



Atworth Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Atworth Parish Council held on 23rd September 2020

www.atworth.org

Attended:

Cllrs. Effie Gale-Sides (EGS) (Chairman), Heather Chaplin (HC), Andrew Gooding (AG), K. Hartley (KH) and for part of the meeting: Cllrs. Penny Telling (PT) and Maddy Palmer (MP)

Clerk: Philip McMullen

Ref.

Agenda items

178/20

1. Introduction

EGS welcomed those present to the meeting, in particular the guests this evening, Cllr. Trevor Carbin (Wiltshire Council, Holt and Staverton) and three members of the public.

179/20

2. Apologies for Absence

Councillors noted that apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Cllr. Richard Clark.

180/20

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 17th September 2017

181/20

4. Questions to the Chair of the Council by Members of the Public

Public speaking time is restricted to 15 minutes in total

Public Participation

Reconvene meeting

There were no members of the public in attendance who wished to participate at this time.

182/20

5. To Receive Reports from our partner organisations

183/20

5.1 Police report

Following a query raised by a resident regarding the safety of users of the foot and cycle path in Godwin's Close, the Police reported: "During the summer I have carried out a fair amount of patrols in Godwin's Close, at different times of the day and not encountered any children playing in the street. I have also not seen any children exiting or entering the footpath on bicycles, when I've driven by."

The Clerk also reported that on 17th September, a man was arrested by Police after officers conducted a drugs warrant at an address in Atworth.

184/20

5.2 Wiltshire Councillor

Trevor Carbin introduced himself as the current Wiltshire Council representative for Holt and Staverton and the prospective representative for the new Holt, Staverton and Atworth area following the boundary changes which are being implemented next May, and explained he was interested in learning more about the Parish and its issues. The Chairman offered to give him a guided tour of the village at his convenience.

185/20 5.3 Village Hall committee
No report received

186/20 5.4 CATG report

The CATG being scheduled to take place the day after this meeting, there was no update available at this time.

187/20 **6. Planning Applications**

Councillors to consider any Planning Applications received

There had been no planning applications received this month.

Wiltshire Council's planning website is at:

<http://planning.wiltshire.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/ApplicationSearch.aspx>
[X](#)

188/20 **7. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

7.1 To consider, approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in August 2020

[Minutes of the August meeting](#)

HC and AG proposed that the minutes of the August meeting be accepted as a true record and all were in favour.

189/20 **8. Application for co-option onto the Parish Council.**

Councillors were asked to consider three applications received following the announcement of co-option opportunities for the 4 vacant posts on Atworth Parish Council.

Following votes taken, two candidates were unanimously approved and one was opposed by a vote of three to one. There were no abstentions.

The successful applicants were asked to complete the appropriate declarations, which were witnessed by the Clerk, and Cllrs. Penny Telling and Maddy Palmer were duly welcomed onto the Parish Council.

190/20 **9. Clerk's report**

9.1 Covid-19 update

9.1.1 The Clerk explained that effective 22nd September the UK government had announced further restrictions including office workers being asked to work from home, table service only in pubs and restaurants and a closing of time 10 pm latest, wedding guest numbers reduced from a maximum of 30 to 15, and the suspension of plans to ease restrictions on sports events and conferences.

9.1.2 **Meetings of Parish Council:**

The Clerk advised that his recommendation would be to hold meetings via Zoom for the foreseeable future, potentially until Spring 2021, as there can be no guarantee of how many Members of the Public (MoPs) might attend thereby pushing the attendee figure beyond the legal number of 6 persons.

The National Association of Local Councils is currently strongly advising that all parish Council meetings should be held by remote means.

“Local councils have the powers to hold public meetings remotely by using video or telephone conferencing technology until May 2021 and so most councils will have no need to meet in person. Furthermore, local councils have the duty to allow the public to observe council meetings without placing restrictions on the number attending, which many council meeting venues will not be able to accommodate in a safe way at this time. These regulations remain in place until 7th May 2021.”

9.1.3 SLCC meeting report

The Clerk attended the Society of Local Council Clerks Wiltshire Branch meeting Friday 18th September and reported as follows.

Remembrance parades: Devizes and Tisbury are both doing phased/timed/staged wreath laying. Warminster is promoting a film and a virtual event. Question was asked (and unanswered) who made the decision that parish councils are now responsible for organising remembrance parades in the vacuum caused by the withdrawal of the Royal British Legion.

It was proposed to hold a Zoom workshop on emergency planning lessons learned. Noted that the emergency plan for civil emergencies on Wiltshire Council website has recently been updated.

Noted that there are a huge number of people on benefits now, so the council tax base will probably increase - therefore **next year's precept income will go down considerably**. There were 4,000 people on benefits [in Wiltshire] at the start of the pandemic - there are now 12,000 on benefits and rising.

9.2 Outstanding actions

9.2.1 The well location in Purlpit needs clearing prior to the bench going in. Clerk has approached two contractors seeking a quote for the work. One quote received so far for £250. EGS offered to arrange to obtain a quote from Agri-Estate Services who installed the benches and noticeboards.

9.2.2 Boundary dispute at the youth club: the clerk had spoken with Neston Park Estate Office who have visited the site, taken measurements, spoken with the adjoining householder and will be ensuring any new fence is located 3m from the rear wall of the Youth Club. The Land Charges Manager in Wiltshire Council's Economic Development and Planning department previously wrote to explain that they were unable to assist with maps and advised to contact the Land Registry (which we had already done)

9.2.3 Village noticeboards – update

EGS explained that work is continuing to establish information for the interpretation board. The Atworth History Group are assisting.

Atworth Parish Budget Monitoring 2020/21
September 2020

Expenditure	Annual Budget	Spend to date	Balance Remaining
	£	£	£
CLERKS SALARY	5,600	2,683	2,917
CLERK'S OFFICE EXPENSES	560	268	292
WI VILLAGE CLEAN & TIDY	580	288	292
GENERAL ADMIN	500	95	405
INSURANCE	4,300	3,257	1,043
WALC	500	408	92
SLCC	50	44	6
BENCHES	3,800	1,062	2,738
SID DEPLOYMENT	400	-	400
VILLAGE MAINTENANCE	1,700	16	1,684
AUDIT FEES	300	75	225
VILLAGE HALL RATES	135	157	(22)
RECRATES	170	174	(4)
VILLAGE HALL	6,000	-	6,000
WATER RATES	145	146	(1)
GRASS CUTTING	4,500	1,551	2,949
ARMISTICE WREATH (S.137*)	20	-	20
YOUTH CLUB RENT	30	-	30
PRESENTATIONS	100	-	100
HIGHWAYS WORK	5,000	-	5,000
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE EQUIPMENT	450	-	450
INFORMATION BOARDS	3,000	-	3,000
TREE PLANTING AND WILDINGS	2,000	82	1,918
NOTICE BOARDS	0	-	0
VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS	1,250	146	1,104
CLOCK TOWER	0	-	0
VAT ON PAYMENTS	0	644	(644)
HMRC	-	60	(60)
Total Expenditure	41,090	11,156	29,934
Income	£	£	£
PRECEPT	28,521	14,164	14,261
B/F from existing balances			-
HMRC			0
Rates rebate (4200+4201)		331	(331)
VAT refund			0
Total Income	28,521	14,495	13,930
Net Expenditure	-	(3,339)	16,004
Balance Brought Forward	24,378		
Current Balance (Cashbook)	27,717		
Current Balance (Deposit A/c)	-		
-Current Balance (Bank)	27,718		
=Unpresented cheques		£1	

10.3.1 [Link to download Budget Monitor for September](#)

Proposed by AG and seconded by HC and all were in favour

194/20 11. Agenda Items

195/20 11.1 Tree planting

The Clerk as pleased to report that he had been successful in his application to the Woodland Trust for up to 30 bare-rooted trees (a coppice) which would be delivered in November. There would be no charge for these. A selection of pot-grown saplings had also been purchased in accordance with guidance from the Chair, as follows:

- Rowan
- Wayfaring
- Crab apple
- Dog rose
- Hawthorn - ordered and will be delivered in November
- Spindle
- Hazel
- Guelder rose

Other than where shown, all of the above were being cared for by the Clerk until later in the year when contractors would be able to undertake the necessary ground works. The

copse is to be planted east of Neston Lane opposite the tollgate cottage. The eight trees are to be planted at the entrance to Bradford Road.

196/20 11.2 Grit Bins. EGS asked the Clerk to investigate whether permission could be granted to move the yellow grit bin from its present location to the grass verge on the eastern side of the clock tower. The Clerk had contacted the Winter Services Team at Wiltshire Council who had written to say, "the Wiltshire winter team are happy for the bin to be moved onto the grassed area opposite its current location". The Clerk had also arranged for the grit bin opposite Churchfields School to be refilled, as it was empty when last checked.

197/20 11.5 Purchase of Parish Online licence

The Clerk recommended that the Parish Council signs up once again to the Parish Online mapping agency. This had been recommended by the Ordnance Survey in order that their maps could be licenced for use on the footpaths information noticeboard (agenda item above).

Other potential uses:

- Simple maps of land we own for (e.g.) contractors
- Mapping issues and sending to the Local Authority
- Mapping grounds maintenance areas

The annual cost is £97.20 vat inclusive

Those present were in unanimous approval of this.

11.6 Yellow Lines

The Clerk reported that Wiltshire Council had today issued the Traffic Order Notices for yellow lines throughout the village.

a) To introduce **No Waiting at any time** on the following lengths of roads:

A365 Bath Road – south side – from a point 34 metres east of its junction with Fleetwood Rise to a point 13 metres west of that junction

A365 Bath Road – south side – from its junction with Bradford Road to a point 135 metres in a north westerly direction

Clock Tower View – west side – from its junction with A365 Bath Road to a point 11 metres in a southerly direction

Clock Tower View – east side – from its junction with A365 Bath Road to a point 14 metres in a southerly direction

Fleetwood Rise – both sides – from its junction with A365 Bath Road to a point 10 metres in a southerly direction

b) To extend **No Waiting at any time** on the following lengths of road:

Mead Park – west side – from a point 13 metres north of its junction with A365 Bath Road to a point 48 metres north of that junction

Mead Park – east side – from a point 32 metres north of its junction with A365 Bath Road to a point 48 metres north of that junction

This proposal will be advertised in the Wiltshire Times on 2nd October 2020 and the consultation period ends on 26th October 2020.

Comments on this proposal, quoting reference LJB/TRO/ATWO may be made by:

Email to trafficorders@wiltshire.gov.uk or in writing to:

TRO Team
Highways & Transport
Sustainable Transport Group
County Hall
Bythesea Road
TROWBRIDGE
Wiltshire BA14 8JN

[Press Notice](#)

[Traffic Order Notice](#)

[Order Amendment Notice](#)

[Statement of Reasons](#)

[Map DS-27](#)

[Map DS-28](#)

[Map DS-29](#)

198/20 12. Correspondence

[Letter from a resident requesting a traffic survey](#)

The contents of the letter were noted and the various points raised therein appreciated by Councillors. There was agreement that the Clevedon Bridge, Bath closure to heavy traffic added to a trend of steadily increasing traffic volume, especially lorries.

EGS pointed out that the Parish Council has applied for a Metro-Count. The Clerk is replying to the resident that the results of the Metro-Count will be analysed when received.

199/20 13. Any Other Urgent Business

There was no any other urgent business identified.

200/20 11. Date of the Next Meeting of Atworth Parish Council

The next scheduled meeting will take place on 21st October 2020. Dial-in details will be provided by the Clerk.

Signed.....

Date