

10209 Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 29th September 2011 at 7.30 p.m. in the MSC Pavilion.

Present

Cllrs. K. Sammons (Chairman), K. Merritt, E. Taylor, J. Walker and J. Wilson and PCSO Kayla Packman 3219 representing the Police.

John Norton.

Clerk R. Medley.

Two members of the public.

(PCSO Packman left at 7.50pm; John Norton at the end of the open session. Both members of the public stayed for the duration of the meeting)

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. Claydon, County Cllr. Midwood and Borough Cllr. Redhead.

2. Minutes of Parish Council meeting on 25th August 2011

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

3.1 Item 8.1.1 of previous minutes – Queens Jubilee Celebrations 2012. The Clerk had spoken to representatives of Women’s Institute, History Society, Memorial Social Centre and the website. All were keen to support a village event. A note had been placed in the ‘What’s On’ newssheet. The topic would be discussed at the next Estates Committee meeting.

3.2 Items 10.5 (Playground on Bury Road) and 11 (Possible divestment of footpaths) of previous minutes. There had been no further progress.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Wilson declared an interest in 9.1.2; Cllr. Sammons in 9.1.3.

OPEN SESSION

5. 5.1 Kelly’s Meadow. There was no further news.

5.2 Police Report. PCSO Kayla Packman reported on local garden machinery being stolen. Thefts of metal were continuing in the area and it was expected that fuel thefts would rise with the onset of winter. A member of the public expressed her concern over Planning Application SE/11/0679 at Meeting Green. A site visit would be made by members of the Development Control Committee on 20th October. John Norton suggested possible uses for redundant telephone booths.

SESSION CLOSED AT 8.27pm

6. Appointment of co-opted councillors and consideration of any further action.

The clerk had received two applications for the two vacancies on the Parish Council. Both applicants, Mr Julian Girling of Meeting Green and Mr Soren Bradbury of Post Office Hill, were invited to join the parish council and both accepted. Mr Girling was appointed as a member of the Estates Committee. The two vacancies for co-opted members on the Estates Committee were unfilled and notices would remain on display.

7. Planning

7.1 Planning applications considered by the Parish Council.

7.1.1 SE/11/1008 Bungalow at Wickhambrook Stores

7.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council

7.2.1 SE/11/0939 Gaines Hall, Atleton Green Erection of extension to grain store Refused

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Chairman

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8. Clerk's Report

8.1 Circulated Documents

8.1.1 Ownership of strip of land near school. The Clerk was awaiting any contact from the school so the matter was held over to the following meeting.

8.1.2 Mobile Libraries consultation. The Clerk offered to complete and return this questionnaire having spoken to local users.

8.1.3 Visit to Viridor Recycling plant. Cllrs. Merritt, Taylor and the Clerk showed interest. A date towards the end of October/early November (not Tuesday) would be requested.

8.2 Other matters

8.2.1 Clerks Holiday. The Clerk would be on holiday from 1st to 12th November. Cllr. Sammons offered to cover.

9. Finance.

9.1 The following payments were approved.

9.1.1 001680 E-On Electricity use in Chapel June to Aug.	7.88
9.1.2 001681 Mdsign Website and internet services	169.50
9.1.3 001682 The Rainbird Partnership Printer cartridges	67.64
9.1.4 001683 HMRC Employer Payments – months 4 to 6	338.20
9.1.5 001684 Anglia and Midland Sports Surfaces Tennis courts resurfacing	16,982.40
9.1.6 001685 R. Medley Salary for September	450.93
9.1.7 DD TalkTalk Broadband payment for September	30.28

9.2 Recent income (for information)

9.2.1 Donation from Tennis Club	10,000.00
9.2.2 Payment for interment plot	290.00

9.3 Other financial matters

9.3.1 Expenditure against forecast (previously circulated) There were no queries.

9.3.2 TalkTalk rental. Councillors agreed to pay the annual rental in advance thus saving some 30% over the twelve month period.

9.3.3 Progress with Audit. The accounts had been returned from the external auditors and would be placed on circulation. Comments included reference to the new system of asset valuation and when rounding up and rounding down figures the column totals must match.

10. Estates Committee Matters (next Estates meeting postponed until 18th)

10.1 Litter Pick on Sunday 23rd October. The Clerk was instructed to confirm all arrangements. Detailed plans would be made at the Estates Committee meeting on 18th October.

10.2 Funeral Biers. The wheeled bier had been valued at between £300 and £500. The Clerk was instructed to obtain further details of the auction service offered by Manders.

10.3 Chapel Rates. Confirmation had been received that a nil payment was due for the period until 31.3.2012.

10.4 Cleaning of war memorial. Cllrs. resolved that Saxon Monumental Craft be asked to clean the memorial before 11th November.

10.5 Offer of Smart meter. Cllrs. resolved to accept the offer of the fitting of a remote measuring device for power consumption in the Chapel.

10.6 Bench in cemetery. The Clerk was instructed to send a letter of appreciation to John Norton who had donated and arranged for installation of the new bench in the cemetery.

11. Draft National Policy Planning Framework. The deadline for comments was 17th October. Cllr. Sammons offered to produce a draft response. Cllrs. proposed different policy conditions for urban and rural areas.

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Chairman

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12. Affordable Housing. Icen Housing had given tentative support to the suggestion that local landowners be asked to nominate suitable sites but had not supplied the requested names and addresses.

13. Reports from representatives of other village organisations.

13.1 URC. The new resident in Alms House 2 was settling in.

14. St Edmundsbury Budget meeting. Cllr. Sammons reported from her visit to West Suffolk House. The Chief Finance Officer had given a presentation which included several possibilities for saving money. Among the suggestions being considered were introducing charges for use of town toilets, car parking charges for blue badge holders, charging for advice on planning applications and introducing an admission charge for entry to Abbey Gardens, curtailing the manning of CCTV cameras, and employing outside, rather than in-house, IT specialists. Cllr. Sammons suggested that Cllrs. complete the householder questionnaire which could be found on the St Edmundsbury website.

15. Correspondence (all had been previously circulated)

15.1 Various LAIS titles. No comments.

15.2 Restructure of Highways and Transport Services.

15.3 Suffolk Contingency Plan pending Dale Farm eviction

15.4 Parish Conference on 20th October at Gt. Whelnetham.

15.5 Email ref: fallen tree from cemetery. Cllrs. accepted full responsibility. Details of remedial action would be agreed at the next Estates meeting.

15.6 Update on changes to Suffolk Trading Services. This document had not been previously circulated but would be placed on circulation.

16. Dates for 2012 meetings.

For Parish Council meetings these were Thursdays 19th Jan., 23rd Feb., 29th March, 26th April, 31st May (Annual Parish Council meeting), 28th June, 26th July, 30th Aug., 27th Sept., 25th Oct., and 29th November. Annual Parish meeting to be held on 15th March.

For Estates Committee meetings – Tuesdays 7th Feb., 10th April, 12th June, 7th Aug., 9th Oct., and 4th December.

Cllrs. approved these dates for the 2012 programme.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 27th October 2011 in MSC Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 9.26 pm.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 29th September 2011.

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Chairman

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Date