

**Minutes of a Meeting of Wootton Parish Council held on Wednesday March
11th 2020 at 8pm in the Reading Room**

Present (Parish Council): Tim Dalton (Chairman), Angus Dalton, Jacqui Kinch, Dot Adams, John Burgess, Pat Fielding (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence: Ed Barker.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

3. Matter Arising

Carol Singing: thanks were expressed for all those who stepped in to make the evening a success. £170.18 was raised.

4. Financial Report

Financial Report

The current account stands at £4676.30. With deduction of today's payment of £1211.78 and £9 Direct Debit for electricity, the balance at the end of the year, barring unforeseen expenses, will be £3455.52. Of this £176.02 is unspent Transparency Code Grant from SPCA.

5. Authorisation of Payments

- a) M&E First Responders, 2020/21 Calendar Sales - £500 Cheque no. 000235
- b) SPCA Subscription 2020/21 - £60 Cheque no. 000236
- c) Tim Dalton – Defib batteries & Christmas lights - £36.98 Cheque no. 000237
- d) Clerk's Wages Oct '19-March '20 - £440 Cheque no. 000238
- e) Clerk's Expenses 2019/20 £73.30 Cheque no. 000239
- f) John Burgess – Expenses for Carol Singing £55.50 Cheque no. 000240
- g) Gift re free Calendar Printing - £46 Cheque no. 000241

These payments were proposed by Angus Dalton, seconded by Jacqui Kinch and approved unanimously.

6. Highways

Back Lane: the pipe under the road outside the Bradshaws is still not dealt with, and a deep pothole has now appeared on the opposite side of the road. This has been reported to Trevor Mellor at Highways (not best pleased at the delay!) who has raised an urgent job for a replacement pipe.

Potholes: ongoing problem.

Action: report potholes.

7. Reading Room

Matthew Elias has agreed to donate £150 at the beginning of the financial year towards the cost of electricity and insurance to help ensure the Reading Room is retained for community use.

This year the cost of insurance was initially £176.13, with a supplement of £87 for the building and contents Sept 2019-May 2020 (total £263.71). Next year the total cost will be c. £280.

We have already received £80 from ESBC for the December election, and there will be the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner election in May.

8. Environment

Tree Planting: the trees from the Woodland Trust look likely to arrive in November rather than this month.

Community Gang: it was decided that this would be dedicated to maintenance of the Reading Room and its garden. Ideas will be exchanged via email.

9. Interpretation Board

Sara was awaiting a decision about the route of the footpath near the trigpoint.

Action: Tim and Ed to confirm route with Sara.

10. VE Day

This is on Friday May 8th, a Bank Holiday. Suggestions were made for afternoon tea based at the Manbys (back-up venue the Cricket Club if it rained), everyone to bring something with a red, white and blue theme, and maybe a bake-off. Dave Blant could be asked to provide music and the Parish Council would provide a drink.

11. Calendar

Last year's calendar had sold better than feared at one point. Jacqui agreed to send people a reminder to take photos of 'Wootton in Action' for the next calendar. Mark Longley sent thanks for the gift and is happy to continue with the printing.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday May 13th 2020 at 8pm for the Open Parish Meeting and the Parish Council AGM in the Reading Room.