

**WILBY VILLAGE ANNUAL MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th MAY 2024 IN WILBY PARISH CHURCH**

PRESENT: Cllr S Borrett (chair); Cllrs G Thompson, S Hodges, P Stevenson, I Stroud, 4 members of the public and the WPC Clerk (Mrs V Smith)

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Lawman (NNC)

**2. Approval of minutes from meeting 22nd May 2023**

The minutes of this meeting were approved as accurate records and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Chairman's remarks**

Highlights of the year:

- Major streetlight conversion programme to LED plus selective reduced hours on some lights results in reduced electricity costs to partially offset steep price rises: a big thank you to Cllr Hodges for all his hard work on helping to achieve this very satisfactory outcome. Added bonus of anticipated major maintenance cost savings given more the reliable infrastructure. This ensures that future Precept increases can be better controlled
- Double Yellow lines on Mears Ashby near School finally approved to help road safety. Expected to be appear this year priority and weather permitting
- School closure in July after 170 years on Church Lane. PC looking to mark the contribution to our children with a wall plaque on the old building
- Now have a robust PC website, better managed and increasing usage
- Individual Parish Councillors have taken on responsibility for specific areas of activity which has helped improve efficiency
- Retirement of one Parish Councillor (Marian Harland) leaving a vacancy. Thanks to her for her service to the village.
- Final year of the current Parish Council before a new one is elected in May 2025. A new Chairman will be required [as Cllr Borrett] not intending to stand again for office after 35 years of dedicated service to the village
- Th PC's hard working and extremely professional Clerk, Vicky Smith, is due a huge thank you for managing our affairs so well during another challenging year

**4. Parking on Main Road**

Nightmare on Main Road. Thirteen cars last night parked outside as the 'forecourt' is full. Not helpful that only those parked illegally can be subject to Police/parking enforcement. Residents are intimidated by the rude, arrogant, bullying manner of the operator of garage, whose attitude is 'move if you don't like it'. Get a driveway. It was agreed the situation is appalling.

**ACTION:** Report any illegal vehicles to Northants Police/Raise with the unity cllr/PC Police liaison representative to seek advice from Northants Police and raise with new Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

**5. Solar Farm:** Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd is reporting a new site in Milton Keynes to be added to the proposed plan. Wilby residents interested in the progress of this scheme and how it might affect the village (increased construction traffic) are encouraged to sign up at [info@greenhillsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhillsolar.co.uk) to receive updates.

An action Group has been formed out of the original Grendon Solar Farm Group and this is meeting regularly in Mears Ashby Village Hall. Next meeting 28 May 7.30pm . Anyone interesting in joining from Wilby contact [philanthony5092@gmail.com](mailto:philanthony5092@gmail.com) . Villages represented already: Mears Ashby, Easton Maudit, Old, E Barton, Bozeat, CPRE, Grendon and Martin Griffiths NNC

**6. Open Forum**

Defibrillator now installed at Playing Field Pavillion. Village is fund raising to install further appliances at Horseshoe and Hairdressers

Wilby Fest 2024 30<sup>th</sup> June

Annual playing field lottery tickets will be available in October

**7. Chairman's Closing Remarks**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8pm

*Minutes are draft until approved*

**Approved:** ..... **Date:**..... **Minute Ref:** .....