

10022

**Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council  
23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion**

**Present**

Cllrs. S. Sumner (Chairman), P. Bevan, J. Claydon, A. Harrison, K. Merritt, J. Wilson.  
County Cllr. J. Midwood.  
Clerk R. Medley.  
M. Sumner representing Neighbourhood Watch.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Cllr. J. Walker, Community Police Officer B. McKenna and Borough Cllr. D. Redhead.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

These were signed as a correct record.

**3. Matters Arising.**

There was none.

**4. Declarations of interest in agenda items.**

Cllrs. Merritt and Harrison declared an interest in item 19.

**5. Reports from County Cllr, Community Beat Officer and Neighbourhood Watch representative.**

5.1 Cllr. Midwood reported that:

- 5.1.1 The Council Tax increase in 2006/7 would be 4.5% and it had been held at this level by making 10% efficiency savings on all budget headings.
- 5.1.2 The regular parking of cars on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school had been reported to PC McKenna.
- 5.1.3 Complaints had been received from parishioners about the increase in numbers of large vehicles and empty buses on minor roads, faded white lines, and potential and actual flooding.

5.2 M. Sumner of Neighbourhood Watch reported:

- 5.2.1 A co-ordinator had been appointed for Moor Green Close. Volunteers were still needed in other areas.
- 5.2.2 She and PC McKenna had visited the Day Centre on 23<sup>rd</sup> February to increase awareness and promote the Nominated Neighbour scheme.
- 5.2.3 A Beat surgery had been arranged for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March in the W.I Hall at 11.00 a.m. This opportunity would be offered at monthly intervals on a trial basis.
- 5.2.4 Catherine Bennett of the Suffolk Youth Offending Service will be attending the MSC Trustees meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 p.m.

5.3 PC McKenna had provided a written report.

- 5.3.1 Over the last month 3 offences had been reported – 1 breaking into an outlying airfield building, 1 theft of diesel from farm plant and 1 theft of car, subsequently found burnt out.
- 5.3.2 Farm Watch was proving successful. Promotion flyers were available.

**6. Clerk's Report.**

- 6.1 A further meeting had been added to the 'Commissioning a patient led NHS' consultations. This was 28<sup>th</sup> February 2006.
- 6.2 A further reminder had been received for 'Suffolk Spring Clean 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> March 2006.
- 6.3 'Community Safety Forum' meetings had been arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February.

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Chairman

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Date



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**12. Roads, hedges, verges and drains.**

Following the last Parish Council meeting the Clerk had contacted the Highways department requesting that the village roads be swept. There was no response but a further request resulted in the information that a 3-monthly road sweeping programme was in operation in all villages and the Wickhambrook visit was imminent.

Reports of potholes be notified to the Clerk or placed on the website.

**13. Rights of Way**

A fence had been erected across the northern end of Footpath 18. This had been reported to the Rights of Way Officer who had made a site visit.

The Clerk had enquired about the Parish Paths Partnership but funding was uncertain for the 2006/7 financial year.

**14. SALC Questionnaire**

The Chairman was asked to complete and return the document.

**15. Annual Parish Meeting**

15.1 This was confirmed for Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2006.

15.2 The Financial Statement would be presented by the Clerk.

15.3 Cllrs. were asked to put forward nominations for the Alf Hicks Biscuit Barrel.

The Clerk was instructed to invite the Community Beat Officer.

**16. Employment Contract for Clerk**

Cllrs. were informed that the final version of the contract had been signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

**17. Donation for Retiring Clerk.**

Details were agreed and the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.

**18. Date of next meeting**

This would take place at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2006 in the Pavilion.

Cllrs. Merritt and Harrison left the meeting at 9.00 p.m. Mrs. B. Merritt joined the meeting.

**19. The Village Shop.**

Cllrs. agreed that the shop was a great asset to the village and every effort should be made to retain it.

Mrs. Merritt was asked to update councillors on the current situation. A sub committee be formed of Cllrs. Bevan, Claydon, Sumner and Wilson, and the Clerk, who would gather further information and explore possibilities for the future.

**Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.**

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006.

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Chairman

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Date