

Wacton Parish Council

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

At 7pm on Wednesday 8th September 2021.

Present: - Chair: Ian Mortimer. Councillors: Piers Blaikie, Peter Jacques, Peter Fraser, Laura Dolton.

County Councillor: Alison Thomas. District Councillor: Barry Duffin.

No members of the public were also present.

Public Participation.

No public participation at the meeting.

1. To Vote a new Chairman for the council

Ian Mortimer was elected as the new chairman of the council and duly signed the acceptance of office forms witnessed by the clerk.

Proposed. Piers Blaikie

Seconded. Peter Jacques

2. To Receive the resignations of Calvin Goreham and Paul Muston

All noted and agreed to accept

3. To consider apologies for absence.

No apologies were received as all Councillors in attendance.

4. To receive any disclosures of interest.

None received.

5. To discuss the co-option of a new Councillor

Laura Introduced herself to the council and gave a quick resume of the reasons for joining the council

All Agreed to co-opt

Proposed Ian Mortimer

Seconded. Peter Fraser

6. New Councillor to sign the Acceptance of Office Forms and the Register of interests forms.

These were witnessed by The Clerk and Laura joined the meeting.

7. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd March 2021 via Zoom. Also 5th May Working party Meeting held on Zoom.

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting

Proposed: Peter Jacques Seconded: Pete Fraser.

8. To consider matters arising from the last minutes (for information only).

None reported.

9. To receive a report from the County Councillor.

County Councillor Alison Thomas was not in attendance, so no report received.

10. To receive a report from the District Councillor.

Barry Duffin reported that even though the pandemic was easing the Long Stratton Help Hub was still working to assist parishioners and that it was only a phone call away.

Barry then commented that South Norfolk Council would also find difficulties in meeting when the zoom legislation finishes but would keep the council informed.

11. To receive the Footpath Wardens report.

The Footpath Warden did not have a report for the meeting.

12. To note the replacement for the Footpath Warden.

Angie Baldwin has taken on this role and the clerk commented that he will give Angie every assistance in the role

13. To receive a report from the Tree Warden.

Peter Jacques commented that he had nothing to report for the meeting.

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

Peter Jacques commented that he had nothing to report for the meeting. Calvin commented that the issue with the riverbank collapsing outside the village hall was being looked at by The Environment Agency with a view to a soft solution. If the Council apply for a hard solution to the issue The Environment Agency had commented that it would cost the council £400 to gain permission but this was not guaranteed to be granted.

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

16. To consider Planning applications.

No Planning applications were received.

17. Correspondence.

All correspondence sent through by email to councillors.

18. Authorisation of Cheques.

Payment of Clerks monthly salary and expenses	£610.06
Payment to Norfolk Pension Service	
For Clerks pension	£168.52
Payment to CGM for Grass Cutting	£367.06
Payment to 02 for clerks mobile phone	£ 9.73
Plusnet broadband service D/D	£ 29.54

Proposed: Ian Mortimer. Seconded: Peter Jacques.

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 the council had received the following receipts in June/July and August

Wayleaves payment from County Broadband	£1000.00
Grant from Adnams	£592.95
Vat Reclaim	£1023.31

The clerk also produced a budget report and bank reconciliations to show the councillors the financial situation and that the books balance perfectly

19. Report of ongoing matters.

- **Woodland Project**
Peter Jacques reported that he had not heard back from the student regarding his request to study hedgehogs in the woodland project.
- **Children's multi-play equipment.**
We had received the grant of £592.95 from Adnams and with the latest HMRC rebate we had ordered the new swings to replace the old ones.
We are still awaiting a decision from Saffron on the £5000 grant to replace the multi play when possible. A decision is due any day.
- **County Broadband and Installation of roadside cabinets.**
Calvin Goreham last job before leaving the council was to negotiate the £1000 wayleave payment for the broadband boxes for the council and this was being added to the total to allow the new swings to be purchased also.
- **Good Neighbour Scheme.**
The clerk had worked on this in the background as using the model that

Tivetshall PC had done he had worked on our plan to match theirs.
Each Councillor was given a copy of the plan to study, make comments back to
The Clerk as we need to decide on the plan at the October meeting and agree to
adopt this ASAP for the good of the village

20. To receive details of Parish Speed Watch.

The Clerk reported that the new SAM machine was now here and that he had collected it from Westcotec to save any further delays and the SAM machine was sited on hall Lane as you come into the village and will be downloaded soon to get the information for the next meeting.

21. To discuss the need for New Parish Councillors.

It was known that one more person has commented that he would like to join the council and The Clerk passed and application form to Piers to give to the prospective Councillor who we hope can co-opt at the October meeting if suitable.

22. Matters raised by Councillors and members of the public (for information only)

23. Items for next Agenda.

Public participation

Meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Next Parish Council Meeting 6th October at 7pm.