

# WENHASTON WITH MELLS HAMLET PARISH COUNCIL

---

Clerk Richard Day

[clerk@wenhastonmells-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wenhastonmells-pc.gov.uk)

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21/08/2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present; Cllr. P Wildish, (Chair) Cllr. A Musk, Cllr. S Mann, Cllr. G Leech, Cllr. M Wilkinson, Cllr. D Stammers, Cllr. C Way, Cllr. J Townsend, Cllr. K Canham, Cllr. T Cushion, County Cllr. R Smith, Clerk Richard Day and 8 Parishioners.

1. Chair welcomed all to meeting.
2. No declarations of interest made.
3. There were no requests for dispensation to vote.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on 19/6//24 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Musk seconded by Cllr. Wilkinson and unanimously approved.
5. CLERK REPORT: Concern expressed from a resident regarding correspondence received from SCC regarding the requirement to clear/cut back vegetation which overhangs a footpath. Chair visited parishioner and Clerk has asked that contact is made with him in the first instance should the remedial work carried out, not be sufficient. This should avoid future distress and referral to enforcement.
6. None
7. Acopy of County Cllr. Smith's report is available from Clerk.
8. No report from District Cllrs.
9. (i) Clerk confirmed that actions agreed at previous meeting as a result of the internal audit had been completed and website reflects this.  
  
(ii) Cllr. Wildish reported on progress with flood prevention measures in the village and the outstanding remedial work required. Following further meetings with the landowner/resident it was established and agreed that a contractor would be required and a suitable contact number will be provided to him together with a summary of what is required.
10. Prior to the meeting a further presentation was made by Wilding Wenhaston in support of their request to the Parish Council to take action to mitigate light pollution, particularly at St Michaels Way and Beckers View. This was summarised in the original correspondence dated 15/5/24. Whist broadly supportive of the aims the Parish Council remains concerned regarding elements of the request. These include cost and possible impact on senior parishioners who have concerns regarding security, safety and uneven footpaths in reduced lighting. Cllr. Stammers proposed street lighting was turned off at 10.30pm and that the PC should support the fitting of blue filters to LED lamps to reduce intensity. This would be subject to 1. Confirmation that this is possible from SCC/ESC and 2. An explanatory entry to the Wenhaston

*Wildish*  
24.9.24.



Warbler after further requests for Parishioner views to the proposals. Cllr. Canham seconded the proposal and all voted in agreement. County Cllr. Smith will advise Clerk by next meeting of the views of SCC as to viability of the proposals. Carry forward to September agenda.

11. Permission to co-opt a replacement Parish Councillor has now been received from ESC (19/8/24) Three persons have expressed an interest and initial conversations have been undertaken with each person. It was unanimously agreed that invitation would be made in the chronological order in which interest was expressed. Accordingly, an invitation will be extended to attend the next Parish Council meeting, initially to the first applicant and this process will be repeated and advised to remaining applicants, who will be considered on the same basis should the vacancy not be filled or when a future vacancy arises.
12. Cllr. Wildish reported that the generator at the Village Hall had been redundant for the past 6 years. Furthermore, circumstances where it could be considered for use would require intervention from specialist services. Use by untrained volunteers would represent a risk in such circumstances where vulnerable people were being moved to the village hall. It was agreed that disposal of the equipment would be considered at the next meeting as the prospect for effective use was virtually nil. Carry forward to next meeting for update/agreement on actions.
13. PLANNING. (i) DC/24/2170/FUL. Decision to support unanimously ratified (ii) DC/24/2621/FUL. Decision to support unanimously ratified. (iii) No further planning correspondence.
14. No reports
15. CORRESPONDENCE: Suggestion from Parishioner that Parish Council should commission an official Wenhaston village flag. 21/8/24 THERE WAS NO SUPPORT FROM MEMBERS FOR THIS SUGGESTION.

E/mail objecting to the proposals from Wilding Wenhaston regarding street lighting circulated to members prior to meeting re agenda item 10.

16. RFO REPORT: Balances at bank have been reconciled to ledger and are available for member audit. Prior to issue of cheques totalling £1168.57 this month balance at bank is £47,823.13.

A review of expenditure vs budget for Qtr 1 has been undertaken and there are no areas of concern. Explanations have been provided where ytd expenditure exceeds Qtr1 budget. These are solely due to uneven expenditure patterns during the year.

PKF Littlejohn have completed the external audit review. There are no areas of concern and the notice of conclusion of the review will now be published on the PC website.

*Wildish*  
24.9.24



Report proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Musk, seconded by Cllr. Wilkinson and unanimously agreed.

17. Meeting closed 8.45pm.

Date of next meeting TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

*Wilkinson*  
24.9.24.