**Present:**

Chairperson - Councillor P Bayes

Councillors -T Bowskill - A Gee – T Brownbridge – A White - S Matchett - R Hopkins

**Also in attendance:**

A McCardle Clerk, Cllr David Rose and 30 members of the public.

**THE CHAIRMAN SUSPENDED STANDING ORDERS TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK IN REGARD TO THE ONGOING CASE WITH THE ALLOTMENTS.**

It was discussed that the owner of the land is now ‘unknown’ and unless the legal owner, whoever that may be, comes forward with evidence of ownership, the land will remain unregistered by ANYONE.

A resident said that they would undertake some historical searches to see if any evidence of ownership could be found. Should this not be possible, further steps may be taken with the relevant authorities.

Residents discussed forming a committee to manage the land, to prevent it becoming overgrown. The Parish Council stated that they could not be involved in this.

Various options were discussed such as flattening the land, fencing it off, (with an access gate), planting an orchard and wildflowers. It was discussed if Wroot Feast Committee or the Village Hall committee might oversee this, or possibly a new group.

The Parish Council are appealing the costs ruling made by the Judge and the outcome of this is awaited, whilst a full declaration of costs is submitted by the respondents.

At one point during the meeting the land was referred to as ‘Common Land’, this is the wrong terminology, the land IS owned by someone. It remains the case that we understand the land is owned by the Parish Council and further research will be undertaken (by a resident, no costs involved) to see if evidence of this can be found in the various archives.

**DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE AND PERSONAL INTERESTS**

There were no new declarations.

**ITEM 1**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**ITEM 2**

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD TUESDAY 5th March 2024**

The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Gee, seconded by Cllr Hopkins.

**ITEM 3**

**MATTERS ARISING**

Wroot What’s On or Wroot Feast Facebook Page Administrators may put a post on Facebook asking for volunteers to help manage the land.

**ITEM 4**

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Balance of HSBC Accounts:

* Community Account 7,409.58
* Money Manager Account 664.51

Accounts for Payment:

* 156 Clerks Salary MARCH 368.25
* 157 ERNLLCA Subscription 350.44
* 158 HSBC 11.00

Bank Charges

* 159 Neal Smith 618.00
* 160 Wroot Village Hall 80.00

Cllr Brownbridge proposed payment of the accounts for March 2024 seconded by Cllr Bowskill, and all agreed.

**ITEM 5**

**PLANNING MATTERS**

* PA/2023/41 Field Lane Wroot – Erection of 6 dwellings ***Outcome awaited.***

No further applications.

**ITEM 6**

**HIGHWAY/ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

* *Speeding cars.* Cllr Gee has been speaking with the PCSO about a Speed watch campaign. The Clerk would post on the Facebook page to see if anyone is interested in helping.
* *Potholes.* It was noted and appreciated that a swift response was made from the Clerks letter to Mick Johnson. Potholes began to be filled the same day as the correspondence was received and the Road Sweeper was in attendance for over a week.
* *Highways.* It is understood that the road from Candy Bank is to be resurfaced. The Parish Council agreed that they do not want another unacceptable job made of it, like Poles Bank. The Clerk would write to Mick Johnson and Jack Wingate to ask how they intend to resurface the road.
* *Pavements.* It is understood the pavements are due for resurfacing between June – Dec, however the Clerk was previously told that this would be done in May. The Clerk would also query this in the letter to Mick Johnson.

**ITEM 7**

**ALLOTMENTS**

As discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

**ITEM 8**

**OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

* *Community Orchard* – Revisit in May/June this year.
* *De-fib training.* Dave was not in attendance this evening.
* *Riparian Drains.* The Clerk will contact Mick Johnson to ask if any progress has been made to contact the owners of the riparian drains.
* *Community Service Teams.* Work in progress.
* *Wroot Village Signs.* Another letter to Gareth Denovan. Signs for soft verges, weight limit, Wroot Signpost at the end of Poles Bank

**ITEM 9**

**COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Cllr Gee noted that the police will attend the village hall on 20th April from 11am – 12 noon.

Cllr Matchett queried if another litter pick was required, all will look around the village to see if necessary and discuss at the next meeting.

**ITEM 10**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence has been received from a resident regarding the playground and a need for it to be upgraded. The Clerk continues to look for available grants and funding for this including the possibility of an outdoor gym area and something for younger children.

Correspondence has been received from a resident regarding the number of animals being kept at the rear of Brooke Terrace. After discussion the Parish Council understand the land is agricultural and is being used as purposed. There are no welfare issues, and the animals are well tended and kept within excellent housing and the area is very well fenced.

**ITEM 11**

**INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

There has been a burglary on Woodside, we need to recruit for a new Neighbourhood Watch Team. The Clerk will post again on Facebook.

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.15 pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday 7th May 2024.

Signed…………………………………………………….Chairman

Dated……………………………………………………