

# Wexham Court Parish Council

Minutes of Special Meeting of Full Council  
Held at the Parish Hall, Norway Drive  
On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020, at 7.30 pm.

Name	Present	Not Present
Chairman, Cllr. I. Ahmed	Y	
Vice Chairman, Cllr. R. Aldridge		N
Cllr. Z. Ahmed	Y	
Cllr. P. Aldridge	Y	
Cllr. M. Hamilton	Y	
Cllr. S. Hussain		N
Cllr. G. Hussain		N
Cllr. McDonald		N
Cllr. M. Parris	Y	
Cllr. O. Paris	Y	
Cllr. K. Wright	Y	

Members of the Public in attendance: 6


**1. To receive and Approve Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Vice Chairman, Cllr. R. Aldridge & Cllr. G. Hussain

**2. Declaration of Interests**

None

- 3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019**, were read by Cllr. M. Parris and after having read the minutes, it was Proposed by Cllr. K. Wright and seconded by Cllr. Z. Ahmed and it was resolved that the minutes of the meeting (part 2) held on 13th December 2019 are true and accurate record of that meeting. This was agreed by all members present.

 11/02/2020

#### 4. Matters arising

None

#### 5. Public Questions


- i) A member of the public raised concerns on the little progress on the reported crimes in Wexham. The chairman invited the public for the next community meeting with the Police. The priorities of the policing will be agreed with the Police. At their next community forum.
- ii) A member of the public requested the gates of the public play area should be kept locked. The gates were not locked during nights for some time.
- iii) A member of the public raised concerns on alleged ASB on Knolton Way and no action taken by either the Slough Borough Council or the Police.
- iv) A member of public requested the presence of Ward Councillors, Highways, and Parking Services to attend Parish meetings. The Parish council will invite the officers to attend WCPC meetings.
- v) A member of the public raised concerns that the green verges have been damaged due to the cars being parked on the muddy soil. The resident suggested that the Slough Borough council must enforce byelaws to avoid no-parking on the green verges. The Parish council wanted to check with Ward Councillors on how the problem can be addressed.
- vi) The chairman pointed out that the three ward councilors are fully aware of the meetings of the Parish Council and they haven't attended any meetings since 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019.
- vii) An interesting point raised by a member of public that Council Houses are normally not allocated to the residents of Slough.

viii) Police investigation - update

In relation to the incident and loss of life at Benjamin Lane, the chairman and the Parish council expressed heartfelt condolences to the victim's family. It was reported that the Police arrested the culprits and the investigation is ongoing. The chairman requested that the Police to provide an update on the investigation. A separate meeting may be convened, when Police are able to share the detail with the public and the Parish council.

#### 6. To appoint the accountants for year 2019/2020 to assist in carrying out financial function of the council and to set up payroll and vat returns.

- i) The Chairman reported that there has been a delay in appointing accountant, and this resulted in delay of payroll, N.I. contributions VAT returns and pension contributions for the staff. The payroll hasn't been run for some time. The Councillors have acknowledged the urgency of the matter.
- ii) One of the quotes has been forwarded to all Councillors to provide feedback to appoint them as accountants. No feedback received to-date.
- iii) Decision – It was resolved by the Parish Council by the majority vote that the Chairman is authorized to appoint an accountant to carry out 6 i) above. It was resolved by 2 votes against and 5 in favour of the chosen accountant, ma accountancy services Limited.

 11/02/2020

7. To resolve and authorize the chairman to act for and on behalf of the Wexham Court Parish Council (WCPC) in communicating with Slough Borough Council on issues that are pertinent to WCPC, members of the public, and any other voluntary or statutory authorities/bodies as required, provided that all members are kept informed of the communication that is written on behalf of WCPC.

The Chairman reported that the acting solicitor for Slough Borough Council sent Section 106 agreement to the Parish council to sign.

The Parish Council has already sought advice from Owen White Solicitors, who had advised the Parish Council that, we are legally entitled to terminate the surrender of the lease agreement with the Slough Borough Council.

The Chairman said that it was our manifesto commitment for the people of Wexham Court Parish Area, that we shall protect our green spaces for the use of our current and future generations to enjoy.

The Chairman proposed that the legal advice has already been sought and therefore, we must defend the claim made by the Slough Borough Council as a matter of urgency.

WCPC resolved that;

- i) That the Chairman of the council is authorized to protect the assets/land, defend the claim for and on-behalf of Wexham Court Parish Council as he considers appropriate
- ii) And to sign the Acknowledgement of the service and submit the defense of the claim and seek legal assistance as required.
- iii) The Chairman is authorized to act for and on behalf of the Wexham Court Parish Council (WCPC) in communicating with Slough Borough Council on issues that are pertinent to WCPC, members of the public, and any other voluntary or statutory authorities/bodies as required, provided that all members are kept informed of the communication that is written on behalf of WCPC.
- iv) Where there is a conflict between this resolution and standing orders of the WCPC, this resolution shall prevail.

The following voted in favour of the above resolutions:

Cllr. I. Ahmed  
Cllr. Z. Ahmed  
Cllr. M. Parris  
Cllr. O. Paris  
Cllr. K. Wright

Those voted against:

Cllr. P. Aldridge  
Cllr. M. Hamilton

**This resolution was approved by majority decision.**

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**8. Approval of New signatories on the NatWest bank account.**

Old signatories remain unchanged.

New signatories required to support day-2-day activities.

The Council has unanimously agreed to add Cllr M Parris as a signatory to the bank account.

**9. To seek approval to open another account with metro bank and to approve resolution/s accordingly.**

A single bank account can only guarantee up to an amount of £85,000.00, it is important that Parish has a second account to spread the funds to reduce the loss of funds in case of a bank going bust.

It was unanimously resolved that the WCPC open an account with Metro Bank in due Course

**10. To consider and approve a resolution, whether the WCPC wishes to withdraw from the Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund contributions**

It was unanimously resolved that WCPC will not withdraw from the Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund contributions for the time being.

**11. To review the Hire charges for long term hirers of the halls**

Downstairs Pavilion Hall – Hiring rates

Mon-Sunday – £30.00 per hour (£25.00 per hour for Parishioners & community groups and long term hirers)

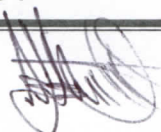
Upstairs – Main hall

Mon-Thursday £40.00 per hour (£35.00 for Parishioners)

Friday-Sunday £50.00 per hour (£40.00 for Parishioners)

**12. Chairman & Councillor's report/correspondence**

- i) The Chairman informed the Council that he had received numerous complaints with regards to previous temporary contractor
- ii) The chairman reported that he has sought the advice of the authorities and how to deal with the matter in due course
- iii) The hand over by the staff member is left in the office of WCPC.  
The hirer's deposits were allegedly not returned to the hirers by the staff member concerned.
- iv) The Parish Council agreed to appoint locum clerk to carry out the tasks until a regular staff is recruited.
- v) The Council agreed to expedite the recruitment process for the roles of Clerk, RFO and Caretaker. The response was very poor to the advertisement in the Slough Express and online advertising portal.

 11/02/2020

**vi) Police Liaison**

Not Present.

**vii) Information, report from Borough Councilors**

Borough Councillors not present

**13. Payment list to be approved**

WCPC has unanimously agreed to withdraw the service provided by SAGE.

WCPC have requested to gather the original invoices from SBC to claim VAT for the parking spaces provided

The Parish council have approved to pay the invoices read out in the meetings. The list is as follows:

- Invoice from Slough Borough Council for election expenses
- Invoice from Thansa – enquire the claims and then settle

The Meeting closed at 10.15pm.

Signed by the Chairman of the WCPC.....

Print Name: Cllr. Ishakhar AHMED.....

Dated 11.2.2020.....