

**10152 Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 7.30 p.m. in the MSC Pavilion**

**Present**

Cllrs. J Claydon (Chairman), V. Mayes, K. Merritt, K. Sammons, E. Taylor, J. Walker and J. Wilson.  
County Cllr. J. Midwood and Borough Cllr. D. Redhead (both attended the open session only)  
Clerk R. Medley.  
Four members of the public (Two attended the open session only)

**1. Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies

**2. Minutes of the Meeting of Parish Council on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010**

These, after one spelling correction, were accepted as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

**3. Matters Arising (for information)**

Copy correspondence of the response to the Post Office consultation and letters of thanks from charities were tabled.

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

Cllr. Sammons declared an interest in Items 9.1.4 and 9.1.5, Cllr. Walker in 7.1.2 and 7.2.4 and Cllr. Taylor in 7.1.3.

**OPEN SESSION**

**5. Kelly's Meadow**

Mike Kemp reported that since the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January correspondence had been received indicating likely changes that would take place if the Conservatives were elected.  
Recent guidance had suggested that legal representation could be taken up with respect to the lack of planning enforcement by the Borough of St Edmundsbury.  
A survey by the Highways Authority had been carried out on the entrance/exit to Kelly's Meadow.

**6. County Cllr. Midwood reported on recent attendances at School Children/Young Peoples committee, the locality Budget meeting, which included the 'Quality of Life'/Highways budget with a maximum expenditure of £120,000, and mentioned that Council Tax for the coming year would increase by only 2.4%.**

District Cllr. Redhead explained that the East of England Regional Authority will be replaced by East of England Local Government Assembly at the end of the month. The new body was made up of 52 leaders of local authorities all, apart from one, are Conservatives.  
He also expressed his concern on the amount of money being spent on consultants.  
Pc Trish Sinclair reported four crimes in the village over the last month. Suspects were on bail for three of them.  
A member of the public asked about trimming of an untidy willow on the edge of Coltsfoot Green.  
Cllrs. were happy that this be taken down to ground level.

**CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION**

**7. Planning**

- 7.1 The following applications had been considered by Councillors
- 7.1.1 SE/09/1571 Chapel Cottage , Meeting Green. Erection of 4 dwellings.
  - 7.1.2 SE/10/0065 Crows Cottage, Malting End. Erection of single storey extension.
  - 7.1.3 SE/10/0042 9, Thorns Close. Erection of rear extension.

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**Chairman**

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**7.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council**

7.2.1 TPO256(1998)3 Gaines Cottage, Bunters Road. Reduce crown of Horse Chestnut tree	Consent given
7.2.2 SE/09/1546 Thorns Corner House. Erection of 4 dwellings	Granted
7.2.3 SE/10/0042 9, Thorns Close (as above)	Granted
7.2.4 SE/10/0065 Crows Cottage, Malting End (as above)	Refused

**8. Clerk's Report**

**8.1 Circulated Documents**

- 8.1.1 'Looking after War Memorials' conference. No-one was available to attend.
- 8.1.2 'Gritting Information' – list of volunteers. A note had been placed in the 'Scene' but as insurance cover was an important matter additional publicity may be necessary.
- 8.1.3 'Bad weather advice' – list of vulnerable people. Cllrs. resolved that a note e placed in the 'Scene' and that the organiser of the 'Day Club' be contacted.

**8.2 Other Information**

- 8.2.1 SALC training courses. Cllrs. gave approval for the Clerk to attend the Planning workshop on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.
- 8.2.2 Chapel Rates Appeal hearing. This had been postponed until mid April.

**9. Finance.**

**9.1 The following payments were approved.**

9.1.1 001552 BT. Line rental November to January 2010	47.98
9.1.2 001553 Anglian Water. Water use by Bowls Club. Nov. to Jan.	13.71
9.1.3 001554 E-On. Electricity use in Chapel	13.35
9.1.4 001555 The Rainbird Partnership. Canon MP 270 printer	47.80
9.1.5 001556 The Rainbird Partnership. Printer cartridges	51.89
9.1.6 001557 Saxon Monumental Craft. Headstone repair	88.13
9.1.7 001558 R. Medley Salary for February	414.84
9.1.8 001559 R. Medley 'Home as Office' allowance	45.00
9.1.9 001560 R. Medley Petty cash payment	50.00
9.1.10 D. D. Tiscali Broadband payment for February	20.32

**9.2 The following income was noted.**

9.2.1 Wickhambrook Bowls Club. Ground rent.	10.50
9.2.2 Southgate of Newmarket. Interment	75.00
9.2.3 Dignity Funerals. Interment	75.00

**9.3 Additional financial matters**

- 9.3.1 Alternative insurance quote. The Clerk was instructed to make the existing insurers aware of the competitive quote.
- 9.3.2 Cllrs. signed a letter requesting that the Skateboard Park monies be moved to the Current Reserve account (No. 1) and contributions to the Playground Improvement fund be paid into the No. 2 Reserve account.

**10. Transport Questionnaire meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.**

Cllr. Mayes gave a report following her attendance at this meeting. The County Council planned to increase the regularity of the main road services between Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill and provide a Demand Response Transport system to feed into the main route. Cllr. Mayes would prepare a note for the 'Scene' and the full report would be placed on circulation.

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**11. Parish Plan meeting arranged for 30<sup>th</sup> March 2010.**

Cllrs. instructed the Clerk to seek further guidance and ensure that a reserve speaker was available.

**12. Future of Bowls Club**

Cllr. Taylor reported that despite their best efforts over the last two seasons members had been unable to recruit sufficient newcomers to form a viable club. The Club holds sufficient funds to run for the 2010 season but unless there is a sudden surge of interest the Bowls Club will cease to function at the end of 2010. Cllrs. thanked Cllr. Taylor and her team for their efforts over the last two seasons. Cllrs. would give thought to any further action that could be considered.

**13. Estates Committee Report**

13.1 Easement to Bridge House. Mrs. N. Austin presented a request and a draft document and outline plan for an easement for access to the section of Bridge House furthest from the road. The site had been marked out with pegs and tape. The paperwork will be placed on circulation.

13.2 Orchard Survey. Cllr. Sammons would look at the size of this task. Cllr. Mayes was happy to be involved and suggested that members of the Hedge Survey team may be willing to help.

**14. United Charities Representatives Report.**

Further consideration was being given to the damp in Number 2 Almshouse.

**15. Correspondence**

15.1 Letter from MSC Trustees. Cllrs. were pleased to hear that permission had been granted for the placing of a Tetra-Pack recycling bank to be placed alongside the existing glass and paper bank and resolved that a financial contribution would be made towards the purchase and erection of a new sign.

15.2 Forward Slash marketing. Cllrs. resolved that changes to the website would not be beneficial.

15.3 St Edmundsbury LDF – Core Strategy Examination. Cllrs. were unlikely to attend.

15.4 St Edmundsbury LDF – Rural Sites Allocation. Cllrs. Mayes and Wilson would be attending. The Clerk was instructed to confirm their attendance with the organisers.

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

16.1 Hedges. Most landowners had responded to requests and had trimmed the offending hedges. Where there had been no action the Clerk was instructed to involve the Highways Authority.

16.2 Grit heaps. At the request of the Parish Council the Highways Authority had placed additional piles of grit around the village. Volunteers who regularly spread grit need to give their names to the Clerk. They will then be added to the County Council insurance and be covered against any claim.

16.3 Flooding. The Clerk had contacted the Highways Authority about flooding on the C659. That particular budget had been used for the current year but it was hoped that action could be taken soon after April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**17. Catchment areas for Haverhill Schools.**

Cllrs. were happy to support the comments made on circulation.

**Date of next meeting.**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 in the MSC Pavilion at 7.30 pm.

**Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.**

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**