



# WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

## EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 27 November 2017 at 7.30pm  
in The Ellendune Community Centre.

**Present**  
Cllr L Campisano  
Cllr S Harcourt  
Cllr G Jones  
Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn  
Cllr B Kingstree  
Cllr S Pagett  
Cllr A Richards  
Cllr D Wells  
Cllr A Woodhead  
Cllr H Woodward

**Clerk** Jodie Smart

**FC/133** **Chairs Opening Statement**

The Chair welcomed all in attendance and stated that the meeting had been called following the decision by The Ellendune Hall Trust to wind up the Trust and hand over the Community Centre to the Parish Council as Custodian Trustee. The Parish Council believes that it is important that it determines the future of the Centre as soon as possible, so that staff, users and the wider community have confidence in the future of the Centre.

The Chair commented that he, the Vice Chair and the Clerk had met with the Trust earlier today and agreed that we would work together to ensure a fast and smooth transfer of staff and assets to the Parish Council should that be the outcome of the decision this evening. The Chair paid tribute to the work of the Trust since it was first set up in 1962. The Chair stated that they were handing over a centre which is vibrant, has an effective management team and is in good structural and decorative order, with a healthy bank balance.

**FC/134** **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr P Bhardwaj, Cllr C Clark, Cllr H Dosanjh, Cllr J Hewer, and Cllr A Spry.

**FC/135** **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

There were declarations of interest from Cllr S Harcourt, Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn, Cllr A Richards, Cllr A Woodhead and Cllr H Woodward as Trustees of the Wroughton Community Asset Trust, which is hiring a room in the Ellendune Community Centre for approximately six months in 2018. All members hold a current and relevant dispensation.

**FC/136** **Public Questions**

There were sixteen members of the public present.

A member of the public, Mr Keith Berry, Chair of The Ellendune Hall Trust made representations. Mr Berry stated that The Ellendune Hall Trust had come to the

unanimous decision that it could no longer operate and requested that the Parish Council take over. Mr Berry stated that the Trust were handing over a well organised Centre and saw this as a natural progression. Mr Berry thanked all current and previous members of The Ellendune Hall Trust.

A representative of the Little Lambs group thanked the Ellendune Staff and Trust for their service and asked whether the changes would affect them. The Chair responded that he was unable to answer fully until after the decision at agenda item 5, however, he personally felt that the Council would want to progress in a positive way.

**FC/137**

**Ellendune Hall Trust**

Members NOTED the verbal update from the Chair regarding the meeting between himself, the Vice Chair, the Clerk and members of The Ellendune Hall Trust earlier in the day. The Chair informed members that the meeting had been extremely cordial and that the main outcomes were:

- That the last meeting of the Trust would be their December meeting on 12 December 2017.
- That both parties would aim to complete the transfer of all staff and assets before Christmas 2017.
- That the Parish Office, in their role of providing administrative support to the Trust would undertake the winding up of the Trust with the Charity Commission.
- That the Clerk to the Parish Council would meet with the Treasurer to the Trust to agree the transfer of bank balances.

Members **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council write to all Trustees, agreeing to the transfer, of all staff and assets and that the Parish Council formally thank the Trust for their work over the years on behalf of the Trust and the Community.

**FC/138**

**Ellendune Community Centre**

Members debated the options for the running of the Ellendune Community Centre as set out in the report of the Clerk, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

*The Chair suspended standing orders at 8pm to give members of the public an opportunity to comment.*

A member of the public commented that it made sense for the Parish Council to take short term control to give themselves time to consult with stakeholders and consider the financial and emotional aspects of their decision. The resident wished the Parish Council good luck.

Another resident stated that he was a regular user of the centre and asked whether the Parish Council would lose the charitable aspects that were afforded to the Trust. The Chair responded that the Parish Council would not benefit from being a charity, however if the centre was then transferred to another trust model it would then become a registered charity.

*The Chair reinstated standing orders at 8.05pm.*

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the following proposals:

- That the Parish Council agree to the transfer of all staff and assets from the Ellendune Hall Trust.

- That the Parish Council should take direct responsibility for the Centre, for a period of up to nine months with a target of six months. During this interim period further investigations into a suitable trust model will be made.
- That, where Centre staff are on short term or temporary contracts, those contracts are renewed on their current terms, until such time as new staff contracts can be put in place.
- That the bank balances transferred to the Parish Council from The Ellendune Hall Trust are kept in a reserve which can only be used for meeting capital or revenue expenditure for the Ellendune Community Centre.
- That the Parish Council set up a new Committee, membership and terms of reference to be determined at the next meeting of the Parish Council to manage the future operation of the Ellendune Community Centre.
- That the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair is authorised to take any reasonable steps to further the option agreed by the Parish Council and provide an update to the next Full Council meeting on Tuesday 19 December 2017.
- That a vote of thanks be recorded for The Ellendune Hall Trust for their achievements within the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman of the Council