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**Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council
19th January 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in the Church Rooms**

Present

Cllrs. S. Sumner (Chairman), P. Bevan, A. Harrison, K. Merritt, J. Walker, J. Wilson.
Borough Cllr. D. Redhead.
Clerk R. Medley.

1. Apologies for absence
Cllr. J. Claydon, Community Police Officer B. McKenna and County Cllr. J. Midwood.
2. Minutes of the Meeting of 24th November 2005 were signed as a correct record.
3. Matters Arising.
There was none.
4. Declarations of interest in agenda items.
Cllrs. S. Sumner and J. Wilson declared an interest in item 8.1.3
5. 5.1. District Cllr.
 - 5.1.1. The proposed closure of the Manor House Museum was controversial and difficult to justify in the light of considerable expenditure elsewhere e.g. the Cattle Market development.
 - 5.1.2 A public services building which would house all services such as courts, police and primary care trusts was being considered. Bury St Edmunds was one possible site.
 - 5.1.3 In answer to a question the Cllr. explained that street lighting was now the responsibility of Parish Councils in Cambridgeshire.
 - 5.2 Community Beat Officer.
 - 5.2.1 A written report gave crime figures over the last month (14th December to 14th January 2006). 2 crimes had been reported – one relating to damage to the school and one damage to front door of elderly person's property.
 - 5.3 Neighbourhood Watch. Amanda Barrett updated councillors.
 - 5.3.1 At a meeting before Christmas it was decided to use publicity to attract co-ordinators for those areas not already covered. Cllrs advised caution in making detailed information widely available.
 - 5.3.2 At a recent meeting with the Community Beat Officer it was agreed to try Farmwatch again. This was an e-mail based warning system used within a 5 mile radius.
 - 5.3.3 Co-ordinators were considering the use of 'Neighbourhood Watch Area' signs and were exploring sources of funding.
 - 5.3.4 The Community Beat Officer planned to visit the Day centre to promote the Nominated Neighbour Scheme.
6. 6.1 MSC Representatives Report. Jim Field spoke of the changes made at the Extraordinary Meeting held on 5th December 2005.
 - 6.1.1 Three members had volunteered to fill the vacant positions. These were Mr. P Colvill, Chairman, Mrs. P Green, Secretary and Mrs M Colvill, Treasurer. The next meeting would be held in February.
 - 6.1.2 Finances were sound. The new committee needed a while to set an agenda but was then likely to consider an updating programme which could include the fence between car park and playing field and the modernisation of the MSC kitchens and toilets.
 - 6.1.3 Jim Field expressed some concern about the ease of access to the playing field and Six Acres by motor vehicles.

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7. Clerk's Report

- 7.1 Circulated documents. Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 – Dog Control Orders. The consensus of opinion was that there was no objection to the walking of dogs on footpaths and playing fields providing the owners removed all dog faeces. If this did not happen further action would be taken.
- 7.2 The Clerk had received thanks from all organisations which had received recent donations from the Parish Council.
- 7.3 Helen Lindfield had been suggested as a possible source of funding for improving youth facilities. On checking the Clerk was told that was insufficient evidence of vandalism in the village for Wickhambrook to be considered.
- 7.4 Code of Conduct for training Parish Council members. To be circulated.
- 7.5 Grant for software for 'professional newsletter'. Agreed not apply for this funding.
- 7.6 Councillor's attention was drawn to a meeting on 25th January to discuss the 'Future of SALC'.

8. Finance

- 8.1 The following payments were approved
 - 8.1.1 SALC invoice for Clerk's training £74.62
 - 8.1.3 Mdsign – Wickhambrook internet services £220.00
 - 8.1.4 Suffolk County Council – cutting playing fields in 2005 £1163.90
 - 8.1.5 D. R. King – Grounds maintenance and tree trimming £1127.10
 - 8.1.6 P. Miller for purchase of Excel software £25.00
- 8.2 The following payments were noted
 - 8.2.1 Installation of separate phone line for Clerk £98.05
- 8.3 The following payments were delayed subject to confirmation of employment terms and conditions
 - 8.1.2 Clerks expenses for attending training £110.67
 - 8.1.7 Clerks allowance for use of home as office (first quarter) £45.00
 - 8.1.8 Renewal of Petty Cash float (not included on agenda) £50.00
- 8.4 Confirmation of precept for 2006/7 £19980.00

9. Planning

- 9.1 The following applications were considered on circulation:
 - 9.1.1 SE/05/02607 New House, Coltsfoot Green – granny annexe no objection
 - 9.1.2 SE/05/02795 6 Giffords Lane – extension no objection
 - 9.1.3 SE/06/1023 Sunnydale, Wash Lane – two storey dwelling no objection
- 9.2 The following applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council were noted:
 - 9.2.1 SE/05/02607 New House, Coltsfoot Green – granny annexe granted
 - 9.2.2 SE/05/02343 White House, Church Rd. – change of land use granted
 - 9.2.3 SE/05/02487 1, Bury Road – extension and garage granted
 - 9.2.4 SE/05/02416 Wickham House, Clopton Green – change of land use granted
 - 9.2.5 SE/05/02083 Genesis Green Stud – extension amendments accepted
 - 9.2.6 SE/05/02509 Sunnydale, Wash Lane – two storey dwelling withdrawn
 - 9.2.7 TCA05/1226 Glebe House – fell two oak trees no objection

10. Estates Committee Report

- 10.1 Jenny Shaw, who had carried out the regular inspections of the play area, had resigned. Posters would be displayed at the school, the shop and Happy Days to attract a replacement.
- 10.2 The hedges around the graveyard would be trimmed to stop encroachment on graves.
- 10.3 The conservation areas of the graveyard would continue to be cut three times a year.
- 10.4 The contract for ground maintenance should go out to tender at the end of the current year.

11. United Charities Representative's Report

- 11.1 The next meeting would be on Tuesday 24th January 2006

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12. Report from SALC Meeting on 7th December

All discussions centred on possible means of saving money to help meet the current budget restrictions.

13. Roads, Hedges, Verges and Drains

- 13.1 Repainting of white lines at the end of Coltsfoot Close. An order had been put in by the appropriate Council department but no firm date had been given.
- 13.2 Emergency exit between Croft Close and Nunnery Green. Highways had investigated the situation and could see no need for an emergency exit.
- 13.3 Speeding and parking restrictions outside school. Speed bumps were no longer included in the improvements because of the additional costs of lighting and signage. All other changes should be in place before the end of January 2006.
- 13.4 The clerk was instructed to contact Highways about a pothole in the B1062 on the approach to Lidgate.
- 13.5 Concern was expressed about the state of local roads following the recent accident on the A143 and the diversion of traffic through the village. The Clerk was instructed to contact Highways to request road sweeping. The Clerk was also instructed to mention the concern to the Community Beat Officer.

14. Nothing to report.

15. The next meeting will be held in the Pavilion on Thursday 23rd February 2006.

16 Dates of subsequent meetings are 30th March and 27th April.

Further meeting dates were confirmed as 25th May, 29th June, 27th July, 24th August, 21st September and 26th October.

17. Councillors discussed the employment contract for the Clerk and a gift for the retiring Clerk.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 19th January 2006.

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Chairperson

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Date