

Minutes of a Meeting of Wootton Parish Council held on Wednesday September 19th 2018 at 8pm in the Reading Room

Present: Gavin Lynch, Tim Dalton, Jacqui Kinch, Ed Barker (ESBC), Pat Fielding (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence: Angus Dalton, Dot Adams.

Gavin Lynch, as Vice-chairman, took the chair.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were approved unanimously, and signed by Gavin Lynch, and the Clerk.

3. Matters Arising

Audit: the Clerk reminded the PC that because we sent in a Certificate of Exemption to the External Auditor under the new scheme, we no longer receive a formal approval from them.

Finance: the Clerk is now a cheque signatory.

Audit of stiles: Jeremy Kneller sent his apologies, confessed he had forgotten.

Interpretation board: the meeting with Sara Longley has not taken place yet but will be pursued.

Village map: Jacqui said that Lee would proceed with the ideas approved at the last meeting.

4. Financial Report

The Clerk presented a financial report with a statement of cash as at 26.9.17. The current account stands at £3798.84. After today's payments of £872, the balance will be £2926.84. Forecast income before the end of the year is £890, and forecast expenditure is £728. Denstone and Ellastone Parish Councils are sharing with us the cost of the Beacon, so our contribution will be £144. The balance at the end of the year will therefore be £2944.84, barring any other unforeseen expenses. Of this £280 is unspent Transparency Code Grant from SPCA.

5. Authorisation of Payments

a) Clerk's Wages Apr-Sept '18 £440 Cheque no. 000213

b) Bullfinch (Gas Equipment) Ltd for WW1 Beacon - £432 Cheque no. 000214

These payments were approved unanimously.

6. Highways

Potholes: there are still some issues which were likely to worsen through the winter. Gavin Lynch asked that everyone took note of the current hotline number for reporting problems - 0300 111 8000.

Damage to Tollgate Cottage: Nick Bradshaw has observed cars trying to squeeze past each other outside the cottage, leaving paint marks on his sills. However, it was felt that nothing more could be done to prevent such occurrences.

Back Lane: Stewart Bradshaw had spoken to SCC workmen in January and they understood what needed doing; he was given a job number. Nothing had been done since then. The Clerk had recently spoken to Trevor Mellor at Highways who was trying to expedite matters before the weather exacerbated the problem.

7. Reading Room

Ed Barker reported that there was a temporary agreement from the PCC to carry on more or less as usual. The Room will still cost £5 per hour. Bookings should be put on the calendar

in the Reading Room and Ed should be informed as well; he will keep a record of the length of meetings. The PCC have also asked Ed to examine the insurance of users to make sure they are covered, and to remove the heaters which are not PAT tested. Ed suggested that they could be tested at the same time as those at the Cricket Club, so that there would be some heating available for winter meetings.

8. Calendar

Jeremy Kneller and Mark Longley had agreed to take on the organisation of the viewing and voting of the photos. Dot said she would help too. It was suggested that a closing date for entries could be Oct 5th with the viewing and voting on Oct 12th; the calendar would then be done by the end of the week. Jacqui offered to send a flyer round the village.

It was decided that there would be no quiz night this year, but instead the Beacon event on Nov 11th would be an opportunity to sell the calendars. The quiz night would be deferred until April next year.

9. WW1 Beacon Event

The Beacon will be dispatched on October 15th and will be delivered to Angus. A gas bottle to fire the Beacon will be supplied by Angus or Gavin. The Clerk will provide a Risk Assessment. Two people from each Parish are invited to be present at the lighting of the Beacon. John Finnikin will build a bonfire in the field adjacent to the Cricket Club car park. The WOW group has offered to provide a corned beef hash supper. The provision of a mess tent adjacent to the Pavilion will be investigated. People will be invited to come in period dress and Dave Blant will be asked to provide music and words for some WW1 songs which everyone can join in with. Posters will be provided by Jacqui inviting people from the 3 villages (though Dot Adams said she understood Denstone were making their own arrangements; people are invited to arrive at 6.30pm, Ed Barker will say a few words before the Beacon is lit at 7pm. Tickets will be £5.

10. Any Other Business

Christmas Carol Singing: we need to check with Dave Blant, Jeremy Kneller and Angus Dalton that they are happy to provide the usual services.

Tidy Village: it was agreed that a letter be sent to Seth Adams thanking him for all the work he does to keep the village tidy.

Action: Clerk to contact all the above.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday December 5th 2018.