**WOOLLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD 10th APRIL 2025**

**Present:** Councillors M Willis, C Robson, P Dyke, A Jones, I White,

E Rowbottom.

**In attendance**: 6 members of the public and Cllr S Harvey.

**136/25 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None received.

**137/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON AGENDA**

There were no declarations of interest. ***Resolved*** that a general dispensation be granted to all Parish Councillors to enable them to discuss any objections to planning applications

**138/25 TO RECEIVE SUCH ITEMS THAT THE CHAIRMAN MAY WISH TO LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

 Council vacancy – As no elector had triggered an election the Council were to fill the vacancy by co-option. Advice had been received from the WMDC elections office on the process. Notices were to be placed on the notice boards and website and the closing date for expressions of interest would be six weeks from today. At that time, providing there had been any interest, interviews would be held and the most suitable person would be co-opted to the Council.

**139/25 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th MARCH 2025**

 ***Resolved*** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 13th March 2025 be accepted as a correct record.

**140/25 TO REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

None raised.

**141/25 TO AGREE THAT MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE MEETING FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEM 13**

***Resolved*** that members of the press and public be asked to leave the meeting following agenda item 13

**142/25 TO RECEIVE THE POLICE REPORT**

A written report had been provided for discussion. Correspondence had also been received about the Safe Scheme and the final overtime spend should be resolved the following week. It was ***resolved*** to continue with the Safe Scheme at an annual amount of £4,000 to be paid once the invoice arrived in the next week or so with any underspend carried over to the scheme.

**143/25 TO UPDATE ON GROUNDS MAINTENANCE WORKS**

Kompan would not be taking over the quarterly inspection reports.

Cllr White had discussed ongoing hedge works with the contractor who had agreed to reduce the cost to £150 per visit. The area under the trees was to be reseeded at a cost of £30 as leaves had not been removed during the winter. ***Agreed.***

The resident’s shed which was leaning over the recreation ground was discussed together with a manure pile which had been smouldering for a month near Beech Farm. It was suggested that a chat with the Fire Brigade might be useful.

**144/25 TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1. **Approval of Payment of Accounts**

Payments were authorised to

Salary - Clerk April £ 311.80

Kompan – operational inspections to November and

Algae treatment £1,680.00

YLCA membership subscription £ 492.00

KJA payroll £ 104.40

WGRA £1,138.82

 Bank Balance £56,302.19 prior to above payments.

1. **Preparation of Parish Council Accounts for internal/external auditors**

The Clerk advised that all the AGAR paperwork had arrived from PKF Littlejohn (external auditors). ***Agreed***to ask M Neil to carry out the internal audit as in previous years.

1. **Year End Balance Sheet**

The year end balance sheet as presented by the Clerk. This was agreed by the Council as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

1. **Review of Asset Register –** Agreed to hold over to the next

meeting when other documents such as the Standing Orders were due to be reviewed.

**145/25 TO RECEIVE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE**

WMDC– advising no election had been called and outlining arrangements for the co-option of a person to fill the vacancy. Notices to be displayed advertising the vacancy.

 Grant application from Woolley Grange Residents Association in the sum of £1,138,82. Discussed by the Council and ***agreed.***

 WMDC advising a CIL payment of £985.11 would be made to the Council by the 28th April. Clarity had also been given that CIL money could be used to pay for gritting and snow clearing at a neighbourhood scale as this benefits a high proportion of the community. In addition, as the church is a community facility and a heritage asset - being a listed building in a conservation area - then repair to its clock could be considered to be maintenance of a community facility.

**146/25 TO DISCUSS PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

 It was noted that the application for a Certificate of Lawful development for a resident’s swimming pool had been agreed.

**147/25 TO DISCUSS PARISH MATTERS INCLUDING DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

 Cllr Harvey had updated the Council during the public part of the meeting.

 **Woolley Grange** – The off-road motorbikes were again discussed. The grit bin had been repaired. The dog bin was now in an acceptable location. An event was planned for children in the woodland and 21 applications had been received so far.

**Haigh –** It was hoped that WMDC could provide Christmas lights for the tree this year.

**Woolley Village and Village Hall** - nothing to report.

**Woolley Hall –** Sale expected to be concluded shortly.

**Neighbourhood plan –** Cllrs Robson and Dyke updated the meeting. Grants would be available from July towards some of the work required. Objectives will no doubt change as the plan develops.

**148/25 TO AGREE DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be the **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **THURSDAY 8th MAY 2025** in the Village Hall, The Green, Woolley at 7pm.

**IN PRIVATE**

No items

**Signed………………………… Dated……………………………….**

**Chairman**

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**WOOLLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**NOTES OF PUBLIC SESSION HELD 10TH APRIL 2025**

Five members of the public present together with Cllr Sam Harvey. Cllr Harvey had to leave quite quickly as her mother was in hospital so updated the Council on a number of issues.

In answer to a question from a member of the public Cllr Harvey reported that she had had further information on the one-way system which would not be made official until October. Until that time no road markings would be changed.

There was still an issue with school bus passes if Woolley Grange students attend school in Darton as they were not eligible for a Wakefield bus pass.

The New Hall Solar Farm public appeal hearing had now concluded and the outcome will be known in the near future. A landscape character assessment had been done for Sitlington but Cllr Harvey felt that it would be insufficient for Woolley. Woolley Hall will go to public auction if insufficient interest had been shown by the closing date for bids of 22nd April. She gave a brief update on the last full Council meeting.

Residents again raised the issue of off-road bikes both in Woolley and Woolley Grange. 4 had recently been in a farmer’s field and ruined the crop. Although reported to the Police that the off-roaders were often in Woolley Grange at around 4.45pm each evening the Police had no one to assist on that particular day.

Signed………………………………….

Dated.....................................