

WELLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF WELLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2017

PRESENT: Councillors Pam Axworthy (Chair), Andrew Baugh, Phil Lawson and Eddie Meyer. County Councillor John Peck attended for part of the meeting. Karen Birks (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Paul Hubbard, Carrie Young and Linda Tift.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS

There were no declarations of interest on matters on the agenda.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2017 were accepted as a true record and signed by Cllr Axworthy.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- The clerk made a Freedom of Information request to N&SDC to obtain a copy of the Wellowfest Event Management Plan for the 2017 event but the District Council has responded that do not hold a copy of this document on its systems and if the Parish Council wishes to see a copy it must contact the Wellowfest organiser directly. The clerk has done this but Mr Chapelhow has refused to share the document.
- Newark and Sherwood Homes, which owns the bench in a poor state of repair on Maypole Road, has agreed to repair and replace the slats on this bench. The request has been made to their maintenance team but no timescale is available for this work to be completed.
- The clerk has sent a letter to N&SDC detailing the complaints regarding issues which arose at Wellowfest 2017 and asked for these issues to be taken into account when the event is reviewed.
- Cllr Hubbard has kindly volunteered and painted the toll bar fencing opposite Wellow House School. There are five more sections of the same fencing within the village and Cllr Hubbard has sufficient paint to do some of these. A Wellow resident, John Winterbottom, has offered to assist Cllr Hubbard in painting further sections of the fencing.
- The 'stop littering' banner designed by children at Wellow House School is now in place at the side of Newark Road.
- Cllr Lawson has obtained information on the rules surrounding the use of drones. There have been no further reported incidences of drones being flown over Wellow and it was agreed to keep the information on file until it may be required in the future.
- Cllr Meyer reported a dead tree in the hedge alongside the North Dark Lane footpath which may be the responsibility of a resident but this is unclear. The clerk will request that Matt Duckworth, the area rights of way officer, assess the situation and arrange for the tree to be felled.

5. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- Cllr Peck reported that he had requested the addition of parking restrictions on the area around Maypole Green and the Memorial Hall after being handed a petition for this signed by five residents but this proposal has been rejected by Notts County Council Highways.
- Cllr Peck met with a resident and a police officer to discuss traffic issues on Eakring Road and the outcome of the discussion was that the issues do not meet the criteria for police camera presence. Following discussion at the Parish Council meeting it became clear that the Parish Council are not fully aware of the criteria which are used by County Council to

assess the necessity for highways or police intervention but that the criteria often do not seem appropriate for small villages with lower traffic throughflow even though speeding and other traffic problems are very real in these villages. It was agreed to request a meeting with Mike Keeling, Senior Highways Liaison Officer at Via, on site in Wellow to discuss these issues.

- Cllr Peck advised that the Parish Council continue to request that the police visit Wellow with speed cameras and that he will do the same.

6. PAY DUE ACCOUNTS

The following payments were approved by the council:

NALC	New Councillor training	£30.00
Eddie Meyer	Fencing and signs to fence off broken play equipment	£61.80

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- NALC are running a training course for new councillors on 1st November and it was agreed that Phil Lawson will attend.
- The clerk has been contacted following a report to the police by Mr White, a resident of Wellow, after he was threatened by a Wellow allotment holder. This followed a dispute about the lighting of fires on one of the allotments. The clerk has asked the allotment trustee to speak to the allotment holder concerned and remind all the allotment holders about the need to consider whether their actions are causing a nuisance to neighbours when lighting fires.
- A planning application has been submitted to insert a window into the West wall of Barn 2 at Park Farm, Newark Road (Application no. 17/01535/FUL). The Parish Council agreed to support this application.
- CPRE are backing the campaign to reopen the railway which connects Ollerton, Edwinstowe and Market Warsop with the Robin Hood line at Shirebrook. The Department for Transport is looking at the possibility of including the new rail service to Ollerton in the next franchise for the East midlands Trains operation. CPRE are encouraging those who support the reopening of this line to write to the Department of Transport before 11th October. It was agreed that the clerk will write in support of this on behalf of the Parish Council and also that an article will be included in the October Wellow News to encourage other residents who support the campaign to contact the DFT directly.
- A further email has been received from Mr Chapelhow stating that there has been a vote in the village and that he would like the whole Parish Council to stand down and that there is a full list of people willing to stand at the next election. He accuses the Parish Council of not following the democratic process, distortion of the truth and misrepresentation of the true wishes of the parish. The clerk has responded to refute these claims and again explain the democratic process of elections which has to be, and is, followed by Wellow Parish Council meaning that unless there are any vacancies on the Parish Council due to resignations the next opportunity for anyone to join will be at the elections on May 2019. The County and District Councillors as well as N&SDC have been made aware of the correspondence between the Parish Council and Mr Chapelhow.
- N&SDC are to hold a Parish Council Event on 16th June at the new council offices on Great North Road in Newark and delegates will have the opportunity to participate in a tour of the building. This event will replace the previously held Annual Parish Conference.
- Following a recommendation from NALC the clerk has applied for funding for a laptop from the Government Transparency Fund. This fund, which will cease in March 2018, exists to enable all Parish Councils with a turnover below £25,000 to fully comply with the

mandatory Transparency Code and provides funding for councils to purchase a laptop and/or set up a website to ease the burden of compliance. It is recommended that every Parish Council owns its own laptop and does not rely on the use of the clerk's personal computer.

8. WELLOW PLAY AREA

- The see-saw springy seat became detached at the end of August which made the equipment unsafe and as an emergency measure Cllr Meyer erected a temporary fence around the equipment with signs to warn people not to use it. This was at a cost of £61.80. The cost for the parts to repair the broken equipment is approximately £250 and it was agreed to purchase these items and Cllr Meyer will repair the equipment.
- The catch on the gate from the play area to the Millennium Garden is broken. Cllr Meyer agreed to repair this.
- There are a number of dead branches on a tall Ash tree overhanging the play area near the 'dog walkers' entrance to the play area. The clerk will obtain a quote from N&SDC to remove these branches.
- The fencing is getting damaged by the grass cutters when they cut close to the hedge at speed. The clerk will ensure they are aware of this issue and request that they trim or spray close to the fence to avoid damage.
- The clerk will request 'No Dogs' signs from N&SDC which state the penalty which could be imposed. These will be placed on the entrances to the play area.
- For many years a section of the hedge on Potter Lane has been cut by a contractor and paid for by a Wellow resident. The resident has informed the Parish Council that this will not continue after the cut this winter and therefore the cost will need to be included in the Parish Council budget going forward.
- It was agreed that Playground Warning signs are required on Potter lane to warn motorists that there is a play ground close by and that children could run onto the road. This request has been refused by Highways on a previous occasion but it was agreed that it should be requested again and the matter will be raised with Mike Keeling in a meeting to be arranged on site.
- It was felt that the playarea would benefit from some additional and new equipment as much of the equipment is old and tired. The clerk will apply to the Supporting Local Communities Fund run by Notts County Council for funding and offer to provide some match funding. This would come from the Parish Council and also from Cllr Peck who offered to provide funding from his allowance. If funding can be sourced a project would be set up to agree with the village what type of equipment would be required and possibly raise further local funding.
- Parts of the hedge separating the play area from Potter Lane has large holes which children are using to enter and exit the playground. It was agreed that post and rail fencing needs to be erected to prevent this and Cllr Lawson agreed to obtain quotes for this work.

9. REPORT BACK FROM MEETING WITH ROBERT JENRICK MP REGARDING SPEEDING/TRAFFIC ISSUES

Robert Jenrick's surgery in Wellow on 16th August was attended by Cllrs Hubbard, Lawton and Young from Wellow Parish Council together with a number of Wellow residents and some councillors from other local Parish Councils. Following this meeting the clerk has been contacted by Sam Gemmell, a Parish Councillor from Kersall, Knesall and Ompton (KKO) Parish Council, who is suggesting a way forward to alleviate the speeding issues which affect Wellow and other surrounding villages. The KKO Council will take a leading role in arranging meetings of Wellow, Ollerton, KKO, Caunton and North Muskham councils to agree a set of strategic pilot proposals to be jointly presented to Notts County Council

highways. This could include, amongst other things, funding and monitoring a combination of dummy and working speed cameras along the A616. KKO Council is keen to try and develop a transferrable model which could be spread to other rural area of the County. The clerk will contact KKO Parish Council to confirm Wellow Parish Councils interest in being part of this group and request that dates for the meeting are forwarded.

Once proposals from this joint meeting are in place Robert Jenrick, MP has agreed to contact Notts County Council and facilitate a local meeting to present proposals and discuss options for moving forward, with his support.

Separate to this Mike Keeling from Notts County Council has visited Wellow and arranged for the Temporary Vehicle Activated Speed sign to be installed on Eakring Road (inbound on Lighting Column 3) in November and installed a further 'Its 30 for a Reason' sign on Eakring Road positioned to face inbound traffic prior to the allotments.

Cllr Young, speaking as a resident and not on behalf of the Parish Council, has contacted Notts County Council to ask them to investigate the possibility of road calming measures at the Rufford Lane end junction with the A616 following a number of accident recently. Highways have responded to advise that they have put forward an extension to the 30mph speed limit to include this junction but will not be considering any other measures because the collision history does not warrant further investigation.

10. CONSIDERATION OF STANDING ORDERS FOR WELLOW PARISH COUNCIL

As there were only four councillors able to attend this meeting the item was deferred to the October meeting when more councillors will be present.

11. ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT OR DISCUSSION

- In July 2017 N&SDC issued the Newark and Sherwood Core Strategy Development Plan Document for representation and this was sent out to all councillors by the clerk for any comments. Mr Andrew Young and Cllr Carrie Young made comments but due to a misunderstanding by the clerk these comments did not get submitted before the deadline date and clerk apologised to the Parish Council for this omission.
- The clerk will request that the kerbside weeds on Maypole Road are treated by County Council.
- The clerk will contact planning enforcement regarding the main stage and tepees still in place following Wellowfest 2017.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9:05pm

Chairman

Date