

Parish of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday, 14 May 2019 7.30 pm
Waresley Village Hall (Draft)**

1. Present

E.Jack (Chair), J. Lawton, J. Archer, M. Gordon, R. Jerman

County Councillor J. Wisson, S. Gordon, D. Morgan, M Scott, D Scott.

Minutes taken by R. Kerr (clerk)

2. Apologies for absence

Councillor Richard West

3. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 2018

The minutes of the 2018 annual meeting were read by the clerk and signed by the Chairman Eleanor Jack

4. Matters arising

The dead tree referred to was in the field opposite the Garden Centre

Dog fouling - This is an ongoing matter that has not progressed during the year - it would prove too costly to have the bins emptied

Traffic – The Parish Council tried to get the lines on the road at the Gransden Rd/B1040 junction repainted and has chased up the County Council to get it done. It is on their to do list & will hopefully be done in the new financial year.

The discoloured Huntingdonshire sign has now been removed from the village sign.

5. Chair's report

Eleanor Jack presented her chair's report for the past year - see appendix A

It is currently under discussion to get the new Greensand signs attached to the existing signage in the village. The traffic engineer is willing to discuss this but the legal department of highways want to charge £500 just to assess the situation. Councillor Julie Wisson will Email the highways department to investigate further.

6. County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Julie Wisson gave her annual report.

The decision for the final route of the A428 upgrade was made during the year and followed the route preferred by the local councils - there is an update meeting next week

The East-West Rail Consultation - The county council supports the southernmost route through Bassingbourn and the Mayor is pushing for a link between Cambridge, Camborne & St Neots.

Councillor Wisson reported that Abbotsley provide dog waste bins and the Parish Councillors empty them themselves on into their own bins on a rota.

In the past year Councillors Wisson and has been on the Children and Young People's Committee of the County Council.

She noted that the County Council is looking at leasing or selling Shire Hall and moving to a new civic hub in Alconbury Weald. They are looking to ensure the historic earthworks at Shire Hall are preserved. She was not sure about the register office and will investigate further

7. District Councillors' Report

Councillor Richard West was unable to attend tonight – it was noted that he will continue to be the Chair of the District Council for the next year

8. Open Session

There were no points raised in the open session

9. The Meeting closed at 8.06 PM and was immediately followed by the AGM of Waresley-cum-Tetworth Parish Council

Appendix A

Chairman's Report May 2019

In May last year, we welcomed a new parish councillor, Malcolm Gordon, who was co-opted following the election and in March 2019 we said goodbye to, Sylvia Sullivan, our "temporary" parish clerk for the past 5 years. Many thanks to Sylvia and a warm welcome to Rod Kerr, who steps back into the role.

The parish council has had 3 overriding issues hanging over it in the last year:
A428 upgrade, Oxford –Cambridge rail route and the threat of development at the Garden Centre.

A428 upgrade: Although the consultation was back in 2017, it was not until March this year that we finally had the decision: the Northern (Orange) route was chosen and the threat was lifted from Waresley.

Oxford to Cambridge Railway: Last September we became aware of a potential threat in the shape of the E-W railway, with one proposed route coming through Waresley and we agreed to support the CamBedRailRoad proposal, which linked St Neots to Cambridge, and avoided Waresley. However the non-statutory consultation, when it came, did not include the CBRR route and showed route corridors rather than precise paths, which meant that Waresley was potentially threatened by 2 routes (B and E). We therefore felt we had to support route A, the Southern, least intrusive route.
We are still awaiting the decision.

Garden Centre Development: In December last year, a development company hosted a pre-application meeting in Waresley, with plans for a number of houses between the Garden Centre and Eltisley Rd. The parish council opposed the scheme, as did many residents and we informed the developers that Waresley had been ruled out of the District Council's call for sites, as we were a small settlement, which did not fulfil the conditions for reasonable sustainability. The District Council backed us up on this. The developers cancelled a further meeting in Waresley, without explanation and we have not heard from them since.

Ditch along Gransden Rd: After much negotiation, Cllr John Archer was able to get this ditch properly dug out, with help from a team of volunteers. Many thanks to all.

Local Highways Improvement Initiative: John Archer succeeded with our bid for a 40 mph buffer zone on the B1040 at either entrance to the village. The parish council will pay a small percentage of this and the County Council funds the rest. An informal consultation by Highways on this is still open.

Old churchyard: Trees: David Morgan organised tree surgery on the trees, which was completed in May. The plan had been originally to spread the payment over 2 years, but delays meant that this was not possible.

Old churchyard Wall: After a long struggle to find a suitable contractor, Malcolm Gordon succeeded in getting the wall repaired.

Greensand Ridge Gateway Project: Malcolm also involved us with the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership from whom we are hoping to get "Greensand Ridge" signs for the entrances to the Village, though County Council fees are proving a stumbling block at present. This contact resulted in a visit from GCLP personnel and we recently hosted a "Repton Day" event for their Greensand Country Festival.

Defibrillator: Malcolm's other project has been to encourage the acquisition of a defibrillator for the village, to be placed in the old phone box. Details are still under discussion.