

**10123 Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on
26th March 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion**

Present

Cllrs. J. Claydon (Chairman), V. Mayes, K. Merritt, K. Sammons, E. Taylor, J. Walker and J. Wilson.
Clerk R. Medley.

Four members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received County Councillor J. Midwood and C.Pollington

2. Minutes of the Meeting of Parish Council on 19th February 2009

These were accepted as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

3.1 Copies of correspondence re: items 11.2 and 13 of the previous meeting were available

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Taylor declared an interest in Item 10.3, Cllr. Sammons in 9.1.4 and Cllrs. Claydon and Wilson in 7.2.1.

5. Kelly's Meadow

M. Kemp of the steering group updated Cllrs. on the latest developments.

He reported on the first mediation committee meeting held on 17th March at the Athenaeum. Four Wickhambrook and two Depden Parish Cllrs. had attended along with members of the Steering Group and three Borough Planning Department representatives - Messr Dell, Herries and Hollingworth. Andy Grossman from the Centre of Effective Dispute Resolution chaired the session. A follow-up meeting would be arranged in a couple of months and it was unlikely that the planning application would appear before the middle of the year. Concerns from members of the group included the fact that the Goodey family was not represented, it was believed that they had not received any independent guidance, there was no local evidence of identified need for a traveller's site and there was a possibility that this site was being 'trialled' as a pilot scheme.

M. Kemp confirmed that Highpoint, a possible alternative site, was still regularly used for military exercises.

6. Comments by the Police representative and any members of the public.

PC Trish Sinclair reported that there had been three crimes reported since the middle of January – a burglary and two thefts. The mobile police station would be in the village on Saturday 25th April 2009 and could be involved in the village fete on Saturday July 11th.

Cllrs. reported instances of motorcycles being used on footpaths in the village.

7. Planning

7.1 The following applications were submitted for consideration

7.1.1 SE/09/0240 White Gables, Park Gate

7.1.2 SE/09/0239 Crows Farm, Malting End

7.1.3 SE/09/0248 The Cottage, Baxter's Green

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

7.2.1 SE/09/0029 Boyden End Stables

Refused

Cllrs. were reminded that planning applications had to be considered within a fifteen day period. This gives an average of just two days of consideration time per Cllr. It was suggested that if a Cllr. knew that he/she was likely to be away that the Clerk should be informed.

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Chairman

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Date

8. Clerk's Report

Circulated Documents

8.1.1 Local Council Briefing BDO Stoy Hayward. Cllrs. were reminded of the importance of the financial risk assessment. Checks had taken place over the last year but in a non regulated way and often relied upon emailed information. In the 2009/10 financial year such checks would be formalised and be regularly carried out by Cllr. Sammons.

8.1.2 Rural News. Cllrs. would be informed about future editions and would make their own decisions about downloading.

Other Information

8.2.1 Residents Association. Cllr. Mayes would attend the formative meeting to be held on 2nd April in the Hall of the 'Greyhound' at 7.30pm.

8.2.2 Details of next St Edmundsbury Countryside forum meeting were outlined.

8.2.3 Further changes had been made to bus route 341 and these were available.

8.2.4 Access Suffolk. The Parish Council's interest in this scheme had been welcomed and contact between Robin Richardson (Community Involvement Officer for Suffolk County Council) and the Clerk was planned over the next few weeks.

8.2.5 Clerk's Holiday. Cllr. Taylor had offered to deal with planning and cemetery enquiries over the period.

8.2.6 Plasterboard recycling. The guidance would change on 1st April. Details would be circulated.

8.2.7 Moving details. Offices of some Borough and County departments were about to change. Details would be circulated.

9. Finance.

9.1 The following payments were approved.

9.1.1 001475 E-On Electricity use in Chapel	12.79
9.1.2 001476 Mdsign Internet Services Dec to Feb '09	162.44
9.1.3 001477 D.R.King and Son Grounds maint. Final payment 08/09	769.32
9.1.4 001478 The Rainbird Partnership Printer cartridges	58.26
9.1.5 001479 Allianz Insurance PLC Premium for 2009/10	2287.97
9.1.6 001480 R. Medley Salary for March	407.81
9.1.7 001481 R. Medley Mileage to attend training	28.00
9.1.8 001482 HMRC PAYE and N.I.	215.82
9.1.9 001483 Suffolk ACRE annual membership renewal	25.00
9.1.10 DD Tiscali Broadband payment for March	22.26

9.2 The following income was noted.

9.2.1 Wickhambrook Tennis Club 'ground rent'	10.50
9.2.2 Erection of headstone	100.00

9.3 Other financial matters

9.3.1 Rates for Chapel. An invoice had been received for £312.65 (previous year's payment was £92.49) The Clerk was instructed to query this amount.

10. Estates Committee Report.

10.1 The minutes of the inquorate meeting of 10th March were ratified.

10.2 Possible erection of some form of barrier across entrance to 'Six Acres'. Guidance from Allianz insurance was read out and the Estates Committee would consider the contents.

10.3 Bowls Club. Cllr. Taylor wished to explore the possibility of offering short term advertising around the perimeter of the Bowls Ground. Cllrs. were happy with this suggestion. The committee was looking for grants and hoped for 25 new members in this coming season.

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Chairman

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Date

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11. United Charities Report

There was nothing to record.

12. MSC matters

Further details of the MSC proposal for a bus/community shelter were awaited.

13. Roads, hedges, verges and drains.

13.1 Clearing of grips. Work had started across the other side of the county but Wickhambrook had not been forgotten

13.2 Hedges. Discussions with the landowner of the hedge beside the B1066 were ongoing
A copy of the completed Hedgerow Survey had been received. This would be part of a display at the village fete and then given to the village recorder.

13.3 Drainage at Coltsfoot Green. Cllrs. were happy with the proposal that exploratory holes be dug on the Green by the County drainage department providing all work was made good afterwards.

14. Rights of Way.

14.1 Footpath 26 The sinking plank in the corner of the field would be replaced by a two sleeper footbridge with handrail.

14.2 Footbridge 20 Sufficient evidence had been collected to enable the Rights of Way department to make a recommendation for 'fastrack' consideration.

14.3 Footpath 25 The recent riding of motorbikes on this footpath had been reported to the Police.

15. Standing Orders.

Cllrs. agreed that the period of notice would comply with model Standing Orders. Cllr. Sammons agreed to circulate a copy to all councillors and a copy would be kept on file.

16. Affordable Housing. Cllrs. Taylor and Sammons and the Clerk were appointed to the working party. One volunteer, Mrs Osborne, had agreed to join and Cllr. Taylor thought she knew of another.

17. Updating of cheque signatures. Cllr. Mayes recent visit to the bank had identified a need for the list of those authorised to sign cheques to be updated. It was agreed that all current Cllrs., with the exception of Cllr. Mayes, should be on the list and Cllrs. Sammons and Taylor would complete the necessary paperwork and other formalities. They would check that the names of past Cllrs. were removed.

18. Date of next meeting.

Thursday 30th April 2009. To be held in the Pavilion of the MSC Hall. Cllr. Mayes offered her apologies.

Meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 26th March 2009.

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Chairman

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Date