

Widmerpool Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting of Widmerpool Parish Council held on Monday 15th May 2023, 7pm, Keyworth Rugby club.

Councillors present: Cllr Christopher Daynes (Chairman), Cllr Jenny Daynes, Cllr Geoff Brooks, Cllr Kevin Price, Cllr R Belton, Cllr S Belton

Officers: Emma Goodman Clerk to the Council

Also present: 3 members of the public

1. **Apologies** – none received.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – none
3. **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting** held on 8th May 2022– Noted a correction of the figure of balance carried forward. Amended to £9794. Approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Chairmans report on Parish events** – See Appendix 1
5. **County and Borough Councillor Updates** – apologies given. No report submitted.
6. **Open session for members of the public to raise matters of council business** (limited 15 min) –
 - Affordable housing – it was asked if there was an update. Clerk reported there had been no update received.
 - Sewage overflow – Cllr Brookes reported there was continuing issues with sewerage overflow from the Pumping Station. He has received information from regarding remedial works, however they will not begin until the end of November 2024 and it will be a 3-year project. It was discussed that a solution needs to be sought sooner due to the impact of sewerage overflow.

Council **Resolved** to contact Severn Trent Water, the Environment Agency and Borough Councillors to see if there is anything that can be done sooner.

- Visibility issue – a member of the public reported visibility issues from overgrown grass on the verges at the junction of Station Road and Old Hall Drive.

Council **Resolved** to ask the current grass cutting contractor to cut this verge.

- Footpath from the village of Widmerpool to Widmerpool Hall – a member of the public asked if there is a possibility of installing footpath between the 2 locations to increase safety to those walking or cycling between the 2 locations. Many people use this route and there is concern over safety from vehicles passing at speed.

Council **Resolved** to email Borough Councillors to ask about the viability of a footpath.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm

Appendix 1

My report outlines the work undertaken by Widmerpool Parish Council in the financial year 2022 to 2023. Projects that have been proposed that will hopefully be undertaken in the near future include a new community speed watch scheme and erection of speed warning signs for the benefit and safety of all residents of the parish. The assets around the village will continue to be maintained, with some upgrading where necessary.

A book of condolence was opened at St Peter's following the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and public messages were invited throughout the period of national mourning.

Sadly, we lost a long-standing member of the village, Reg Thurrell early in November 2022, His funeral was held on at St Peter's. Reg was an active member of the village, serving as Clerk to the Parish Council for a number of years, and was highly involved with design on installation of the millennium sign on the village green.

Our long-standing Clerk of the Widmerpool Parish Council Mike Elliot retired officially in September 2022. Mike took over the Clerks' role from Reg Thurrell in 2014 and his experience led him to be the Clerk of many Parishes in the area. I would like to thank Mike for all his time and energy whilst in the role. Following Mikes retirement, Widmerpool Parish Council were very happy to appoint Emma Goodman to the role of Clerk.

The Parish Council currently has a vacancy, after Simon Tefler-Smith left the role of Councillor and I take this opportunity invite anyone interested in joining council to contact Emma at clerk@widmerpool.parish.email

Following the survey commissioned by Rushcliffe Borough Council, Midland Rural Housing arranged to walk around the villages of Widmerpool, Willoughby and Wysall to identify a possible site for affordable housing development. A small tour of Widmerpool took place on the 8th November. At the time of writing, Midland Rural House are still to comment on the outcome of the site visits and any further developments will be shared with the village as soon as they are available.

I am also pleased to report a number of successful community events over the last 12 months which provide an opportunity for our village to come together and socialise.

It seems a long time ago now, but on the 5th June 2022 the village celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Beehive Lawn near the church. Decorated for the occasion with bunting and union flags, refreshments were provided. Traditional entertainment of wooded skittles was set up and a not so traditional badminton court was enjoyed. Following on from the social distancing Covid restriction of the previous year, this event was well attended by more than 80 villagers.

A barbecue to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles 3rd was held on the 7th May. Charcoal barbecues were stoked and a table of chilled refreshments provided and gratefully received on such a sunny afternoon. A corner of old Widmerpool Parkland was generously provided and prepared for the event despite the soggy conditions and I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the Butterfield family of Northfield Lodge

Farm for their time and support which helped to make the event go smoothly.

In March, the council organised the annual litter picking event. This initiative would not be possible without volunteers, and once again I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you, on behalf of myself and the Parish Council, to all those who help keep the village looking clean and tidy.

DRAFT