

10292 Minutes of the Meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 27th March 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion of MSC Hall

Present

Cllrs. K. Sammons (Chairman), J. Claydon, J. Girling, K. Merritt, J. Walker and J Wilson.

County Cllr. M. Evans and Borough Cllr. D. Redhead (until 8.20pm)

Clerk R. Medley.

Seven members of the public attended the Open Session. One remained for the whole meeting.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from District Cllr. D. Redhead and Cllr. S. Bradbury

2. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 27th February 2014

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

3.1 Item 12.2 of previous meeting – Tennis and Bowls Club insurance. The Clubs could not be included under the Parish Council insurance because they had their own management committees and were responsible for their own finances. However they could be included were they to become sub committees of the Parish Council. This message had been passed back to Jim Field.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Wilson declared an interest in item 8.1.2.

5. OPEN SESSION 7.35pm

Police Report. PCSOs Claire Fuller and Sophie Mitchell reported that there had been no crimes of note in Wickhambrook over the last month. The most recent set of SNT priorities included addressing the parking issues at Wickhambrook school at times of delivery and collection of pupils. The PCC, Tim Passmore, will be hosting a public meeting at Samuel Ward Academy in Haverhill on 6.30 pm on Wednesday 7th May.

County Cllr. M. Evans raised several points. Following the change in the Council's pothole repair policy a further visit would be made to Nunnery Green area. Details of speed indicator signs are to be sent in the post. She had written to Chris Hollingsworth about the ownership of a northern section of the Bury Road playground and was hopeful of a prompt reply. She mentioned the possible closure of the B1063 and offered to help the Clerk with design and delivery of flood prevention letters to the 'brook owners'.

Neil French expressed his concern about the high numbers of banger bird scarers being used in local fields, particularly on Sundays. Cllrs. explained the reasons for their use and the limitations of alternatives. Cllrs. said that once the oil seed rape had grown past the vulnerable stage, hopefully within the next fortnight, the bangers could be turned off.

Gavin Hughes commented on a letter concerning additional lighting in the footpath that runs from MSC Hall to Browns Close recently sent to neighbours in the close vicinity. The County Council had suggested installing an additional street light in the darkest corner. Mr Hughes and several of his neighbours were concerned about the effect additional lighting would have on their gardens and made a strong case for waist high lighting bollards. He hoped to forward details.

Sylvia Radley was concerned about possibility of accidents outside the school during pupils drop off and collection times. The police were aware of the situation and had agreed to make it a priority. Becky Baldwin suggested that posters designed and distributed by the children themselves may have the desired effect. The Clerk was instructed to make that suggestion to the school. Mrs Radley was also concerned about the speed of some vehicles on B1063 through the village, particularly at Thorns Corner, and reminded Cllrs. about the dangers of the elderly crossing the road at this point. The Police offered to check more regularly.

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Becky Baldwin gave a presentation on the planned changes to the Scene and What's On. She said that the costs of production and distribution in the first year would be around £2,000 and asked that the Parish Council fund half of this.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION at 8.40pm

6. Planning

6.1 The following applications had been considered by Councillors.
None over the last month.

6.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the District Council.

6.2.1 SE/13/0198/FUL Giffords Hall, Giffords Lane. Erection of livestock building. Approved

6.2.2 DC/14/0067/HH White Gables, Ousden Road. Erection of first floor extension. Approved

7. Clerk's Report.

7.1 Circulated documents.

No documents

7.2 Other matters.

7.2.1 Clerk's Holiday. The Clerk would be away 11th to 17th April. Cllr. Girling offered to cover.

8. Finance.

8.1 The following payments were approved.

8.1.1	001901	Haward Horological Ltd. Service of memorial Church clock	210.00
8.1.2	001902	Mdsign Service of village website	169.50
8.1.3	001903	Miracle Design & Play. Playground signs	363.30
8.1.4	001904	HMRC Employer payments	363.80
8.1.5	001905	Aon UK Ltd. Annual insurance premium	1190.89
8.1.6	001906	R. Medley Purchase of printer cartridge	20.69
8.1.7	001907	R. Medley. Salary for March	485.38
8.1.8	DD	BT Internet charges Jan. to March	67.20
8.1.9	DD	BT Phone rental in March	25.38

8.2 The following income was noted.

8.2.1	Payment additional inscription (private)	26.25
8.2.2	Tennis Club Ground rent	11.00
8.2.3	Football Club Ground rent	10.00
8.2.4	Borough of St Edmundsbury. Return of duplicate payment	82.68

8.3 Other financial matters

8.3.1 Confirmation of nil payment on Chapel rates.

8.3.2 2013/14 audit paperwork received. The return deadline is 7th July

9. Possible help from Jessica Hulbert, Communities Officer.

Cllrs. thought that there could be potential for both the Youth Club and Over 60s to be reformed and instructed the Clerk to forward these suggestions.

10. Highway Matters

10.1 Flooding in the village. The responsibility for contacting those responsible to sections of the brook had been passed back to the Parish Council. County Cllr. Evans offered to assist.

10.2 Speedwatch. A letter had been sent to Depden Parish Council explaining that speed indicator signs were thought to be more appropriate for Wickhambrook.

10.3 Footpath from MSC to Browns Close. Cllrs. agreed that in principle a contribution of £200 (10% of projected costs) could be made once the final choice of lighting had been agreed.

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10.4 Leaning wall at Thorns Corner. The St Edmundsbury Building Control Officer had visited the property on 3rd March and would consider enforcement if thought necessary.

10.5 Disappearing footpath between the Church and A143. An order had been placed with the County Council contractor for the hedge to be cut and the path to be sprayed and skirted.

11. Estates Matters

11.1 Bury Road playground update. Clopton Farms Ltd. would produce evidence of past ownership of the northern section of the playground and then the transfer could proceed.

11.2 Signs for Playground. The two signs from Miracle had been delivered. Cllr. Walker suggested that recycled plastic be considered for the backing board for the plaques and brass plate.

11.3 Spring Litter Pick on Sunday 16th March. Some 25 bags of rubbish were collected and the group of volunteers included several new faces.

11.4 Remedial Tree work. The remaining work had been postponed until 16th April due to staffing difficulties.

11.5 Moor Green. Cllr. Girling had contacted Mr Rowe about restitution of Moor Green and a meeting had been arranged in the near future.

12. Wick-kids assets. Roz Clarry had produced a list of assets including financial reserves of around £3,500. As there was a possibility that both the Youth Club and Day Centre would be re-formed (see Item 9) in the near future the Parish Council would offer to act as custodian of reserves in the interim.

13. Day Centre assets. Gladys Alexander had produced a list of assets including reserves of around £1,500.

14. Scene update. Please see Open Session above.

15. Reports from representatives from other village organisations

There were no reports.

16. Affordable Housing

There was nothing to report.

17. Vacancy on Parish Council

Cllrs. agreed a deadline for applications of 24th April and a decision would be made at the next meeting.

18. Correspondence

18.1 The Chairman pointed out that the 2014 Parish Conference on 28th April would be held in Wickhambrook and she hoped that several Cllrs. would attend.

Date of next meeting. Thursday 24th April 2014 in the MSC Pavilion at 7.30 pm. Cllr. Merritt offered his apologies.

Meeting closed at 9.37 pm

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 27th March 2014.

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Chairman

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Date