# Minutes of the Meeting of Widmerpool Parish Council held on Tuesday January 26, 2021, at 6.30pm, by the Zoom system.

Couns. Christopher Daynes (chairman),

Ray Belton, Anita Gotts, Geoff Brooks, Jenny Daynes

Also present clerk Mike Elliott and Nottingham County Council member Coun. John Cottee and three members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

 There were none.

1. Declarations of Interest

 There were none.

1. Minutes from previous meeting September 23, 2020

 Accepted as presented, approved and would be signed by the chairman when appropriate.

1. Clerk’s Report

 Members were reminded the council has two vacancies on its membership at present. The clerk said he had received an email from a resident volunteering to put his name forward for one of the places. Because the item for co-option was not on the agenda for the meeting it cannot be acted upon and would go to the next meeting.

 A general appeal has been issued in Nottinghamshire for anyone who can help with gifts of laptops for children to use during the current coronavirus pandemic while they are having to be given lessons at home. The clerk said he would be happy to direct any information to the appeal organisers. He was aware Rushcliffe Borough Council had donated 12.

 NALC say parish councils should not consider holding face to face meetings as yet and continue to have them by Zoom.

1. Report from the District and County Council member

 Coun. Cottee spoke on matters of finance for the County Council and said it seemed the council tax figure from them would increase by 1.9 percent for the coming year and by 1 percent for social care. He said the authority had spent £50m on Covid-19 matters since the start of the virus problem. He informed the meeting that both he and his wife had suffered from the virus over the Christmas period.

 Coun. Cottee updated the meeting on the ongoing matter of flooding in the parish and said an officer had visited the village to carry out an inspection. He was unable to give an up-to-date report from Callum Smith, a county flooding officer, because he was on a week's leave until the following Monday.

 He said consultations were ongoing by the County Council with Severn Trent Water, the Environment Agency and drainage boards and the matter of flooding was one that was being closely looked at.

 Nottingham County Council officer Laura Trusler has confirmed the Drainage team had visited the problem junction involving Hall Drive in the village centre and cleaned the highway rainwater drainage system and has tested the system following this and reported that it was now running satisfactorily and accepting surface water.

 Coun. Belton reported water was still coming out of the drains in the centre of the village and running towards Old Hall Drive. He would be putting warning signs out after the meeting on behalf of the County Council.

1. Correspondence

 There was no additional correspondence.

1. Planning and Environment

 The council did not object to planning application 20/03054 for Mr S Bell at the Corner House, Main Street, to construct a temporary structure of a car port with bicycle store, refuse store and electric car charging point. The clerk said it is being claimed the work has been carried out before Rushcliffe Borough Council have made a decision on the application.

 They had advised they were aware of the claim. They have not made a decision on the application and explain they will proceed with dealing with the application in the normal way despite the claim of work having been carried out. If they refuse the application, they then can take enforcement action against the applicant. I understand a neighbour says there is a water run off on to their property from what they say is an unauthorised structure. Rushcliffe Borough Council say that would be a private civil matter and not a planning matter. The decision on the application is expected within the next two weeks.

 **Rushcliffe Borough Council planning applications**

 20/03090/FUL. Mr Somerfield, Pinecroft, Church Lane. Construct two storey side extension, single storey, rear extension, new front porch and detached garage. No objection on the Borough website.

 **Rushcliffe Borough Council planning decisions**

 20/02511/FUL. Mr A Calow, 2 Main Street. Convert car port to bedroom with shower room. Grant

 20/02126/FUL. Mr & Mrs Buxton, 6 Widmerpool Park. Single storey side and rear extension, covered veranda. New dormer on rear, new windows first and second floor gables and addition timber car port. Grant

1. Affordable Housing

 The clerk advised the meeting that both Wysall and Willoughby on the Wolds parish councils were supportive of a survey being taken as to requirements of local people on affordable housing.

 Coun. Geoff Brooks said he would welcome such housing in the village as there was a need for new life to be pumped into the village and fresh faces would do that. He said 15 years ago the village was a lively one and also one very successful in raising money for good causes, with many thousands of pounds being given to charitable causes. He said social life in the village was non-existent compared to only just over a decade ago.

 He said he was a big supporter of affordable housing, pointing out that the most recent house in the village to be sold went for £450,000, a price that could not be tackled by young couple starting out in their life.

 Coun. Gotts said she was not opposed to the overall scheme but said the council would need to look at the practicality of it.

 The clerk was to check with Midlands Rural Housing as to the position of their survey suggestion.

1. Financial

 a] Accounts to pay were approved as circulated

 b] Budget for 2021-2022

 Members discussed a financial report presented by the clerk in which he said the council were likely to start the new financial year with around £7,000 in hand along with the £3,000 handed to them by the Widmerpool Trust Fund.

 Estimated expenditure for 2021-2022 was £6,230 said the clerk, which was some £200 less than the precept for the current year.

 After discussion the council unanimously agreed to precept for £6500 for the coming twelve-month period.

 In the coming financial year, the council would look at the possibility of providing flashing speed signs and the cost of them.

 Before the close of the meeting the chairman spoke of the approach to join the council by Mr Simon Telfer Smith and said the matter would be addressed at the next meeting.

1. Date for Next Meeting was confirmed as March 29 2021

 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.