The following are the minutes of a meeting of Great Wishford Parish Council on Thursday 28th January 2021

This meeting was conducted by Zoom

Present

Mr S Noble, Mrs S Chalk, Ms J Blenkinsop, Mr T Phelps and Cllr K Daley

1. Apologies

Mr P Dewey

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on Thursday 10th December 2020 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising

a. Defibrillator

Matt Shaw is monitoring the device and will purchase the battery and pads that need replacing in April. He suggests that after a six month interval another pack is bought so that a spare is available. Each pack will cost the council £120.00.

b. The Churchyard wall.

The chairman has spoken to the headteacher who had talked to the children about the problem and included it in the newsletter to the parents.

- c. Ms Blenkinsop has an agreement with Mr. Huntley that he will fill the water tank in the cemetery. She will alert him when it needs a refill.
- d. Speedwatch

Cllr Daley is to investigate costs of SIDS. He suggested that this is best shared with other parish councils as it is more effective when used for a short period and moved around so that drivers do not get used to it.

An article is to be put into the Parish magazine to ask for volunteers to join a Speedwatch team to be trained and operate when lockdown is eased.

4. County Councillor's Report- Cllr Kevin Daley

Cllr Daley said that Covid arrangements were dominating council business at the moment, with decisions changing very quickly.

He reported that a flexible business grant was now available from Wiltshire Council for small businesses that do not pay business rates.

5. Payment of Accounts

S137 payments

Good Companions Club	50.00
The Oak Apple Club	50.00
The Café in the Church	50.00
Wilton Link scheme	50.00
Wilton and District Thursday Club	50.00

Wiltshire Air Ambulance	50.00
Memorial Donation	50.00
Clerk	244.80
Website hosting fee	21.99

6. General Business

a. Access to Grovely Wood

There has been more traffic during lockdown, with people wanting to access the woods. Wilton estate has contacted the Highways Engineer about extra signage to deter people parking on verges at the entrance to the woods, Timber lorries have had trouble getting passed and there is concern that Emergency Vehicles would not be able to attend if they were called.

It has been suggested that signs should be put by the railway bridge at the Grovely Road to deter people from using the car park at the top.

Parish councillors were aware and sympathetic but would wish to know what the signage would actually say. Great Wishford has seen many more cars parked in the village and would not want to encourage even more. Wilton Estate has not contacted the parish directly and it was felt that alternative resolutions would need to be discussed.

7. Any Other Business

- The stile on the Donkey path to Haddon is broken. This will be reported to the landowner. There are councillors who would be willing to make repairs like this but the council was advised to check on insurance coverage when dealing with these issues.
- A Take One Leave One book scheme has been suggested for the village. Mrs Chalk has forwarded the website to councillors and this will be followed up.
- Streetlight in West Street to be reported, also drain blocked at old bakery, white lines at junction of Station Rd and West Street, Verge markers at Stoford bridge, pot holes in South St and road to Grovely Cottages.
- Much frustration was expressed at the lack of speed in which issues are resolved in council. The same things are being discussed that were being discussed last year, notably Streetlights, Gateways and planters at the entrance to the village, overhanging vegetation and a traffic management system. It is very easy to blame Covid for a lack of progress and Zoom meetings making decision making more difficult, a resolution to these issues needs to be sought.

8. Date of next meeting:

The date of the meeting in March 2021 will be decided nearer the time when restrictions are known.

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