 27 June.

**15.87 Reports**

- Cllr Betts reported two recent cases of vandalism to the Village Hall. She will investigate the affordability of CCTV.
- Cllr Andrews reported complaints from neighbours about 'industrial processes' opposite Wellow Trekking Centre. Cllr Caudle said that a B & NES enforcement officer had visited and said all was in order. The activity was considered to be farm diversification. Cllr Butters said he would ask the enforcement officer to confirm that he was satisfied and would liaise with Cllr Caudle.

**15.88 Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 7th July 2015 at 8.00pm in Wellow Village Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.15pm