

**Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on
29th March 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in the MSC Pavilion.**

Present

Cllrs. E. Taylor (Chairman), J. Claydon, J. Girling, K. Merritt, and J. Wilson.

Clerk R. Medley.

Six members of the public.

(One left at 8.17pm; the other five remained until 9.46)

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Bradbury, Sammons, Walker and County Cllr. J. Midwood.

2. Minutes of Parish Council meeting on 23rd February 2012

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

3.1 Item 5.2 of previous meeting. A grit bin had been installed at Browns Close and the names of three volunteers, who were willing to spread the grit, had been passed to the Clerk.

3.2 Item 15 of previous meeting – Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury Joint Management Development Policies LDF Preferred Options document. The Clerk explained that it had not been possible to summarise Cllr's. opinions before the deadline because of a delay in circulation.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Taylor declared an interest in item 6.1.2. and Cllr. Wilson in 8.1.5

OPEN SESSION

5. A written report from County Cllr. Jane Midwood was read by the Clerk. Following concerns expressed at the most recent Safer Neighbourhood Tasking meeting, particularly about 'burglary other buildings', Cllr. Midwood was planning to arrange a 'Home Security Workshop' to be run in the MSC Hall. Further details will follow.
- Kelly's Meadow Steering Group. Clive Pollington updated Cllrs. The hedge 'removal' had come to a halt but the dispute over ownership of the land north of the proposed new entrance was continuing. A Planning expert had advised that the County Council must prove that they owned the disputed strip. Members of the Parish Plan Steering group said that results were being collated and the final summary should be available at the end of May or early June. The survey had included two questions on housing and the raw data would be given immediately to the Parish Council. There may be a need for a future meeting with the parish council and for some follow-on investigative work once the Plan is complete.

SESSION CLOSED AT 8.05 pm**6. Planning**

6.1 Planning applications considered by the Parish Council.

6.1.1 SE/12/0152/FUL Sunset Bungalow, Meeting Green. New build bungalow

6.1.2 SE/12/0169/HH 15, Thorns Close. Single storey rear extension.

6.1.3 SE/12/0201/HH Crows Cottage, Malting End. Single storey extension.

6.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council

6.2.1 SE/12/0152/FUL Sunset Bungalow (as above) Refused

6.2.2 SE/12/0201/HH Crows Cottage (as above) Granted

The Clerk was instructed to enquire about the new brief responses from the Borough which gave no details of reasons for refusal or acceptance.

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Chairman

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7. Clerk's Report

7.1 Circulated documents

7.1.1 Consultation on Healthwatch Suffolk. The Clerk was instructed to contact Cllr. Sammons for her comments.

7.1.2 Suffolk Village of the Year. Cllrs felt that entry to the competition could be considered in 2013 and, in the meantime, thought should be given to the selection criteria.

7.1.3 A Guide to Neighbourhood Planning. Cllrs. agreed to consider a Neighbourhood Plan once results from the Parish Plan and Local Plan were made available.

7.2 Other matters

7.2.1 Clerk's Holiday. The Clerk would be on holiday from 3rd to 17th May. Cover would be required.

8. Finance.

8.1 The following payments were approved.

8.1.1	001726	MSC Hire of Hall for litter pick	14.00
8.1.2	001727	MSC Hire of Hall for meetings	216.00
8.1.3	001728	HMRC Employer payments Jan. – Mar.	338.20
8.1.4	001729	E-On Electricity use in Chapel	5.62
8.1.5	001730	Mdsign Internet services Dec. to Feb.	165.50
8.1.6	001731	Glasdon UK Ltd Litter bin and fixing kit	140.40
8.1.7	001732	Glasdon Manufacturing Grit bin	193.43
8.1.8	001733	Suffolk ACRE Membership renewal	25.00
8.1.9	001734	Aon Ltd. Insurance premium	2,122.78
8.1.10	01735	D.R.King & Son. Grounds Maint. Final payment 2011.	1,738.80
8.1.11	01736	R. Medley Salary for March	451.93
8.1.12	01737	R. Medley Travel expenses	11.20
8.1.13	DD	TalkTalk Broadband payment for February	26.70
8.1.14	DD	TalkTalk Broadband payment for March	26.58

8.2 Recent income (for information)

8.2.1	Cash donation to playground	14.35
8.2.2	Ground rent from Tennis Club	11.00
8.2.3	Ground rent from Football Club	10.00

8.3 Other financial matters

8.3.1 Rates for Chapel The Demand Liability of £319.50 for the 2012/13 period was cancelled by a similar sum of Small Business Rate Relief so there would be nothing to pay.

8.3.2 Precept calculation. The Chairman explained that the bid from the parish council was slightly less than for 2011/12 but a decrease in the Borough grant had resulted in the 0.6% rise shown on recent Council Tax statements.

The Clerk left the meeting

8.3.3 It was agreed that the Chairman and one other member should undertake an appraisal of the Clerk and bring an annual increment recommendation to the next meeting.

The Clerk returned to the meeting.**9. Estates Committee Matters**

9.1 Play area at Bury Road. There was no further news on the proposed handover.

9.2 Inspection of Parish Council trees. Acacia Trees had been appointed with a quote of £400 plus vat and work was due to start on 16th April. Ownership of the trees surrounding the Church car park was uncertain and needed checking but it was known that they do not belong to the Parish Council.

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Chairman

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9.3 Fundraising for the Playground. Applications to the National Lottery and Fields in Trust had been halted because of difficulties caused by the Parish Council trying to raise funds for land owned by the MSC. It was suggested that a 'Right to Use' agreement may be a possible solution. The Clerk will approach the MSC to reach agreement.

9.4 The litter pick held on 26th February had been a success. More volunteers had been involved and new areas of the village had been tidied.

9.5 Queens Jubilee Celebrations. There was no further news.

The meeting was declared Open for Item 10 at 8.45 pm

10. LDF and Affordable Housing

The Borough of St Edmundsbury proposal for 22 houses, and possibly the Doctor's Surgery, on the west most field down Cemetery Road had been considered by all those who had attended the 'Drop In' session on 21st March. Some members of the parish council had been made aware of a subsequent proposal for development on 27th March which included both fields. Cllrs. resolved that the developer be offered the option of holding a public meeting in April to promote that scheme.

Cllrs. agreed that maximum publicity should be given to the need for the Parish Council to agree a response to the Borough's LDF proposal at the next parish council meeting on April 26th. The agenda would be kept short to allow ample time for discussion.

The meeting was declared Closed for subsequent items at 9.30 pm.

11. Highways matters including Rights of Way.

The promised slurry screed had been applied to the footpath between Browns Close and MSC Hall.

The ditch on Byway 31 had been cleared and the centre filled with hardcore. Some sections of Byway 46 and 33 had received hardcore.

12. Parish Plan responses and action needed.

Names and contact details of parishioners wishing for further information about the Community First Responder scheme and Emergency Response Planning had been received. The Clerk was instructed to make the necessary arrangements for follow up.

13. Reports from other village organisations.

There were no reports presented.

14. Correspondence (previously circulated)

14.1 Various titles. There were no comments.

14.2 Documents needing responses.

14.2.1 St Edmundsbury Parish Conference Monday 23rd April. No-one wished to attend.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 26th April 2012 in MSC Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 9.46 pm.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 29th March 2012.

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Chairman

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Date