

10302 Minutes of the Meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 26th June 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion of MSC Hall

Present

Cllrs. K. Sammons (Chairman), J. Claydon, K. Merritt, J. Walker and J. Wilson.

Borough Cllr. D. Redhead (until 8.20pm)

Clerk R. Medley.

Seven members of the public attended the Open Session and most remained until Item 18 (continued).

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from County Cllr. M. Evans and Cllr. S. Bradbury.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 22nd May 2014

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

3.1 Item 23.2.1 of previous meeting – St Edmundsbury budget focus group meeting. Cllr. Sammons gave a brief summary of the meeting.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Claydon declared an interest in items 6.1.2. and 6.1.3 and Cllr. Wilson in 8.1.2.

5. OPEN SESSION 7.35pm

Police Report. A brief written report revealed that there had been no crimes of note in Wickhambrook over the last month

District Councillor D. Redhead said that considerable time had been spent in committee discussing the Inspector's changes to the Vision 2031 document.

County Cllr. M. Evans in a written report said that Steve Halls of the County Flood Team had been asked to look at the road drains in Cloak Lane, and the drainage system around the chamber at Attleton Green. Steve Halls had obtained agreement from landowners that the brook be cleared before next winter in the hope that there will be no repeat of the flooding of February 2014. The meeting on broadband speeds was being rearranged. Cllr. Evans was enquiring about funding towards Vehicle Activated Signs. Cllrs. instructed the Clerk to obtain further information with particular reference to suitable sites.

Members of the Public raised several points which included the dirty state of many road signs in the Parish, the absence of recent parish council minutes on the website, the overgrown state of some local footpaths and the hazardous situation caused by traffic, particularly school buses, not taking sufficient care when approaching Coltsfoot bridge. The Clerk was instructed to make further enquiries.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION at 8.15pm

6. Planning

6.1 The following applications had been considered by Councillors.

6.1.1 DC/14/0706/FUL Exchange House, Wash Lane. Two bedroom dwelling.

6.1.2 DC/14/0796/VAR Gaines Hall, Attleton Green. Removal of landscaping.

6.1.3 DC/14/0797/VAR Gaines Hall, Attleton Green. Removal of landscaping.

6.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the District Council.

6.2.1 SE/14/0525/HH Old Vicarage, Church Road. Erection of two bay cart lodge and wood store.
Granted

6.3 Any other planning matters

6.3.1 The Plumbers Arms at Wickham Street. No further information was forthcoming.

6.3.2 Response to Vision 2031 – Inspector's changes. Cllrs. were disappointed that there was no obvious opportunity to address issues of concern e.g. the capacity of the sewage system.

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Chairman

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Date

7. Clerk’s Report.

- 7.1 Circulated documents.
 - 7.1.1 Clerks & Councils Direct. Cllr. Wilson suggested that poppies and/or a small memorial garden be considered to commemorate the centenary of World War 1. Cllrs. supported the suggestion. Details would be decided by the Estates Committee.
 - 7.1.2 Community Led Planning. In the absence of Cllr. Bradbury this matter was postponed.
- 7.2 Other matters.
 - 7.2.1 Clerk’s holiday – 26th July to 4th August. Cllr. Sammons offered to provide cover.

8. Finance.

- 8.1 The following payments were approved.

8.1.1 001951 Acacia Tree Surgery Ltd. Tree work	522.00
8.1.2 001952 Mdsign Internet Services March to May	169.50
8.1.3 001953 Womens Institute. Hire of Hall	7.50
8.1.4 001954 HMRC Employer payments	363.80
8.1.5 001955 R. Medley Purchase of printer cartridges	40.58
8.1.6 001956 R. Medley. Salary for June	485.38
8.1.7 DD BT Phone rental in June	28.81
8.1.8 DD BT Broadband services April to June	67.20
- 8.2 The following income was noted.

8.2.1 Wickhambrook Day Club	555.52
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- 8.3 Other financial matters
 - 8.3.1 To discuss the possibility of increasing the Clerk’s salary by one increment. This matter was postponed because incorrect figures had been provided.

9. Audit

- 9.1 Recommendations from Internal Auditor.
- 9.2 Completion of Annual Report for External Audit.
 - Both items were postponed because the accounts were still with the Internal Auditor.

10. Highway Matters

- 10.1 Footbridge across the ford in Wash Lane. Sections of two sleepers had fallen into the water. Protective fencing had been erected and Highways had been informed that a repair was necessary.
- 10.2 Improved lighting on the footpath from MSC to Browns Close. There had been no progress.

11. Estates Matters (Draft minutes had been circulated)

- 11.1 Bury Road playground – signing of transfer document. Cllrs. were awaiting confirmation that no underground services crossed the area.
- 11.2 Carnival permission/s. Cllrs. agreed that the ‘six acres’ could be used for the Carnival providing that the organisers had arranged full insurance and any damage to the surface was repaired after use. Cllrs. were happy to pay the suggested amount of £371.28 for St John Ambulance First Aid cover.
- 11.3 Replacement dog bin. The bin in the corner of the MSC car park was rusting away and had been removed. A new one had been placed on a post between MSC and W.I. It was hoped that the MSC would make a contribution towards the cost of £168.67.
- 11.4 Future of the Bowls Club. John Smithson, Parks Operations Manager for West Suffolk, had visited the green on 19th June and suggested that if support for the Bowls Club continued to decline that croquet be considered as an alternative.
- 11.5 Sufficient insurance cover for ‘six acres’. A parishioner had suggested that anyone flying model planes should have their cover checked. The Clerk was asked to discuss with Aon Allianz.

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Chairman

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Date

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12. Amendments to Standing Orders. This item would be carried over to the next meeting.

13. Adoption of Suffolk Code of Conduct. Cllrs. resolved to adopt the revised version dated June 2014.

14. Proposed changes to the Scene. In the absence of Cllr. Bradbury this item was postponed.

15. Developments with village organisations.

15.1 Youth Club Rejuvenation. At a meeting of Vince Harvey, Jessica Hulbert, Dee Hayward and the Clerk on 20th June it had been suggested that a flier be attached to the July edition of the 'What's On' to ask what potential members wanted. Vince Harvey hoped to have a stand at the Village Carnival.

15.2 Day Centre alternative. A meeting was held on 23rd June. Jessica Hulbert, Gavin Hodge of Age UK (Suffolk), Gladys Alexander, Sam Reid (Falls Prevention Exercise Co-ordinator) and the Clerk attended. It was agreed that the Otago programme be offered in conjunction with the Surgery and that a questionnaire be sent round to ask what was needed. Neighbouring villages could be involved.

16. Affordable Housing. A meeting had been arranged for Monday 30th June. Those involved would be Stephen Wood and Peter White from the St Edmundsbury Planning Department, Debbie Wildridge, Community Land Trust Manager, County Cllr. Mary Evans, District Cllr. Derek Redhead, and Cllrs. Kate Sammons and Julian Wilson and the Clerk.

17. Reports from representatives from other village organisations

17.1 United Reform Charities. Cllr. Wilson said that the repainting of the exterior of the Alms Houses in Suffolk Pink had been completed. He asked about a possible trip hazard in the Churchyard

18. Vacancies on Parish Council. The three applicants were asked to say why they were interested in joining the Council. Councillors agreed to make a decision at the end of the formal meeting.

19. Correspondence

19.1 Cllrs. agreed to submit a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act asking the Government to give all town and parish councils the right to sell electricity generated from local schemes.

19.2 The Clerk was instructed to complete the questionnaire provided by the Rural Housing Policy Review Group.

18. (continued) Vacancies on Parish Council

Cllrs. agreed to appoint Paul Couzens and John Norton as councillors.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 24th July 2014

Meeting closed at 9.37 pm

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 26th June 2014.

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Chairman

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Date