

Wacton Parish Council

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

At 6pm on Wednesday 8th June 2022.

Present: - Chair: Ian Mortimer. Councillors: Peter Jacques, Peter Fraser, Gary Mulhall, Felicity Perry, Kat Marshall

2 members of the public was also present.

Public Participation.

The Parish Council was thanked for the event on Saturday for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations and everyone was thanked.

1. To consider apologies for absence.

Ian Mortimer sent his apologies. All agreed to accept and Vice Chairman Pete Fraser was made chairman for the meeting.

2. To receive any disclosures of interest.

Gary Mulhall for a payment in item 14
Kat Marshall for a payment in item 14

All agreed to accept

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th May 2022

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting

Proposed: Peter Jacques

Seconded: Gary Mulhall

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 her report as follows that Norfolk had done so well with the covid issues especially around track and trace, Testing and vaccinations Alison will also be chairing a new committee on issues specific to south Norfolk in the future and around Mental health and they will be looking at improving mental health provision. There will also be a scrutiny with Suffolk and hoping this will improve with Men only in Suffolk and Women only in Norfolk. This is a substantial change and

variation in the way they do this as there used to be mixed wards that held challenges and may risks.

Alison also thanked the council for the great event they held for the Queens Platinum Jubilee

Alison also reported that she had her Highways budget should we need help on this

Alison also reported that she had spoken to Frances Salway the footpath officer on the issues with Hayntons Lane at the long Stratton end as its overgrown and it is hoped this will be done soon.

Peter asked a question on Common Road if it could be cut again as it is a roadside nature reserve on one side and the other needs cutting.

6. To receive a report from the District Councillor.

Barry was not in attendance and sent no report.

7. To receive the Footpath Wardens report.

Felicity Perry has volunteered for the role and all agreed to accept

8. To receive a report from the Tree Warden.

Peter Jacques had nothing to report

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

Village Hall committee gave the following report.

In the Spring of 2021, our Village Hall, and its activities, was still subject to covid restrictions. This Spring we have been successful in welcoming back existing hirers and welcoming some new ones as well. A new website was commissioned so that we have a better booking system and public presence on the internet. We now have a regular weekly cleaner and a regular six-weekly window cleaner. The old heating system is unreliable and inadequate for our users' needs so we are planning to replace it as soon as possible. The Committee is also looking at using grant funding to ensure that the fabric and fundamental services within the building are renewed or improved to safeguard the future operation of the Village Hall for the community. This is still in its early stages. The Committee has agreed with Wacton Social Club that the club can provide some permanent outdoor seating at the front of the Village Hall. The Committee would welcome applications from the community to be a Village Hall Trustee and we are still looking for someone who would like to take over the Village Hall booking arrangements

10. To adopt the new standing orders and Financial Regulations for 2022-2023

The clerk reported that he had updated these and they are now the new version and will be added to the new website once it is up and running

Proposed Gary Mulhall

Seconded Pete Fraser

11. To receive and approve the Parish Insurance for 2022-2023

The clerk commented that the new insurance details had been received and meet the standards we need for the parish council this year and are the same as last year but with the new play area equipment added.

Proposed Felicity Perry

Seconded Pete Fraser

12. To consider Planning applications.

No Planning applications to be discussed

13. Correspondence.

The clerk reported that he had mainly received emails on selling items for the Queens Platinum jubilee.

Insurance details received

Hayntons lane blocked from Long Stratton end

New website to be completed

National Power Green East Project

Clerks Training emails

14. Authorisation of Cheques.

1. Finance

Payment of Clerks monthly salary and expenses	£519.73
Payment to Norfolk Pension Service	
For Clerks pension	£182.80
Payment to Gary Mulhall for Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations	£377.46
Payment to Hoggies for Hog Roast	£450.00
Payment to NPTS for clerks planning training	£44.00
Payment to HMRC for 3 months Tax and NI	£388.20
Payment to Gallagher for Parish Council Insurance	£497.51
Payment to 02 for Clerks Mobile	£26.22
Plusnet broadband service D/D	£32.28

Proposed: Felicity Perry

Seconded: Garry Mulhall

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council was in good financial health and produced an up-to-date financial report. The current balance after the payments are made at today's meeting is £27,324.16

15. Report of ongoing matters.

- **Woodland Project**
GLS to be contacted as the pond is dry and the tree removed from the pond asap as conditions are suitable at present
- **Good Neighbour Scheme.**
The clerk has set up a meeting to get this moving on Thursday 16th June.
- **Councillor and Clerk Training**
Planning Training has been booked and Excel training is in the process of being booked. The clerk also asked for permission to book his place at the annual SLCC conference at Hinkley on 2-3 November with the costs being split between his other councils as normal. Book Kat and Felicity on New Councillor Training asap
- **To discuss Broadband Proposals**
Nothing to report despite the Parish Clerk chasing County Broadband. It is not a Council matter. The Clerk's letter was read out to the room. All communication from the Parish Council comes from the Clerk, but only the parishioners can escalate matters. Other parishioners have chased independently.
- **To discuss Queens Platinum Jubilee**
Gary Mulhall gave the following report
The clerk reported that he had received very favorable comments on the event and The event was a great success and the costs are around £1090 with the vat to be re claimed will bring us in budget.
A thank you also to Maurice for the help with the bins and the painting.
It is hoped to run an event on August Bank Holiday and Hoggies can be at this too. Details to be finalised with the whole village again involved.
- **Agree Dates for Parish Council Meetings**
The clerk Produced a copy of the proposed dates for the meetings to take place for 2022-2023

Proposed Pete Fraser

Seconded Laura Dolton

- **Parish Equipment and Storage**

Currently Peter Jacques has a generator, Hedge cutter, Strimmer, and other items and from the end of this month will need a new home and the clerk will check with the village hall committee. It was agreed to check if the one is already our storage.

16. Matters raised by councillors and members of the public (for information only)

The gates on the playground are not damaged and need replacing and the fence on blacks meadow to be removed and we need to look at the on the play area. The clerk will check with GLS on this asap.

Proposed Peter Jacques Seconded Pete Fraser

A proposal to get a portable jet wash for help with cleaning.

Wash Lane 30 mph signs need replacing

Speak to Alison Thomas on speed repeater signs for the village

The Well on the Green needs renovating.

A bigger dog bin for the green

Social Club events

Environment agency on the ditch outside the village hall

17. To receive details of Parish Speed Watch.

No report

18. To discuss the need for New Parish Councillors.

Although we have a suitable number of councillors, we will be losing Peter Jacques Soon. We need to remain on the lookout for potential councillors going forward.

19. Items for next Agenda.

Wash lane signs
Training for new councillors
Portable pressure washer
Suitable shed for equipment
The well on the green

Meeting closed at 7.06 pm.

Next Parish Council Meetings 6th July 2022