

Minutes of a Meeting of Wootton Parish Council held on Wednesday November 29th 2023 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Present: Tim Dalton, Dot Adams, John Burgess, Debbie Finnikin, Pat Fielding (Clerk)
Public: Rosa Dalton

1. Apologies for Absence: Angus Dalton

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

3. Matters Arising

Angus has moved to Oxfordshire and there is therefore a vacancy and this will be advertised on the notice board and on our website in due course.

John Burgess was voted unanimously as Vice-Chairman.

4. Financial Report and Precept for 2024-25

a)Financial Report - the current account stands at £4241.66. This includes a grant of £550 from the Community Fund, yet to be spent, and an Alternative Fuel Payment of £150. Forecast income before the end of the year is a donation of £150 from Matthew Elias, of Nigel Davis Solicitors, towards the upkeep of The Reading Room; forecast expenditure is £610.80, being Clerk's wages and expenses, and the cost of electricity. The balance at the end of the year will therefore be £3780.86, barring any other unforeseen expenses (bearing in mind that £550 is already allocated.) Expenses for the Carol Singing can well be accommodated!

b)Precept - the balance at the end of the year will be very similar to last year's, and it was decided that the Precept should stay the same.

5. Authorisation of Payments

There were no payments outstanding.

6. Reading Room

The grant from the Community Fund must be spent by March 20th 2024. Tim said he would have a chat with John Finnikin about sourcing slabs as he has some experience in that field. It was felt that the garden should be low maintenance, so this would include garden flowers loved by insects as well as some wild flowers.

Action: Tim to speak to John Finnikin and Pat to make list of suitable garden flowers.

7. Recycling

As the bin is becoming a bit of a mess, it was decided that only crisp packets would be collected in the village, and that people should be encouraged to take other plastic recycling to supermarkets.

SCC emails regular Green Tips and it was agreed that Tim would put these on the Village App and the notice board. Pat agreed to alert him when she had forwarded

the email.

8. Highways

Uttoxeter Quarry: Tim has emailed Graham Allen at Planning about the fact that 106 is still not in place, but is still waiting for an update!

The Give Way sign is in place at the bottom of Back Lane and the lines have been done. It was pointed out that a tree needs pruning or it will cover the sign!

Ellastone Road bend: Pat had spoken to Trevor who had advised her to contact Philip Atkin.

9. Dog Poo Bin

This has been reported, but no response has been received so far. Pat will ask again.

10. Carol Singing

Dave Blant is not sure whether he will be available, but if not Rosa said she will be happy to organise the equipment. It was felt that it was good to keep the tradition going for families including children. Rosa said Henry will sort out a trailer, and the children could sit there as well.

The money will go to the First Responders as usual.

Tim will check availability with Dave, and that Jeremy is happy to do the mulled wine.

11. AOB

Tim agreed to spread on What's App and through the WOW group about donating to First Responders instead of sending Christmas cards to friends in the village.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday March 13th 2024