

LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 14th March 2022

Present: Cllr Henderson (Chairman), Cllr Rees, Cllr Bainbridge, Cllr Beaver, Cllr Manley, Cllr Mace. Cllr Shales and the Clerk (H du Bois).

Others present: Cllr Cooke (WCC), Cllr Illingworth (WDC)

Public: two

This meeting started at 8:25pm.

1. **Apologies:** The Council had received apologies from **Cllr Child** and **Cllr Doyle** which were accepted. Cllrs Hales (WDC) also sent apologies.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Rees declared an interest in the Lapworth Station Adoption Group.
3. **Dispensations:** No requests received.
4. **Public Participation:**
 - A member of the Lapworth Station Adoption Group submitted a grant application. It was noted and will be included on the agenda for the next meeting.
 - A resident provided the Council with an overview of the plans for the Platinum Jubilee celebration event being held on Saturday 2nd June 2022.
5. **Minutes:** it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 14th February 2022; these were signed as a true and accurate reflection.
6. **Matters arising from previous meeting that are not included on this agenda.**
None.
7. **Reports for Information:**
 - 7.1. **Warwickshire County Council**
Cllr Cooke provided a report for March 2022, see appendix A for details.
 - 7.2. **Warwick District Council**
Cllr Illingworth and Cllr Hales had provided reports for March 2022, see appendix A for details.

8. Finance

8.1. To approve the invoices for payment as attached

The clerk presented the latest financial statement, see appendix B. The report showed a balance of £58,484.84 on 8th March 2022 and an expected balance of £58,266.67 once invoices have been paid.

It was noted that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) had published the 2021/22 National Salary Award.

It was **resolved** to approve the following payments:

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT	STATUTORY POWER
1	Lapworth Village Hall	Room rental 14.2.22	BACS	£22.50	LGA 1972, s111 (1)
2	H DU BOIS	Salary March 22 plus backpay	BACS	£768.06	LGA 1972 s112 (2)
3	H DU BOIS	HW allowance/expenses Mar 22	BACS	£29.97	LGA (Financial Provisions) 1963 s5
4	E PRIESTLY	2021/22 backpay	BACS	£84.29	LGA 1972 s112 (2)
5	Standard Life	2021/22 pension backpay	BACS	£6.10	Pensions Act 2008 s3
			Total	£910.92	

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ACTION: Cllr Henderson and Cllr Rees to submit the payments.

8.2. To approve the appointment of the Internal Auditor for the 2021/22 AGAR

It was agreed to appoint West Chartered Accountants as the Internal Auditor for the 2021/22 AGAR.

ACTION: The Clerk to instruct West Chartered Accountants.

8.3. To update and approve the Asset Register

This was updated and approved.

ACTION: The Clerk to publish to the website.

8.4. To consider renewal of WALC membership for 2022/23

This was approved.

ACTION: The Clerk to process the renewal.

As the meeting was running behind schedule it was agreed to defer consideration of item 8.5 until the meeting on 11th April 2022.

8.5. To consider a request from Lapworth Allotment Association to cover the costs of tree maintenance

9. Policies for approval

- **Grant Awarding Policy and Application Form**
- **Risk Assessment Policy**
- **System of Internal Control**
- **Expenses Policy**

The Risk Assessment Policy was considered and approved with amendments. *It was agreed to defer consideration of the remaining policies until the meeting on 11th April 2022.*

10. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

10.1 To consider a request to provide grant funding towards planned Platinum Jubilee celebrations

A request had been made for a contribution towards the costs of the event and it was resolved to approve a grant of £1000 towards the cost of the marque hire.

The Clerk recommended that the group consider applying for a National Lottery Awards for All grant.

ACTION: The Clerk to provide Mrs Ludlow with information about the National Lottery Awards for All grant.

10.2 To consider how the Parish could celebrate the Platinum Jubilee

It was suggested that a tree could be planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.

ACTION: Cllr Beaver to investigate costs and possible locations.

As the meeting was running behind schedule it was agreed to consider of item 11.1 until the meeting on 11th April 2022.

11. Items and correspondence for Consideration and Decision

11.1 Speeding issues and Traffic Speed Monitoring:

11.1.1. To receive an update on the Community Speed Watch initiative

11.1.2. To consider next steps re: works recommended by Graham Stanley (County Highways) to improve road safety within the Parish and approve a contribution if appropriate.

11.1.3. To discuss re-scheduling the meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner

11.2. Lapworth Village Hall:

11.2.1. To receive an update on the storage container used by the Lapworth Scarecrow Festival at the village hall and consider next steps

The Council had received a reply to their recent letter to the Trustees of the Lapworth Scarecrow Festival. It was agreed to arrange a site meeting between Trustees of the Lapworth Scarecrow Festival, the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council.

ACTION: The Clerk to invite all parties to a meeting at the village hall.

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As the meeting was running behind schedule it was agreed to consider of item 12 until the meeting on 11th April 2022.

12. Roads and Rights of Way: to receive reports in relation to roads and rights of way

13. Planning

13.1. Planning applications for consideration

13.1.1. W/22/0288

Increase height of existing property and two-storey side extensions. New windows and doors to all elevations. New vehicular access and car parking spaces

209 Old Warwick Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6HN

Comments by 14th March 2022

LPC Comment: **OBJECTION** as the proposed extension represents an increase of more than 30% to the gross floor space of the original dwelling and the design of the proposed extensions does not respect the historical character of the original dwelling.

13.1.2. W/22/0278

Erection of Ground Floor Roof Lantern and erection of First Floor Dormer

37 Bakers Lane, Knowle, Solihull, B93 8PW

Comments by 18/03/2022

LPC Comment: **NEUTRAL**

13.1.3. W/22/0334

Erection of a single storey rear extension to replace conservatory

Wee Cottage, Wharf Lane, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 5NR

Comments by 28/03/2022

LPC Comment: **NEUTRAL**

Some residents had contacted the Council regarding W/22/0229, Meadow House, Glasshouse Lane.

Councillors were concerned that the Council had not been consulted on this application and it was agreed to contact the relevant Planning Officer.

13.2. Decision Notices: to note decisions on the following planning applications

13.2.1. Ref: W/21/2024

Raising eaves and ridge and erection of first floor rear extension to existing coach house

The Mount, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6LA

LPC Comment: **NEUTRAL**

WDC Decision: **GRANTED**

13.3. Appeal Notices: to note decisions on the following planning appeals

13.3.1. Ref: W/21/1575

Erection of first floor rear extension

156-158 Aylesbury Road, Aylesbury Cottage, Hockley Heath, SOLIHULL B94 6PP

LPC Comment: **NEUTRAL**

Appeal Decision – **DISMISSED**

Cllr Illingworth gave an update on the Lapworth developments and planning applications currently being considered by WDC's Planning Committee and Planning Enforcement officers, including Hockley House Hotel and planned developments on Glasshouse Lane and Bakers Lane. Cllr Henderson offered to attend when the WDC Planning Committee consider W/21/0802 (canal-side moorings on Land north of Bakers Lane).

As the meeting was running behind schedule it was agreed to defer consideration of items 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 until the meeting on 11th April 2022.

14. Progress Reports: To receive reports and status updates for the following:

14.1. Lapworth Train Station Adoption Group

14.2. Lapworth Village Hall

14.3. Lapworth recreation sites

14.4. Parish Online

15. Communications, Openness and Accountability:

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15.1. Nextdoor.com

15.2. Parish noticeboards

15.3. Parish Council website

16. To agree meeting dates for 2022/23

17. Correspondence and Publications Received for information/consultation:

Warwickshire County Council

Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC)

The Rural Bulletin

17.1. Warwick District Council

17.2. Warwickshire Police

18. Reports and Questions: *To receive reports and questions from members in brief, including items for the next agenda. Councillors are reminded this is not an opportunity for decision making.*

19. Date of next meeting: Monday 11th April 2022, 7.30pm in Lapworth Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed:

Cllr Henderson (Chairman)

Date:

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APPENDIX A

Lapworth & West Kenilworth Division County Council News March 2022

Letter from The Leader & Chief Executive of Warwickshire County Council concerning Ukraine Crisis

"Warwickshire is a welcoming county, especially to those who find themselves in difficulty through no fault of their own."

"We are deeply disturbed at the events in Ukraine and offer our deepest sympathy to the people of Ukraine. As a Council we condemn this aggression and call upon President Putin to call off this assault. Warwickshire is a diverse county, and we treasure our multicultural communities. We know that our Ukrainian and Russian residents will be worried for family and friends at home, and we want them to know that they have our sympathy, compassion, and support."

Warwickshire is a welcoming county, especially to those who find themselves in difficulty through no fault of their own. We will open our arms to any Ukrainian people who look to begin a new life in this country.

If you, or someone you know needs our help then please do call us on 01926 410410. "

Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE Leader of the Council

Monica Fogarty WCC Chief Executive

Please find below several available resources for Ukrainians living in the UK.

- Birmingham – Several organisations are collecting donations: <https://barms.org.uk/>
- [Armac Group](#) have offered to support Ukrainian Lorry drivers with parking in Birmingham and flights to Poland.
- London Plus have put together a list of organisations helping Ukrainians in the UK and in the region, which is available [here](#).
- Accredited immigration advice available [here](#).
- [Free immigration advice](#) for Ukrainians.
- The Work Rights Centre have prepared a FAQ summarising current information for people who need to flee, the situation in neighbouring countries and where to find immigration advice, [here](#).
- Hope not Hate provide briefings on far-right threat and support via: <mailto:response@hopenothate.org.uk> which may be a helpful resource on hate crime.
- [Sunflower of peace](#)
- [United Help Ukraine](#)
- [Voices of Children](#)

Warwickshire Cars Idling Campaign

Warwickshire Road Safety Education Team are launching the Cars Idling Campaign to encourage everyone who must travel by car to cut out engine idling by switching off their engine when stationary. The campaign primarily focusses on drivers who wait with their engines running outside schools. By stopping engine idling, drivers will reduce fuel costs and save money, improve air quality, and reduce air pollutants which can help cut heart disease, reduce lung cancer and prevent asthma attacks. By reducing the amount of fuel being used, drivers can improve the quality of the air that we breathe.

Throughout March 26 primary schools across Warwickshire will be launching this campaign, with each of these schools receiving a banner for the schools' railings, a digital animation offering advice and guidance for parents and carers and an article for newsletters. The banner and animation encourage all drivers to switch their engine off.

Record number of Warwickshire children receive first choice secondary school offers.

1st March was National Offer Day, when Year 6 children and up and down the country learnt which secondary school they will attend for the 2022/2023 academic year.

This year, there were 6,671 Warwickshire children who applied for a secondary place by the application deadline of 31 October, an increase of 6% on the previous year. Of those, 82% have been offered a place at their first-choice school, compared to 78.5% in 2021. A further 12% have been offered a place at another of their school choices, meaning a total of 94% have been offered a place at one of their preferred schools. This year, 97.5% of parents and carers applied online for a secondary school place. Those applicants will have received an email, or can still check their online parent portal. Letters to the remaining applicants have been posted.

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Warwickshire Libraries launches exciting pop-up exhibition exploring the role of news in our society

in partnership with The Living Knowledge Network and The British Library. The exhibition will be displayed in different library locations over the next few months, with the aim of starting conversations about the news in Warwickshire and the vital role it plays in all our lives.

The Breaking the News exhibition, which has debuted in Rugby Library on 1st of March, will go on tour across the county featuring in multiple Warwickshire Libraries between March and August 2022, with a focus on celebrating the news, and examining what stories make the headlines and why to challenge our ways of thinking. It will showcase some of the most important local stories and help residents to explore the significance of news within our local communities. The exhibition will also get visitors to question if the news can ever truly be objective, encouraging open questions for discussion such as:

- How do your opinions and beliefs influence the news you choose?
- When does news become propaganda?
- Why do we devour crime stories and sensationalism?
- Who decides which stories to suppress and which to spotlight?

For more information about the Breaking the News exhibition in Warwickshire, visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/breakingthenews

New 5 Year Autism Strategy approved for Coventry and Warwickshire

The announcement means that the strategy has now been adopted by the key organisations who lead on autism services across the region, and Coventry City Council joins Warwickshire County Council, NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Warwickshire Autism Partnership Board in giving their approval to the strategy.

The new Autism Strategy commits the partner organisations to commissioning high quality autism services and support, as well as working closely with one another to build local communities that are more inclusive and welcoming for autistic people and to improve the lives and opportunities for autistic children, young people, and adults.

Warwickshire partners say NO MORE to Domestic Abuse in line with national campaign

The Violence Against Women and Girls Board (VAWG) is backing the UK-wide campaign, NO MORE WEEK, to help victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in Warwickshire, to access the specialist support services available to them throughout the county.

The weeklong campaign, which runs from Sunday 6 March through to Saturday 12 March will this year ask everyone to **#JoinTheChorus** and use collective voices to end domestic and sexual violence.

In Warwickshire, the VAWG Board would like to use the campaign to push messages out about the support available to everyone. For domestic abuse support there is the Warwickshire Domestic Violence and Abuse Service and specifically for victims of sexual violence, there is the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) – also known as the Blue Sky Centre.

For a full list of all the support services available to you in Warwickshire please go to www.talk2someone.org.uk In an emergency please dial 999.

For more information about Refuge and the Domestic Violence and Abuse Service please go to www.refuge.org.uk

Sustainability and Environmental recognition for Warwickshire County Council

WCC receives recognition for achieving ongoing ISO 14001 certification for its Environmental Management System (EMS) and placed 7th in the region for sustainability by the Environment Agency.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) have been rated amongst the top local authorities for sustainability by the West Midlands' Local Authority Sustainability Benchmark. Published on behalf of the Environment Agency, the benchmark looks at actions taken in detail across the sustainability agenda. Overall, WCC were awarded a score of 62% and ranked 7th of the 21 regional authorities that took part.

Progress towards the county being net zero by 2050 also continues. Last year WCC Cabinet approved the funding for a costed plan for the county as a whole to be developed during 2022. Following on from a WCC commissioned report last year on the impacts and potential effects of climate change in Warwickshire, a further strategy and action plan for adaptation will also be developed in the coming months.

Cllr John Cooke March 2022

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Warwick District Council Report March 2022 - Lapworth

Arrangements continue to enter the post-Covid arrangements at Riverside House though certain precautions continue. The latest WDC Council Meeting was held in the WCC Council Chamber in Warwick.

At that meeting was the Budget for 2022-23 was agreed. The proposal carried and put forward by Conservative, Whitnash and Labour parties makes no increase in the WDC tax. An alternative to increase it by 5% proposed by the Liberal Democrats and Greens was defeated. The overall budget does now assume a Green Bin charge when the new collections are introduced in August.

I appeared twice at the WDC Planning Committee regarding the application for a stable on Bakers Lane. At the first meeting I suggested that they made a site visit and following that at the next meeting they Refused this application. I hope that this is the start of a reaction about unwarranted applications in Lapworth. You will be aware of current applications in Bakers Lane, Glasshouse Lane and Spring Lane
Cllr Illingworth March 2022

Warwick District Council Report March 2022

I can update that we agreed our budget and have agreed to freeze our council tax, despite the rise in inflation and associated costs that we are going to face as a council over the coming 12 months. WCC & Police Commissioner have increased their levels of tax, so we as residents will see an overall increase in our tax.

The new bin contract starts in August this year with introduction of 123 contract and with it the introduction of a green bin charge starting at £20. I would like to point out to all residents that there is a scheme to purchase a composter for £5 - [Composting – Warwickshire County Council](#) which is environmentally more friendly.

We are still waiting on confirmation from central government about our request to merger with Stratford District Council, but we have started to merger operational services and we have used these savings to enable the freeze in council tax as previously mentioned.

Cllr Hales March 2022

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APPENDIX B

This report was presented by the Clerk for approval by the Council on **14th March 2022**.

Balance of Barclays Community account as of 08/03/22:	£58,484.84
Balance of Barclays Savings account as of 08/03/22:	£535.97
Balance of Unity Trust Current account as of 08/03/22:	£155.78

Expected TOTAL balance once invoices settled:	£58,266.67
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Credits received since 8/2/22

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT
1	H CHENU	OWR hedge	BACS	£80.00
			Total	£80.00

Direct debits due out after 14/3/22

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT
1	Royal London	H DU BOIS Pension	DD	£57.37
			Total	£57.37

Invoices to be approved on 14/03/22

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT	STATUTORY POWER
1	Lapworth Village Hall	Room rental 14.2.22	BACS	£22.50	LGA 1972, s111 (1)
2	H DU BOIS	Salary March 22 plus backpay	BACS	£768.06	LGA 1972 s112 (2)
3	H DU BOIS	HW allowance/expenses Mar 22	BACS	£29.97	LGA (Financial Provisions) 1963 s5
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2021/22 Budget vs Current

		2021/22	
		Budget	Actual
	EXPENDITURE		
101	Salaries	£9,500.00	£9,411.27
102	Stationery & Expenses	£750.00	£608.29
103	Premiums & Subs	£850.00	£884.50
104	VH rent	£450.00	£213.00
105	Section 137	£2,400.00	£325.00
106	Broome Hall toilets	£2,200.00	£1,420.75
107	Insurance	£800.00	£619.15
108	Audit fees & Costs	£700.00	£330.00
109	Parks & Open Spaces	£4,500.00	£2,949.59
113	Playground	£0.00	£2,086.12
110	Capital Expenditure	£2,000.00	£449.99
111	Miscellaneous	£1,000.00	£0.00
114	Pension	£0.00	£842.03
115	Training	£0.00	£75.00
-	VAT	£0.00	£1,167.35
	Total	£25,150.00	£21,382.04
	INCOME	Budget	Current
201	Precept	£22,440.00	£22,664.00
202	Interest	£0.00	£0.00
203	Allotments	£475.00	£493.75
204	Grants	£0.00	£0.00
205	Donations	£0.00	£0.00
206	CIL	£0.00	£11,413.85
207	Vat reclaim	£0.00	£3,022.31
208	Miscellaneous	£0.00	£252.00
	Total	£22,915.00	£37,845.91