

Wacton Parish Council

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

At 6.04 pm on Wednesday 5th June 2024.

Present: - Chair: Gary Mulhall. Councilors: Pete Fraser, Felicity Perry. Kat Ireson arrived 6.23pm

Parish Clerk: Alan Arber

One members of the public were also present.

The chair asked the meeting to take a minutes to remember our fallen heroes for D-Day

1. Public participation.

No public participation noted.

2. To consider apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Kat Ireson who would be late All agreed to accept.

3. To receive any disclosures of interest.

Gary Mulhall for two payments in item 11 all agreed.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st May 2024

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting with one small amendment.

Proposed: Felicity Perry

Seconded: Pete Fraser

5. To receive a report from the County Councillor.

No report Received

6. To receive a report from the District Councillor.

Kim Carsok gave the following report

Updates from SNC following our AGM:

- Daniel Elmer was voted in as the new Leader (formerly Deputy Leader)
- The new Chairman is Cllr Sharon Blundell (formerly Vice Chair)
- I remain on the cabinet, looking after the Health & Leisure portfolio.

The Community Action Fund deadline is 30th June so do let me know if you would like to submit any projects for that. We can submit applications for funding between £1,000 and £20,000.

I suspect we won't have too many substantive updates until after the election but will keep you in the loop of anything.

7. To receive a report from the footpath warden

No report as we have no footpath warden

8. To receive a report from the Village Hall Management moving forward.

No report received

9. To consider Planning applications.

Planning application 2024/1272 The Old Neathouse, Wilderness farm barns Church road Wacton replacement of 9 Existing wood frame windows with wooden flush casement windows painted light grey

Parish Council supported the application

Planning application 2024/0881 The Old Granary, Wilderness Farm Barns, Church Road Wacton. Proposed picket Fence including two gates to the front of the property, replace and relocate Oil Tank

Parish Council supported this application

10. Correspondence.

Planning application 2024/0881 received and circulated for councillors to look at

Planning application 2024/1272 received and circulated for councillors to look at

Year end submitted to PKF Littlejohn

Nalc and NPTS training emails received

Pride in place grant details received on what other councils are doing with their monies

Bills for the completion of the bus shelter book exchange received

New noticeboard ordered for the front of the village hall

New noticeboard received

Free king picture received for the village to be put up

Clerks Networking attended

Churchyard Grant application received

Parish Meetings all booked in for the rest of 2024-2025

Big Litter Pick details submitted to SNDC

Solicitors engaged for sale of small parcel of land/Driveway on the green

Long Stratton Bypass notification of start received

Emails on notices on Common Road from parishioners

Notification of defib being used which turned out to be false

Request to contact Kim Carsok for funding to put first aid training on for the village hall

Deadline for community awards evening notified

Notification that Parish council Insurance is in place and for three years

Grit bin audit completed

Website issues with payment solved and new credit card added to payments page for future billing

Notice of Felicity resignation received

Elections notified of Felicity Perry resignation

Notification that we can co-opt from election received

11. Authorisation of Payments.

1. Receipts

No Receipts in May

2. Finance

- To approve payment of Clerks Salary and expenses for May £645.16
- To approve payment to Norfolk Pension for Clerks Pension May £211.92
- To approve payment to Mulbee solutions General maintenance £110.00
- To approve payment to HMRC for Tax and NI May £101.51
- Credit card monthly charge May £3.00
- To approve payment to Excite for Grass Cutting April £457.80
- To approve payment to O2 for clerk's mobile April £12.47
- To approve payment to BT for Broadband for defib May £32.53
- To approve payment to Mulbee solutions for Bus shelter £1315.00
- To approve payment to KBS for new Noticeboard £541.20
- To approve payment Excite for Grass Cutting May £457.80
- To approve payment to Viking for ink and Stationery £137.53
- To approve payment to Wix for website on Credit card £TBA

Proposed: Felicity Perry

Seconded: Pete Fraser

The council are in a healthy position with the bank balance showing at 1st June being £18,764.70 and after today's payments the balance will be £14,738.78 but we still await the credit card bill so this may change before minutes finalised.

The clerk also noted that we have a VAT reclaim of £517.99 to reclaim at the end of June which helps

12. Report on ongoing matters.

- **Woodland Project and damaged Bridge**

Woodland is looking genuinely nice thick and dense undergrowth that needs a trim back on the path hedges and this will be held off till we get the bridge work done asap. It was thought just the top decking needs doing and questions were raised on closing off the whole bridge area. It was proposed that we do a solid closure of the bridge area and the whole area.

- **Councillor and Clerk Training**

The Clerk needs to get everyone on the gov.uk email system asap and can this be done by the end of June please? It was also noted that the NPTS autumn seminar will be held on Friday 18th October with details to follow.

- **To discuss the Book Exchange project**

This is nearly completed but still a small amount of work to do and it is tiled back and front and half the inner ceiling needs finishing. Lots of positive comments on the work done so far

- **New Benches**

Questions were raised on this and it was agreed to defer this until July meeting..

- **Gov.uk Email Addresses for councillors**

The clerk commented that he is attending the free training next week and it is hoped we can implement these asap as we have the passwords to move things forward.

- **Biodiversity**

The clerk is working on this, along with a climate emergency policy as well and will report to the council once year end is completed and should be at June Meeting..

- **Damaged Play equipment and replacement**

This will be looked at after year end is completed. The damaged play equipment has been removed and the car park sign has again been vandalized and removed. We will look at CAF funding for this.

- **Purchase of Apple/Pear Trees**

It was agreed to defer this till the autumn.

- **New Noticeboard**

The new noticeboard has been received and will be put up asap but in a better location by the path to the village hall entrance, with the old one being moved to blacks meadow

- **Land Sale**

A parishioner has requested to purchase a small parcel of land (his drive) on the village green near the pond. The process has started, and the parishioner is paying all costs and a donation to the parish council once all is complete.

13. Matters arising

Nothing raised at present

Question raised on the gate not being closed and was there a sign to ask for the gate to be closed. Chair to look at this issue.

Small gate is on a spring.

Caps for the orchard fencing to be done

Existing benches need a good clean by a pressure washer and will be unbolted and removed to get this done, repaired and stained.

14. To receive details of Parish Speed Watch.

The Sam 2 data has been downloaded today as the SAM machine was sited on Hall Lane coming into the village from Great Moulton and has now been turned round to capture the data leaving the village to great Moulton.

This months report is a lot better with the average speed being 31.6 mph and with a maximum speed of 55 mph being registered on 14/3 at 5.45am.

The number of cars using the road coming into the village in the 2 months was a whopping 45337, which I find amazing and also worrying. We average just over 1300 vehicles coming into the village from great Moulton daily (only one way).

Report will be sent to the police in the coming days.

The Met police are currently doing training in and around the local villages

The speed watch group gave the following report

19. To discuss the need for New Parish Councillors.

We may be co-opting a new parish councilor in July as Felicity leaves, and more councillors are needed

20. Public Participation

The road in Long Stratton has is dangerous and the parishioner should contact Long Stratton on this matter and Highways as soon as possible.

21. Items for the next Agenda

Co-option of Councillor

Policies

Play Equipment

The meeting ended at 6.38pm.

Next Parish Council Meeting will be 5th June at 6pm