

Wacton Parish Council

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

At 6pm on Wednesday 5th April 2023.

Present: - Chair Gary Mulhall. Councilors: Pete Fraser, Laura Dolton and Felicity Perry

Parish Clerk: Alan Arber

Six members of the public was also present plus County Councilor Alison Thomas

Public Participation

1. To agree a chairman for the meeting

It was agreed that Gary Mulhall would chair the meeting.

2. To consider apologies for absence.

Ian Mortimer and Kat Marshall sent their apologies all agreed to accept.

3. To receive any disclosures of interest.

No disclosures declared.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st March 2023

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed: Felicity Perry

Seconded: Pete Fraser

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

None reported.

6. To receive a report from the County Councillor.

County Councillor Alison Thomas gave the following report.

Long Stratton bypass application passed in March and is progressing to the request for contractors to undertake the project and it is hoped these will be known by late 2023 with a start date of mid 2024 and the end date of late 2025. There are a few issues to be resolved with a change in some of the drainage channels and talks with the Integrated Care board being planned as initial plans were discussed with the Clinical Commissioning Group before it became the Integrated Care Board, and these talks are around GP surgery provision.

Patricia Hewitt a former MP is the chair of the Integrated Care Board in Norfolk, and she is hoping that she can have more luck in ensuring services are better helped in Norfolk especially around the scrutiny of the walk-in centre in Norwich and GP services in the whole of Norfolk.

Finally, GP surgeries can no longer say they have no appointments available and must sign post people who cannot get an appointment to either 111 or to the walk in centres.

Finally Alison commented that she is standing down as a district councillor in our area but hopefully will continue as a county councillor after the elections.

7. To receive a report from the District Councillor.

Bary Duffin is in a pre-election period and will be standing down as our district Councillor. The clerk was asked to send a letter to Barry thanking him for his help.

8. To receive the Footpath Wardens report.

The Footpath warden is stepping down and we need to find a new footpath warden.

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

No report from Village Hall committee

10. To consider Planning applications.

Planning applications as follows

No Planning Received

11. Correspondence.

Nalc Training courses

Elections details taken in

Plusnet bill received.

O2 bill for clerk's mobile received.

J shave correspondence and quotes received

New Website upgraded.

King's coronation grant declined.

Email to councillors on looking at new dog bin to order.

External Audit Forms received.

Year-end bank reconciliation completed.

AGAR completed for Internal Audit

ICO registration in place and payment to be taken later this month.

Word and Excel Training completed.

Essential Seminar attended.

NPTS training information received.

Emails from Long Stratton Town Council on a shared Speed watch campaign

Multi-pay card application completed and should with us any day now.

Battery changed in SAM machine but download to be done for next meeting.

Email regarding upgrading the new website so it appears on google (add to May agenda for discussion)

Play area installed and all good

Play Inspection report received (for discussion at next meeting)

Emails regarding the issue raised by a parishioner and meeting attended and details noted and emailed to resident

12. Authorisation of Payments.

1. Finance

Payment of Clerks monthly salary and expenses January	£589.18
Payment to Norfolk Pension Service for Clerks pension January	£192.13
Payment to HMRC for Tax and NI	£127.57
Payment for Viking Stationery	£18.80
Payment to 02 for Clerks Mobile	£10.49
Payment to Plusnet for broadband charges	£32.28

Proposed: Gary Mulhall

Seconded: Pete Fraser

- a). To receive the Year-end Report

The clerk had produced a year end bank reconciliation for 2022-23 and the final figure carried forward was £15248.17.

- b). To receive and approve Section 1 of The AGAR Annual Governance Statements 2022-2023

The clerk took the councillors through the statements as was required by law and it was all agreed the answers given were correct and noted on the AGAR and then Minuted as required.

Proposed Felicity Perry

Seconded Pete Fraser

- c). To receive and approve Section 2 of The AGAR Accounting Statements 2022-2023

The clerk took the meeting through the statements, and all agreed these were correct and noted on the AGAR and minuted as required.

Proposed Gary Mulhall

Seconded Pete Fraser

13. Report of ongoing matters.

- **Litter Pick**

The clerk commented that he had arranged Litter Pick Sticks and Hi-Viz Jackets and the date agreed was Sunday 23rd April from noon onwards and members of public will be invited to take part. Litter pick sticks, Hi-Viz and Bags. Meet Village Hall at Noon. Clerk to put on the website.

- **Woodland Project**

Tree survey will be done in 2024. Ongoing maintenance is being done by a Councillor and giving the area a general tidy up. A nature trail to be looked at utilizing tree trunk to make a balance beam in the area.

- **Councillor and Clerk Training**

The clerk is looking to book his annual clerks conference asap to ensure his place.

- **To discuss Defibrillator Training**

The clerk is awaiting dates to get this booked in, but the cost is expensive, and the clerk is looking to get a DVD to do our own training.

- **Ditch at Village Hall**

The environment agency has detailed they are due to visit, and councillors had been sent the email and |The clerk asked councillors to keep an eye out for when they arrive to ensure the work is carried out correctly.

- **Dog bin on Sallow Lane**

The clerk commented that we would be ordering a new dog bin asap to be installed on the post.

- **Coronation Event**

The Village Hall Committee have agreed to let the event be held in the hall should it rain at no cost to the parish council, As yet we have not received a reply from the Social club on the bar from the clerk original email and we will recontact them to ask the question again. The date is the 29th of July 2pm till 6pm

- **To agree the parish maintenance contractor and schedule of works**

Deferred to May Meeting

- **To agree the purchase of a new waste bin**

All agreed bin to be moved to play area carpark from the copse. All agreed to do this.

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

Parishioner asked regarding another dog bin at the top of church road as this is needed. It was agreed to get costs asap and circulate for agreement at the next meeting.

Potholes in the parish are bad and it's noted that one is marked to be done.

Grass cutting by the footpath sign near the footbridge (clerk to speak with Excite)

Grass cutting not great today and the clerk to speak to the contractor on this and on mulching.

Hayntons lanes footpath needs cutting back but needs talking to Long Stratton Town Council on this.

15. To receive details of Parish Speed Watch.

The clerk will download the SAM machine for the next meeting. No volunteers needed at present.

Pictures of the sign on Sallow Lane.

Hall Lane out of the village the last house on the left it was agreed to look at this next week.

Speed watch 19th April big meeting at Morley Hall of all speed watch volunteers

It was asked why the council meetings are not advertised the meetings on the sextons wheel.

15. To discuss the need for New Parish Councillors.

The clerk commented the parish will have an uncontested election but there is still a need to try and get a new councilor to co-opt to make up the numbers to 7 as needed. We will adopt the new code of conduct.

16. Items for next Agenda.

Jobs around the village

Mess around the green around the parking area and a bin on the green

Play Area report.

Upgrading the website

Sexton's wheel

New dog bin

Speed signs on hall lane

Meeting closed at 6.50 pm.

Next Parish Council Meetings 10th May 5.30pm Annual Meeting of The Parish

10th May 6.00pm Annual Parish Meeting

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