

# **Wacton Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Wacton Village Hall.**

**At 6pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

**Present: - Chair: Ian Mortimer. Councillors: Peter Jacques, Peter Fraser, Gary Mulhall, Laura Dolton**

**District Councillor: Barry Duffin.**

**Nine members of the public was also present.**

## **Public Participation.**

No public participation at the meeting

### **1. To consider apologies for absence.**

The Clerk, Felicity Perry and Alison Thomas sent their apologies, and all agreed to Accept. The Chairman asked for a volunteer to take the minutes and Councillor Pete Fraser undertook the role

### **2. To receive any disclosures of interest.**

No disclosures of interest declared

### **3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting

**Proposed: Gary Mulhall**

**Seconded: Peter Fraser**

### **4. To consider matters arising from the last minutes (for information only).**

None reported.

### **5. To receive a report from the County Councillor.**

County Councillor Alison Thomas gave no report

### **6. To receive a report from the District Councillor.**

Barry reported as follows

Long Stratton Bypass progressing - with committee in May and then expected to progress (the new housing is included in this).

Member of public asked if new housing would have charging points for electric cars - Barry did not know.

Additional funding/grant discussions ongoing between Barry and Alan - for play equipment, etc.

**7. To receive the Footpath Wardens report.**

The Footpath Warden did not have a report for the meeting. But a point was raised that we have issues with many footpaths and need a footpath warden to undertake the role

**8. To receive a report from the Tree Warden.**

Peter Jacques confirmed inspection conducted and recommended going with the quote provided for suggested work.

**Proposed Laura Dolton Seconded Ian Mortimer.**

**9. To receive a report from the Village Hall Committee.**

No report from the Village Hall committee

**10. To receive an update on the flooding issues at Victoria Cottages and the Village Pond.**

No report regarding this issue

**11. To consider Planning applications.**

No Planning applications to be discussed

**12. Correspondence.**

Due to the clerk being unable to attend due to his impending surgery there was no Correspondence detailed at this point

**13. Authorisation of Cheques.**

**1. Finance**

Payment of Clerks monthly salary and expenses	£663.29
Payment to Norfolk Pension Service	
For Clerks pension	£212.12
Payment to NPTS for Annual Subscription	£185.67
Payment to Play Inspection Company for annual Inspection	£83.40
Payment to Terry Cheeseman for Tree Survey	£540.00
Payment to 02 for clerks mobile phone	£12.73
Plusnet broadband service D/D	£ 29.54

**Proposed: Peter Fraser**

**Seconded: Laura Dolton**

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council was in good financial health and produced an up-to-date financial report.

The clerk also reported that he had submitted the annual accounts for Internal Audit and they would be back in time for the May Meeting when they would be signed off

#### **14. Report of ongoing matters.**

- **Woodland Project**  
Quote received from GLS for maintenance/repairs. Peter J. recommends we proceed (to be conducted later in May).  
**Proposed Ian Mortimer      Seconded Gary Mulhall**
- **Good Neighbour Scheme.**  
The clerk produced a report he had emailed to all councillors and it was agreed to get this moving asap with CAN and the clerk will do this asap.
- **Well on the green**  
To be looked at in the summer
- **To discuss and agree the Wix proposal for a new Wix website for the Parish Council**  
The clerk had contacted Steve Jackman and this was now being built
- **Councillor and Clerk Training**  
The clerk had booked himself onto Year end training due to the new legislation coming into force and the costs would be shared with Tharston and Hapton Parish Council
- **To discuss Broadband Proposals**  
This is ongoing
- **To discuss Queens Platinum Jubilee**  
A discussion around event on 4th June coordinated by Gary took place and the following items were in place. Bar, toilets, food, music, etc., are all in-hand. There will be an ice-cream van. Afternoon teas are being ordered from Sainsbury. Also, an application has been submitted to enable the Common Road to be closed for the duration of the event.

#### **15. To receive details of Parish Speed Watch.**

At the last session thirty vehicles were recorded at over 35mph. However, the session was curtailed by the weather. There are limited numbers of volunteers and most are older people. Suggested that more volunteers over a wider age-range are recruited. The findings have been submitted to Norfolk Police and the clerk was thanked for his help with submitting the SAM data to the speed watch group

#### **16. To discuss the need for New Parish Councillors.**

We still need councillors but are in a better position than we were a few weeks ago and the councillors were urged to lobby parishioners they knew to see if they would like to join the council asap.

#### **17. Matters raised by Councillors and members of the public (for information only)**

Peter Jacques raised the condition of the bridge leading to the Woodland Project. He has proposed that a working party should conduct remedial work. Ronseal produce a suitable dark oak treatment that can be painted directly on to "green" surfaces.

**18. Public Participation**

A discussion ensued on the issue with the delay on the provision of service by County Broadband and when the service will be installed. Much Frustration was on display but the Parish Council reminded the parishioners that their contracts are with County Broadband and the council would contact County Broadband on this urgently and seek clarification when the service will be installed plus if not soon can parishioners break their contract. It was also mentioned that B4RN treats their customers in a better way. The Chairman will talk with The Clerk for him to speak with County Broadband

**20. Items for next Agenda.**

**Policies update  
Broadband Issues**

Meeting closed at 6.28 pm.

Next Parish Council Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Annual Meeting of the Parish 6.00pm

Annual Parish Meeting 6.30pm