



WOODPLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING
HELD via ZOOM on MONDAY 1st MARCH 2021 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr M Greaves

Councillors: Cllr B Dalglish Cllr M Entwistle. Cllr P Entwistle
 Cllr B Probin Cllr M Stewart Cllr S Yates

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION, SOUND CHECK AND VOTING INFORMATION

The Chairman 'hosted' the meeting and ensured that everyone could be seen and heard.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of Interests.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Agenda explained that the meeting was an extra-ordinary meeting called by the Chairman under Schedule 12, paragraph 9 of the Local Government Act 1972 solely to discuss a draft Legal Agreement in relation to the Traffic Calming proposals. **MIN 20/126** As it is desirable for the Council to treat proposals and counter proposals relating to contracts as confidential, it was **resolved** that members of the public be excluded under the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960.

TO CONSIDER LCC's EMAIL DATED 17th FEB

Catforth Scheme –

Members considered LCC's proposed recommendations to the Catforth scheme and expressed disappointment that the principal engineer had recommended the changes after Members had held extensive discussions with LCC officers on the 30th October. Prior to the 1st March meeting, Cllr P Entwistle circulated several emails and photographs in response to the principal engineer's recommendations but LCC's reply was only received on the day of the meeting, so Members had not had an opportunity to consider the response in detail.

MIN 20/127 It was **resolved** to arrange a meeting with LCC and the principal engineer to discuss the comments and see if a solution / compromise could be reached. It was agreed that LCC's reply would form the Agenda for the meeting. The Clerk was also requested to send a copy of the approved site layout showing the 3 houses proposed on School Lane. (1 dwelling under **06/2020/0807** (detailed application) and 2 dwellings under **06/2020/0788** (outline application)) It was questioned whether a further meeting with the School was necessary but it was noted that LCC had expressed a view that this would be of little value until the detail of the scheme had been agreed.

Woodplumpton Scheme –

LCC's email explained that their estates section had resumed discussions with the landowner regarding a turning circle at Whittle Hill and a figure was quoted regarding the work which would require a separate agreement with the Parish Council. The Clerk expressed concerns that the Parish Council is using a specific statute to contribute to the traffic calming costs and a separate agreement would need to be carefully considered both in terms of costs and use of the correct statute. **MIN 20/128** It was **resolved** that the Clerk queries this aspect with estates.

Legal Agreement -

Members considered a separate email from Mr Hudson regarding the Legal Agreement and noted that LCC had stated that it did not include any 'protection' for the Parish Council. Concerns were expressed regarding the amount of money to be paid prior to the completion of the works and the fact that the scheme could be varied several times, without the Parish Council's consent. Members reiterated the need to proceed through a Solicitor as resolved under **MIN 20/115**.

Further concerns were expressed that as it was LCC's Agreement, they may not accept any variation to the payment terms and they may not wish to proceed through a Solicitor, however, due to the sums of money involved and the requirement to show due diligence to parishioners, it was agreed that the Solicitor should be asked to comment on the Legal Agreement in the hope that more protection can be given to the Parish Council to ensure that LCC do not renege on any aspects. **MIN 20/129** it was **resolved** that the Chairman, vice-Chairman and Clerk enter into an initial discussion with the Solicitor once the Parish Council has discussed the Catforth scheme and received the requested information from Estates.

It was noted that LCC had confirmed that the Legal Agreement only related to Woodplumpton and a separate Agreement would be required for Catforth which would mean that LCC would require 2 sets of admin fees. **MIN 120/130** It was **resolved** that this was probably the best approach in terms of financial accountability.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Monday 15th March at 7.00pm by Zoom.**