**PARISH COUNCIL OF BISHOP WILTON**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Bishop Wilton Hall**

 **Monday 19th October 2020 at 7.30 PM**

Sadie Rothwell-Inch (contact: 07810 260 702)

Clerk to the Parish Council

Present: Cllrs: Pat Black, Leo Hammond, Ingrid Haywood (Chair), Sue King, Iain Rickatson, Paul Rigby and Roy Sumpner. (Cllr Stewart Berry joined the meeting following his co-option on Agenda item 3)

Six members of the Public were in attendance.

**Open Forum**

**Speeding**: A member of the public highlighted the ongoing problem of speeding in the parish with particular emphasis on increased incidents and activity. They conveyed their feeling that historic issues had been addressed with only temporary effect and that a more permanent solution is required.

Subsequently, Cllrs discussion covered the following aspects:

* The effectiveness of the repeater 30mph signs, originally installed. Agreed: effective without spoiling village charm.
* Possible solutions without damaging the village aesthetics and character and the need to strike a balance for the area while adhering to local authority legislation and restrictions
* Hire ERYC flashing signs that sense traffic and respond accordingly by displaying the speed limit.
* Seeking volunteers to form a Community Speed Watch – a Police and Crimes Commission initiative where a minimum of six people are trained to capture speeds without the ability to enforce penalties. It is believed the action has a psychological effect of drivers passing through monitoring equipment thus automatically checking their own speed and making pertinent adjustments.
* Forming a working party to create a campaign against speeding in the parish and propose ideas.
* Narrowing of the road in certain places to enforce single track passing without damage to verges or obstruction to farm vehicles

**Agreed:** To seek a Traffic Survey by ERYC Highways Department, Proposed by Cllr Hammond and Seconded by Cllr Rigby. **ACTION**: speak with Highways Department (LH)

A member of the public voiced concerns about Great Crested Newts straying from the pond and being killed on the road or trodden on by pedestrians. Others concurred there is an ongoing issue and a need to protect said newts.

**Agreed:** Contact Garrowby Estate and request newt containment measures be put in place. **ACTION**: contact Garrowby and Wildlife Conservation Team re materials to be used (clerk)

It was agreed, during the meeting of 16th November 2020 that the above motions fall outside of the official meeting and will be placed on the December agenda for ratification. As the motions have good intent and serve to enrich the parish it was also agreed that the related actions can go ahead, for facilitation of said enrichment, in the name of research.

**The Meeting**

1. **Approval of Minutes from meeting of the 21st September 2020** **& Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the 2nd October 2020** Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair. Proposed by Cllr Hammond, seconded by Cllr Rigby.
2. **Matters Arising:**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**Cllr Rickatson:** Dave Lee has notified him ofbutter burr spreading along the beck and needs to be cleared. **ACTION:** Clerk to seek guidance fromrelevant authority about removal and containment procedures.

Dave Lee has also been asked to do a final cut of the green. **ACTION:** find out the intended date as much as is possible due to the right conditions being required to do the work (IH).

**Cllr Black:** Footpath Number 3 – referred to ERYC by Cllr Hammond but no response as yet.Also there had been no action regarding the Passing Place signs. Cllr Hammond had said that ERYC continues to have difficulties regarding the supply of signs due to manufacturer difficulties as a result of Covid-19**. ACTION:** Remind ERYC (LH)

**Cllr Sumpner:** referred to item 10 and confirmed the WI had planted the daffodils.

1. **Co-option of Councillors:**  Stewart Berry addressed the meeting and outlined his profile along with reasons for his wanting to become a councillor for BWPC. He then left the room along with all other members of the public while councillors discussed his co-option. **Agreed:** Unanimous acceptance of application. Members of the public re-entered the meeting and Stewart Berry took his place as Councillor. Proposed by Cllr Rigby, seconded by Cllr Sumpner.
2. **Councillors Aspirations for the New Council:** The chair proposed this to be a pertinent time for members of BWPC to show commitment to their roles by outlining any aspirations, plans and ambitions they have:

**Cllr Hammond:** His main goal is to facilitate forward momentum for the council by helping to promote and enrich the community in any way he can either locally, through his role as parish councillor or on a grander scale through ERYC and his Ward Councillor position.

**Cllr Black**: Being new to the role she currently has no personal aspirations as such but will be observing and learning. She noted that hitherto the minutes have shown a poor or slow response time from ERYC over various matters. Covid-19 is a paramount issue but must not be used as an excuse and we must try to ensure ERYC take a greater interest in matters. **Cllr Hammond** reassured that he will do all he can as a Ward Councillor to engage ERYC. **Cler**k validated Cllr Hammond’s word by citing experience, in her role as clerk for another parish, where he had facilitated the resolving of issues by intervening at ERYC level to produce effective results.

**Cllr Rigby:** Seeking good governance is his main goal, stating that he joined the council to facilitate change and hopes BWPC can be the driving force of the change many people wish to see:

He hopes to see working groups formed involving the wider community, for instance having a Junior Committee and inviting pupils from Bishop Wilton School to take an active role. Cllr Rigby sees technology playing a vital role in the development of the parish, maximising its use to communicate via an improved website and possibly social media platforms.

**Cllr Sumpner:** also cited good governance with particular emphasis on councillor communication ensuring politeness and cohesion to arrive at well-informed decisions. Hewould like to learn more about the aspirations of parishioners and suggests the possibility of holding a councillor surgery where sensitive issues can be addressed by members of the public to one councillor in private rather than through a public forum. Conservation is high on his agenda with ideas such as planting a communal orchard (as suggested to him by a parishioner), and digging a pond on the village green. The area could be well planted with snowdrops and daffodils to create an area of interest and beauty for locals and an interesting visitor spot for tourists thus boosting trade for the community shop.

**Cllr Rickatson**: Seeking openness between the council and the public along with working to hold consultation with the public to agree a village wide strategy for the maintenance of the village green.

**Cllr King:** Agreed that more can be done to maintain and improve the village green from an aesthetic and conservation viewpoint. She also has aspirations for ongoing positive relationships between councillors for the common good, and to demonstrate to parishioners that progress is being made.

**Cllr Berry:** hopes to bring enthusiasm and good governance to the council to facilitate its current aspirations as a whole.

**Cllr Haywood:** suggests a village survey to begin as a means to asking remotely about community goals and desires. She agrees that a surgery at a frequently appointed time could promote anonymity thus bring more people forward. Promoting transparency and good relationships is paramount along with village-wide meetings to involve smaller groups such as the Women’s Institute with the church and school – all working together. Sub groups currently cover Open Spaces and Personnel and it was put to council that a third be formed to support Communications.

**Agreed:** Communications Committee formed by Cllr Haywood (to act as Chair), Cllr Berry and Cllr Hammond.

Proposed by Cllr Haywood and Seconded by Cllr Hammond.

1. **Ward Councillors Report: Cllr Hammond** Through his ward role, Cllr Hammond, working with ERYC PROW Team at the request of local residents, secured the funds from ERYC to pay for chalk gravel and a day of a local contractor’s time to resurface a section of the lane (Thorny Lane end) where a number of people have recently fallen. This has now been completed.

This has been done as a gift, to the Parish from ERYC, as the Lane is not their legal responsibility. It is the responsibility of residents who use the lane as access to their property to maintain the lane. However, in the interest of public safety, Cllr Hammond has had ERYC repair sections of the lane on this occasion.

Any repair works carried out on the lane must first seek the approval of the ERYC PROW Team to ensure that they are suitable for a Public Bridleway.

Council members thanked Cllr Hammond for his work behind the scenes and subsequent improvements to Vicarage Lane while Cllr Sumpner requested his concern be recorded over ‘the closed meeting between a resident, the Chair and Ward Councillor’.

1. **Litter-Pick:** Councillors were invited to get involved with the event, scheduled for Monday 26th October 2020 at !0.00AM.
2. **Accounts:** *Further Asset Register update:* Cllr Sumpner directed the clerk to the files and memory stick, handed over this evening. Clerk will examine existing register and seek further guidance where necessary.

*To consider the Budget:* **ACTION**: Clerk to examine files and familiarise details to subsequently fulfil budget requirements with the Chair (IH).

Following payments approved - Proposed Cllr Rigby, Seconded by Cllr Rickatson:

 Dave Lee £488.80

 Emma Fletcher £174.00

 Yapham parish Hall Fund £21.00

 Payments made previously were restated to update councillors:

 Village Hall Rental £240.00

 ERNLLCA renewal £315.90

 Emma Fletcher (Audit) £174.00

 Dave Lee £448.80

 Parish Pump £175.00

*Online Banking* – Clerk to start proceedings toward converting bank accounts to online. Clerk needs adding as signatory and given rights to complete entire process to enable said online banking provisions. **Agreed.** Proposed Cllr Rigby, Seconded by Cllr Rickatson.

1. **Correspondence**: Noted
2. **Community Issues** **– Cllrs Reports:**

**Cllr Black** received an email from a resident whose property has a public footpath running through their field and have been experiencing inappropriate use from cyclists. They are concerned about public safety as there are farm vehicles in operation. They have hung a gate at one end and there are clear signs stating ‘no bikes or horses, along with the standard yellow arrows. This resident expects walkers but not cyclists and horse-riders. Cllr Hammond confirmed that it sounds like a misuse of public footpaths and will investigate.

 **ACTION:** ERYC Public Rights of Way Dept, to be consulted (LH)

**Cllr King** reported a streetlight out. **ACTION:** Report to ERYC (Clerk) There is an issue with poor drainage on Thorny Lane, despite alleged previous works being undertaken. **ACTION:** Cllr Hammond to seek advice from ERYC Drainage. (LH)

**Cllr Rickatson** reported a damaged public footpath sign. He can identify the area but is unsure how to describe it. **ACTION:** LH to take advice from IR and report to ERYC.

There is a problem with vehicles emerging from Park Lane and could ERYC advise on the possibility of installing measures such as a traffic mirror. **ACTION:** Cllr Hammond to seek advice from ERYC Highways.(LH)

**Cllr Sumpner** reported more dog waste on the step to the public phone box. Currently parishioners are kindly removing the offending articles but Cllr Sumpner seeks a more permanent solution. Council called for residents to be considerate and to pick up their dog waste and dispose of such appropriately.

Parking is also a concern to Cllr Sumpner, saying the village green is becoming damaged in areas. He wondered if land near the village hall could be turned into designated parking. The Open Spaces Committee response was that this is public highway verge and permission would need to be sought from ERYC. Cllr Hammond said there could be a health and safety issue with backing out onto the road. He also questioned the community desire for such a scheme and if it would open up the possibility of obstruction to the farmer’s field access. ERYC maintains the village green so that can be policed if necessary and the problem increases. Cllr Hammond also commented that it is illegal to park across driveways and block people in their own homes – if this happens the number plate should be reported to the police. He agreed to look into the situation with the Communications Committee **ACTION:** (LH and Communications Committee). Motor cycle speeding has increased along the A166 and acceleration is audible for extended periods of time – can anything be done? **ACTION:** Write to Police and Crimes Commissioner to see if the situation can be monitored (PR). Footpath number nine, Ings Lane poses possible weather hazards for walkers. Councillors suggested that Cllr Sumpner approach the Parish Pump about a public awareness article on the matter.

1. **Agenda items for next meeting:** Budget & Asset Register
2. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 16th November 2020

Meeting Closed at 9.25PM.

Signed as a true record by Cllr Ingrid Haywood (Chair):

*The Clerk holds a signed copy.*

26th November 2020