

# WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 12th February 2024 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

## IN ATTENDANCE

District Cllr C Lowe, 7 Members of the public.

## PRESENT WERE

Cllr J Cole  
Cllr R Dykstra  
Cllr D England  
Cllr D Fabb  
Cllr L Gifford  
Cllr J Land

Cllr J Parker (Vice Chair)  
Cllr S Withams (Chair)  
Cllr G Willis  
Cllr A Wyatt

Mrs J Drummond:- Parish Clerk  
Mrs E Coverdale:- Asst. Clerk

Meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m

## 25/24 WELCOME

Chair Withams opened the meeting.

## 26/24 APOLOGIES

Apologies were unanimously accepted from;  
Cllr C Sproats – Personal

Cllr M Collins – arrived during discussions on agenda item 33/24 (7.34p.m)  
Cllr A Ntuk – arrived during discussions on agenda item 30/24 (7.14p.m)  
Cllr P Potts – arrived during discussions on agenda item 29/24 (7.02p.m)  
Cllr S Wilcox – arrived during discussions on agenda item 29/24 (7.02p.m)  
Appointed Technical Advisor R Payne – arrived during discussions on agenda item 30/24 (7.15pm)

## 27/24 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr England declared a pecuniary interest in items 33/24 and 34/24 due to the issue relating to land adjacent to an area he farms.  
Cllr Potts declared a pecuniary interest in item 35/24 due to his involvement in the event. As he had previously been awarded a dispensation to speak and not vote this was again granted.

## 28/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024

It was proposed by Cllr Willis, seconded by Cllr Parker and **RESOLVED** by all Members present, the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2024 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

### **29/24 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2024**

It was proposed by Cllr Gifford, seconded by Cllr Land and **RESOLVED** by all Members present, the Minutes of the Special meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

*Cllr Potts & Cllr Wilcox arrived whilst Members discussed the above item.*

### **30/24 CLERKS' REPORT**

Report from Clerk attached as Addendum.

The Assistant Clerk advised Members that a number of residents had reported thefts from vehicles. The Chair advised that it was a policing matter and urged all affected persons to report to the police. Members were in agreement for the Clerks' to post a notice on social media stating we were aware of the issue and with the above advice.

*Cllr Ntuk and R Payne arrived whilst Members discussed the above item.*

### **31/24 OPEN FORUM**

It was proposed by the Chair and unanimously **RESOLVED** to close the meeting for a period of time to hold a public forum.

The meeting was closed at 7.16p.m and reconvened at 7.32p.m

The majority of the public attendees raised concerns over anti-social behaviours, security and invasion of privacy arising from unauthorised use of the Sports Ground out of hours. Additionally, the residents of Croft Holme Close were led to believe that a portacabin on site was a temporary structure, but was still up. Two other individuals associated with the sports ground voiced their responses to the opinions expressed, along with their own concerns and the measures they had put in place to limit the above issues.

The Chair advised the residents in attendance that the issue was not a parish council matter and urged all interested parties from Croft Holme Close and the Sports Ground to sit down together and find a solution.

Following the discussions, it was **RESOLVED** to continue the meeting.

*The majority of the Members of Public left the meeting when the public forum closed.*

### **33/24 CROFT HOLME CLOSE AND SPORTS GROUND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

*(Moved forward to after open forum due to it covering the same concerns)*

Members were empathetic towards all sides who had voiced their opinions in the open forum. Cllr England who sits on the board for the Sports Ground advised that they would investigate and take to their next meeting in March as it is not a matter for parish council.

Cllr Ntuk suggested that reestablishing the community programme Crime Stoppers might help and requested permission to leave the meeting to speak to the residents. The Chair agreed for Cllr Ntuk to be allowed to discuss with them.

*Cllr Collins arrived whilst Members discussed the above item.  
Cllr Ntuk left the meeting to speak to the residents 7.41 p.m*

### **32/24 REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

HDC Cllr Lowe advised the members of Upwood & Raveley's application to have Huntingdon Road reduced to a 30mph speed limit as the Council may wish to comment on it due to its proximity to the parish.

Cllr Willis asked HDC Cllr Lowe if she could help with their planning enforcement concerns, as requests to HDC for a meeting have failed. Cllr Lowe advised the Clerk to email her the details of the problem areas and she will speak to Planning Enforcement on the council's behalf.

### **34/24 ONYETT'S FIELD BIODIVERSITY FOR ALL**

Following from Minutes no 170/23, in Cllr Sproats absence the assistant Clerk provided members with details of the quotes received from HDC Operations;

1. Improve grassland 4055.38
2. Improve woodland 4075.00
3. Scrub edges to woodland 1162.76

Totalling £9293.14 or £8130.38 without item 3

The Biodiversity for All funding available is for a maximum of £8,000, costs above this must be met by the Council. Cllr Sproats had gone back to the HDC Operations team and asked for a new quote to bring in options 1 & 2 to exactly £8,000, which she was awaiting, but had been agreed.

Following discussions, it was it was unanimously **RESOLVED** for the Council to go ahead with Options 1 & 2 as long as the quote returned by HDC Operations totalled £8,000.

### **35/24 REPLACEMENT PARISH CENTRE**

- a) Following minutes no. 9/24 the Chair invited R. Payne the appointed technical advisor to speak on the progress. He notified the members that there would be a slight delay in starting the piling works due to unexpected Building Control issues. These works will now be scheduled during the next school break to minimise disruption to the Underfives group. The revised start date for the piling is set for 2nd April, with the entire construction projected to finish by 31st March 2025. Furthermore, he provided an update on the progress of the building project, including preparations in the current parish centre, removal of the tennis courts, and drainage works.
- b) The Clerk provided a brief update on the attendance of the public exhibition held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024; with approximately 70-80 residents and user groups present across the 3 sessions. The consensus from attendees was overwhelmingly positive. Furthermore, she advised that the communications between council and the Underfives seemed to have eased with them going ahead with their own conditional survey and now using the Library in case of an emergency.

c) New Parish Centre (NPC) Working Group

During discussions some Members raised the possibility of other Councillor's joining the NPC working group now that the project was underway

d) Approval of Project Fees

1. Green Willow Planning Condition - £810.00
2. At Space Building Control - £1,402.80

It was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr England and therefore **RESOLVED** to pay the above fees to allow the building project to progress.

*Cllr Ntuk returned to the meeting during the discussion of the above item (7.49pm)*

*R Payne left after the discussion of the above item (8.21pm)*

### **36/24 EVENTS**

a) 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day

Following Minutes 10/24 Cllr Wyatt informed Members all preparations were in progress and the tickets would be going on sale soon. Additionally, the WI Quiz to be held 16<sup>th</sup> February was completely sold out.

b) Feast Week

Following Minutes 10/24b, Cllr Wyatt advised that stalls for the street market had started to sell.

The asst. Clerk asked Members to approve the annual payment to Cllr Potts for costs associated with organising a band to play during the week. It was therefore unanimously **RESOLVED** to pay £300.00 to Cllr Potts for costs incurred for this event.

c) May Day

It was also noted that the Warboys Community Association had begun preparations for this event.

The Clerk asked members if they were happy for the Council to have a stall at the May Day and Feast Week events to raise funds for the internal fittings of the new parish centre. All were in agreement and some offered their time to help.

### **37/24 DIAMOND JUBILEE HISTORY PLAQUE**

Following minutes no. 15/24 members were advised that Cllr Land and the Clerk's husband had removed the damaged artwork, with a new version ordered. Cllr Land and the Clerk's husband were happy to reinstall the replacement once received.

Proposed by Cllr Land, seconded by Cllr Collins it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to spend £260 + VAT for the repair work to be completed.

### **38/24 JUBILEE CLOCK TOWER**

Arising from minutes 184/23 Cllr Fabb had received the electrical safety report back for the clock tower which highlighted some issues; one being the potential for the public to access the electrics in the uplights at the bottom of the tower.

It was therefore proposed by Cllr Willis, seconded by Cllr Collins and **RESOLVED** to pay £243.00 + VAT for the safety works to be completed.

### **39/24 PARISH CENTRE ENERGY SUPPLIERS**

The asst Clerk provided members with a report (Appendix 1) on energy suppliers following the end of the current gas and electric supplier's contract ending.

Following discussions it was decided to continue with the current supplier as they were the cheapest. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Fabb and unanimously **RESOLVED** to renew the gas & electric supplies with E.ON for 1 Year.

### **40/24 MEETING DIGITAL RECORDINGS**

Raised by Cllr England following concerns over how decisions are recorded in minutes, has asked the Clerks to keep digital recordings should Members want to refer to them for clarification.

Following discussions it was unanimously **RESOLVED** for the Council to keep recordings from meetings for 6 years under password protection by the Clerks and Chair should they be required, in accordance with section 27 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act).

### **41/24 ACCOUNTS**

The Monthly accounts were checked by Vice Chair J Parker and verified by Chair S Withams it was:- **RESOLVED** to approve the payments for January. (appendix 2)

*HDC Cllr Lowe left during the discussion of the above item (8.47pm)*

### **42/24 BUDGETARY CONTROL**

The Council received the budgetary control statement for January 2024.

### **43/24 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

The Chair thanked the public for their attendance and requested they leave the meeting. It was therefore unanimously:- **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting under the section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

**There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.53pm**

**The next meeting of Warboys Parish Council will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

**Chairman.**

**Date.**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **ELECTRICITY**

Contract with E.ON ends 8<sup>th</sup> February, meaning we will incur 5 days of out of contract fees (8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> February);

	Daily Charge (pence)	Price per kWh (pence)
E.ON Electricity	100	42

### **GAS**

Contract with E.ON ends 3<sup>rd</sup> March

	Electricity		Gas	
	Daily Charge (pence)	Price per kW hour (pence)	Daily Charge (pence)	Price per kWh hour (pence)
E.ON (1 year)	30	29.5	27.9	7.5
E.ON (2 year fixed)	30	29.7	30	7.5
EDF (1 year fixed)	60	25 (weekday) 23.1 (weekend)	25	6.8
EDF (2 year fixed gas)	60	25 (weekday) 23.1 (weekend)	25	6.9
British Gas (1 year fixed)	40	25.46 (weekday) 20.04 (weekend)	42.01	7.19
British Gas (2 year fixed)	42	19.68 (evenings & weekends) 25.66 (weekday)	41.10	7.26

The responses from all three suppliers were that no charges would be applied for ending any of the contracts early due to the demolition of the centre, as long as the meters are removed as this would close the accounts.

**APPENDIX 2**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>
Employees	Combined Salaries – January 2024	6,511.36		
HMRC	Tax & NI – January 2024	1,996.95		
Russell Payne	Contract and health and safety document preparation and fee.	1,249.20		
Glasdon	Bench (replacement Ramsey Road)	758.12		
Warboys Diary	Annual grant	300.00		
ESPO	ESPO stationary order	64.92		
ESPO	Cleaning & handymen supplies – January 2024	304.86		
Scribe	Accounts/allotments/bookings initial set up package	2,202.00		
Warboys Community Association	Renewal of annual affiliation fees.	15.00		
NRH Electrical Services	Clock tower inspection and repairs	391.20		
People Safe	Lone worker app annual subscription	158.83		
Total Energies	UMS supply 1	8.95		
Total Energies	UMS supply 2	7.65		
J Drummond - expenses	Polo shirts (workmen) and foamex boards (public exhibition) - produced by Impressions	283.20		
J Drummond - expenses	Planning application fee to HDC	209.00		
EDGEIT	Annual payment (year 3 of a 5 year contract)	212.40		
ACRE	Membership renewal	65.00		
Ayres Tree Care	Removal of trees – Stirling Close	1,930.00		
Ayres Tree Care	Tree maintenance – Adam Lyons	1,100.00		
SLCC	Annual membership renewal	303.00		
<b>Direct Debits</b>				
EON	<i>Gas (DD 17/01/24)</i>	<i>709.63</i>		
EON	<i>Electricity (DD 01/02/24) invoice TBA</i>	<i>251.89</i>		
EE	<i>Phones (DD 28/11/23)</i>	<i>33.60</i>		
Chess IT	<i>Monthly service charge (DD – 30/01/24)</i>	<i>130.64</i>		

<i>Allstar</i>	<i>Fuel (DD – 24/01/24)</i>	<i>73.98</i>		
<i>Allstar</i>	<i>Fuel card (DD 31/1/24)</i>	<i>1.80</i>		