



# WETHERBY TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE WELCOME TO WETHERBY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Date:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
**Time:** 3.30pm  
**Location:** Micklethwaite Room, Wetherby Town Hall, Market Place, Wetherby, LS22 6NE.

**Present:** Councillor Buckle (Chair)  
Councillor Harrington  
Councillor Smith

**In attendance:** Rowann Fitzpatrick, Assistant Clerk  
Helena Briden, Communications and Events Officer (*From 3:46pm*)  
One representative of Wetherby Business Association

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## MINUTES

1. **Apologies.**

*Local Government Act 1972, s 85 (3)*

It was **RESOLVED** that apologies be received, and reasons for absence accepted, from Councillor Lavocah and Councillor Ager-Mills.

2. **Declarations of interests and requests for dispensations** – None.

*Localism Act 2011, s 31*

*Members' Code of Conduct, para. 13-18, 19-20*

3. **Public participation** – None.

*Public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s 1 (3)*

4. **Minutes.**

*Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, para. 41(1)*

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the Welcome to Wetherby meeting held on *Tuesday 12th March 2024* be accepted.

5. **Matters arising from the last meeting.**

5.1. **Easter holiday activities.**

It was **NOTED** that *Thursday 11th April 2024* would be the last day that the market-based Easter activities would be provided. It was **NOTED** that the activities have been very well received so far, with participants active throughout the day.

Councillor Harrington suggested that for future iterations of the activity, a formalised process to record the number of participants should be developed.

*\*The Communications and Events Officer joined the meeting at 3:46pm\**

## 6. Funfair and Fireworks.

*Local Government Act 1972, Section 144*

The committee received an update on the provision of the Funfair and Fireworks event. Notable mentions include:

- An event licence has now been applied for and 13 notices have been put up around Wetherby Ings. A notice has also been placed in the daily mail as per the licencing requirements. It was **NOTED** that licencing would have been completed earlier however the Communications and Events Officer had previously been informed that a licence was not required.
- Skips for event waste has now been arranged with Wetherby Skips however more stewards and litter pickers are required for on the day management of the event.
- Online tickets being sold via Ticket Source are going live on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Physical tickets will also be sold in Touchwood and the Post Office in due course.

## 7. 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sale of Wetherby.

*Local Government Act 1972, Section 144*

It was **NOTED** that a member of the Wetherby Business Association was put in contact with a member of Wetherby Civic Society to enquire about putting posters up in the windows from businesses whose buildings reside on land which were part of the sale of Wetherby.

Current other activities include a coffee morning and exhibition. A catalogue showcasing the lots sold during the Sale of Wetherby will be available at the coffee morning.

A new plaque commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sale of Wetherby will also be unveiled on the day.

## 8. 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day.

*Local Government Act 1972, Section 144*

No updates were received on the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day due to prioritisation of the Funfair and Fireworks event however it was **NOTED** that the Communications and Events Officer will be contacting Leeds City Council to confirm that the projector can be wired into the lamppost's electric supply.

Committee members were reminded that the cost of the projector is approximately £2,200.00, bespoke image slides are £200, and off-the-shelf stationary slides are £100.

## 9. 2024 Civic Service.

It was **NOTED** that invitations to the 2024 Civic Service of Thanksgiving have been distributed. Councillors were reminded that they are required to attend where possible.

It was **NOTED** that a representative of the Royal British Legion has not received their invite and has requested it be resent.

## 10. Items for information.

### 10.1. Knitting Ninjas.

It was **NOTED** that the first knitting and crochet group session occurred on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024 as was very well attended. Councillor Smith aims to run the session monthly.

### 10.2. Wetherby Lights Workshop.

A representative of Wetherby Business Association requested the committees' thoughts on moving the Wetherby Lights event from a Thursday to a Saturday and run it as an all-day event.

Concerns about closing the road on both Thursday and Saturday in the same week were raised however the committee **AGREED** that they had no objections or comments on this change subject to businesses being consulted by Wetherby Business Association.

11. **Next meeting.**

The next meeting of Welcome to Wetherby was confirmed to take place on *Tuesday 14th May 2024* at 3:30pm in Wetherby Town Hall.

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*The meeting closed at 4:12pm.*

*These minutes were recorded and prepared by Rowann Fitzpatrick, Assistant Clerk.*

## Assistant Clerk

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**Subject:** FW: WBA

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**From:**

**Sent:** Thursday, May 2, 2024 2:10 PM

**To:**

**Subject:** Fwd: WBA

Hi [REDACTED]

I'm pleased to say the WBA had a great meeting last night with many of the local businesses in Wetherby.

It was agreed we will have a drive to have as many businesses open on Sunday 30th June. The businesses will all have activities going on and there will be a treasure hunt so the participating families have to visit as many shops as possible. Once I have more information is this something you would promote as it is a full Wetherby incentive rather than an individual business.

Can I also ask if the Town Hall is available for use on Sunday 1st December. I would like to change the Wetherby Christmas Light Switch on from the normal Thursday to Sunday 1st December (times to be confirmed). If you can confirm this date is ok that would be great.

Kindest Regards

[REDACTED]

Director

The logo for touch TELECOM, with 'touch' in a lowercase sans-serif font and 'TELECOM' in a smaller, uppercase sans-serif font below it. A stylized fingerprint icon is integrated into the letter 'o' of 'touch'.

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Dear Iona

Queen Elizabeth's Walk

I have not noticed or heard of any plans to commemorate our late Queen's service to the Nation and I would propose that the Town does so.

My idea is to beautify a length of Quarry Hill Lane between the two railway bridges with spring blossoming trees and those providing autumn colour.

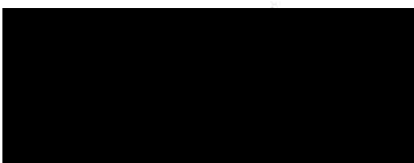
There is a proposal to plant trees in Raby Park and perhaps this project could be diverted to Quarry Hill Lane.

In addition perhaps Wetherby in Bloom could support the project with spring bulbs and drifts of wild flowers.

As a resident of Quarry Hill Lane I am aware of just how many people use this ancient track which connects with the Harland Way and the northern part of the Town.

Can you or I make his proposal to the Town Council and even Leeds City Council?

I look forward to your reply



Cc Alan Lamb – Leeds City council

## Detailed Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/03/2024

Month No: 12

## Welcome to Wetherby - 23/24 Financial Outturn

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
<u>106 Welcome to Wetherby</u>								
1010 Income - Walking Booklets	187	167	0	(167)			0.0%	152
1037 Income - King's Coronation	0	2,809	0	(2,809)			0.0%	
1038 Income - Jubilee	27,229	0	0	0			0.0%	
Welcome to Wetherby :- Income	<b>27,416</b>	<b>2,976</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,976)</b>				<b>152</b>
4212 Card Payment Charges	0	0	0	(0)		(0)	0.0%	
5305 King's Coronation	0	5,198	0	(5,198)		(5,198)	0.0%	
5306 Jubilee Event	25,020	0	0	0		0	0.0%	
8888 Miscellaneous Costs	386	1,958	500	(1,458)		(1,458)	391.6%	1,101
Welcome to Wetherby :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>25,406</b>	<b>7,157</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>(6,657)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(6,657)</b>	<b>1431.3%</b>	<b>1,101</b>
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>(4,180)</b>	<b>(500)</b>	<b>3,680</b>				
6000 plus Transfer from EMR	0	1,101						
6001 less Transfer to EMR	151	152						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<b>1,859</b>	<b>(3,231)</b>						
Grand Totals:- Income	27,416	2,976	0	(2,976)			0.0%	
Expenditure	25,406	7,157	500	(6,657)	0	(6,657)	1431.3%	
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>(4,180)</b>	<b>(500)</b>	<b>3,680</b>				
plus Transfer from EMR	0	1,101						
less Transfer to EMR	151	152						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<b>1,859</b>	<b>(3,231)</b>						

## Detailed Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/03/2024

Month No: 12

## Civic &amp; Events - 23/24 Financial Outturn

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
<u>108 Civic &amp; Events</u>								
1039 Income - Bonfire & Fireworks	8,018	0	0	0			0.0%	
Civic & Events :- Income	<b>8,018</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>
4212 Card Payment Charges	0	0	0	(0)		(0)	0.0%	
5308 Bonfire & Fireworks	8,112	1,483	0	(1,483)		(1,483)	0.0%	
5309 Civic Regalia	1,015	0	0	0		0	0.0%	
5500 Mayor's Allowance	287	680	500	(180)		(180)	135.9%	
5501 Councillors Expenses	0	0	100	100		100	0.0%	
5502 Remembrance Day	1,140	2,551	2,500	(51)		(51)	102.0%	
5503 Civic Service	0	382	650	268		268	58.8%	
5504 Jubilee Award	153	164	100	(64)		(64)	163.5%	
5505 Carol Concert	4	0	0	0		0	0.0%	
5506 Grants & Donations	1,000	930	1,000	70		70	93.0%	
8886 S.137 Expenditure	154	0	60	60		60	0.0%	
8888 Miscellaneous Costs	107	4	0	(4)		(4)	0.0%	
Civic & Events :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>11,971</b>	<b>6,193</b>	<b>4,910</b>	<b>(1,283)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,283)</b>	<b>126.1%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>(3,953)</b>	<b>(6,193)</b>	<b>(4,910)</b>	<b>1,283</b>				
6000 plus Transfer from EMR	986	0						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<b>(2,967)</b>	<b>(6,193)</b>						
Grand Totals:- Income	<b>8,018</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>0.0%</b>	
Expenditure	<b>11,971</b>	<b>6,193</b>	<b>4,910</b>	<b>(1,283)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,283)</b>	<b>126.1%</b>	
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>(3,953)</b>	<b>(6,193)</b>	<b>(4,910)</b>	<b>1,283</b>				
plus Transfer from EMR	<b>986</b>	<b>0</b>						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<b>(2,967)</b>	<b>(6,193)</b>						

## Newsletter May 2024

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

A very warm welcome to our latest BW Newsletter.

Spring is sprung and green shoots are appearing, the same for BW. My thanks to all who attended our 'Conversations' event at the Bridge Hotel last month. It brought forward several offers of support, both in the time individuals could give and interest in joining us on a more regular basis. I am delighted that a number have accepted our invitation to the May Steering Group meeting.

Part of the recent event was to throw the discussion open. In addition to comments about our current activities, several remarks were made about the possible impact that BW could make on our town in areas such as retail improvement, highways and other issues. Much of this is outside the direct influence of BW, however we will aim to include these issues as part of the discussion with our existing partners and business organisations. Rest assured we will not be sitting on our hands.

In the meantime, the proposed [Maltkiln development](#), around Cattal, is front and centre as a major threat to the future of Wetherby in terms of strain on already stretched services and the impact on parking, congestion, air quality etc. in our town. You will find more information about Maltkiln and a public consultation event below. There is a long way to go yet for the scheme, but North Yorkshire Council seem hell bent on imposing this upon us. I urge all of you to think carefully about the implications for Wetherby and surrounding villages.

In relation the refusal of the [Lidl application](#) last October, it is surprising and disappointing, considering that the grounds for refusal were so clear, that the company has now lodged a last minute appeal against the decision. BW will keep readers informed as to how this saga progresses.

Have a warmer few weeks, enjoy the changing season and thanks for reading.

**Roger Owen**

Chair: **Better Wetherby Partnership**



### **LIDL PLANNING APPLICATION – APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL SUBMITTED!**

On 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Leeds City Council's North and East Plans Panel made a decision to refuse Lidl's application to demolish the Mercure Hotel and build a Lidl store and adjoining retirement accommodation. The company was allowed a period of six months in which to lodge an appeal. Shortly before the deadline expired, [Lidl registered an appeal](#).

The grounds for refusal were very clearly outlined by the Plans Panel and included the fact that the Application was contrary to the adopted Leeds Site Allocation Plan and Local Plan, together with the adopted Wetherby Neighbourhood Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. BW will monitor the situation and report further in future newsletters. See application [23/01507/FU](#) on the Leeds Council Plans Portal for full details.

*"Working to ensure that the physical character of Wetherby and District is protected and developed for the benefit of the community of both current and future generations"*

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## Newsletter May 2024

### **MALTKILN UPDATE – PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

A revised Plan document for this new development was submitted by North Yorkshire Council on 27 March 2024. The headline figures are that there will now be **at least 3,000 new homes and a new community of over 8,000 residents**, located only a few miles north-east of Wetherby. The Development Plan submission documents can be viewed on [the Council's website](#):

**The next stage in the process is that there will be an Examination of the Plan by an Independent Planning Inspector in late 2024.** This will be arranged by the Planning Inspectorate.

If this goes ahead, [this huge development](#), only a 10-to-15-minute drive from Wetherby, will undoubtedly have major implications for our local area. Such a large settlement is likely to result in **around 4,500/5,000 additional cars**, placing further strain on our already congested local roads and parking. BW will be closely monitoring the situation over the coming months and report further when the dates of the Planning Inquiry are known.

It was recently announced by the Wetherby-based developers, Caddick Group, that a public consultation will take place between 2pm and 8pm on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May at Kirk Hammerton Village Hall. It presents a good opportunity to learn more about the plans for this huge new settlement, further details can be found at: [www.maltkilnvillage.co.uk/](http://www.maltkilnvillage.co.uk/).

An article about this can also be seen on the [“Stray Ferret” website](#).

### **CONVERSATIONS WITH BETTER WETHERBY**

The Bridge Hotel at Walshford on the evening of 17th April was the venue for a well-attended event hosted by Better Wetherby.



In welcoming people, BW Chair, Roger Owen, emphasised that BW was non-political, and the organisation was committed to working with all sections of the community to achieve positive results for the benefit the town and surrounding villages. He gave an overview of the activities of BW and challenges ahead.

Wetherby Ward Councillor, Alan Lamb, provided an update regarding progress to rebuild Wetherby High School and plans to build a new Sports and Leisure Centre in the school grounds. Councillor Lamb also provided updates about Leeds City Council proposals to introduce parking charges in the town and the situation regarding public transport.

Other topics covered included the major housing developments planned by Taylor Wimpey and Persimmon Homes on Racecourse Approach and the proposed Maltkiln development to build at least 3,000 new homes around Cattal in North Yorkshire, just a few miles from Wetherby.

Directors of BW, Les Tyler and Pete Swales, outlined the need to build upon and sustain this community-led partnership.

Some members of the audience suggested that BW should consider broadening its remit to include seeking solutions to local issues such as the number of vacant shops in the town centre. BW Chair,

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## Newsletter May 2024

Roger Owen, said that Wetherby Town Council and the Business Association, were addressing these matters. However, BW would be pleased to work with them and other local groups to assist where possible.

Following the meeting, Mr Owen said, *“I thank all those who attended. Although many local people are aware of the work of BW, and we now have a circulation list of over 800 for our newsletter, it’s very important that we continue to build upon the achievements of the last few years. We need to ensure that the organisation has the volunteers to help maintain the partnership and allow us to continue efforts to prevent excessive and harmful development over the coming years. It was particularly pleasing that the meeting resulted in a number of people expressing their interest in helping our efforts.”*

### **JOIN US**

If you wish to be included on our mailing list please send a request via our website or by email to [betterwetherby@gmail.com](mailto:betterwetherby@gmail.com). Please feel free to share this newsletter - the more people that are aware of these important local issues, the better.

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