

**10114 Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on
27th November 2008 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.
County Cllr. J. Midwood and Borough Cllr. D. Redhead
Four members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence.

No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of Parish Council on 23rd October 2008

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

3. Matters Arising (for information)

- 3.1 Copies of correspondence ref items 9.1.1, 9.1.2, 9.2.2, 20 of the previous meeting, were available.
3.2 Action point 15.1 of previous meeting. The Clerk had contacted the landowner who had blamed the mistake on an ‘over zealous tractor driver’. He promised to re-instate the surface at the earliest opportunity.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Wilson declared an interest in Items 9.2.4, 11.1.3 and 4 and Cllr. Taylor in 12.4.

5. Stour Valley Community College.

Trevor Souster and members of the Clare and Local Area for Rural Education team gave a presentation on their plans for a future version of Clare Middle School. They visualised a model similar to Linton Village College where not only the students but the wider community could benefit from the impressive facilities. They intended to use the existing staff, management team and buildings and maintain the current educational achievements but add a new sports complex and increase numbers of specialist staff and students.

6. Kelly’s Meadow

Members of the steering group updated Cllrs. on the latest developments.

There was no further news about the grant application but a decision was expected before the end of the month. The most recent message from the Borough explained why a significant drop in the number of pitches (as suggested by Richard Spring MP) could not be considered but the 6 pitches could result in as few as 6 to 12 caravans. The Borough was certainly seeking to limit the maximum number to 14 and it was accepted that this would not be a ‘transit’ site.

Members of steering group asked if any more information could be obtained about speeds of vehicles passing the site entrance, whether there had been any progress on past planning digressions and if details of individual members of the family wishing to move on to the site were available. The Clerk was instructed to enquire.

7. Comments by Borough Cllr., Police and any members of the public.

County Cllr. Midwood gave a progress report on the Safer Neighbourhood Scheme, the re-organisation of the local Police Team, flooding at Attleton Green, and changes in the training of retained firemen. Borough Cllr. Redhead commented on a recent visit by the Police to the village school to check on parking and speeding vehicles.

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Chairman

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Date

10115

8. Affordable Housing

Cllrs. agreed that Icen/Suffolk Housing should be asked to take the proposal ahead. The Clerk was instructed to make the necessary arrangements.

A letter of appreciation should be sent to Havebury for their involvement.

9. Planning

9.1 The following applications were submitted for consideration

9.1.1 SE/08/1470 Gables, Thorns Corner

9.1.2 SE/08/1474 The Surgery, Boyden Close

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

9.2.1 SE/08/1383 Beckenreid, Bury Road

Granted

9.2.2 SE/08/1315 Willow Cottage, Coltsfoot Close

Granted

9.2.3 SE/08/0548/9 Plumbers Arms, Wickham Street

Appeal

9.2.4 SE/08/1409 Little Monks Farm, Malting End

Granted

10. Clerk's Report

10.1 Circulated Documents.

10.1.1 Community Action on Climate Change. A half-day training session was available on 5th December in Ipswich.

9.2 Other information

9.2.1 A letter from Richard Spring MP ref. NATS holding stacks would be circulated.

11. Finance.

11.1 The following payments were approved.

11.1.1 001443 BT Phone rental August to October 40.53

11.1.2 001444 Allianz Increase in Indemnity cover 55.06

11.1.3 001445 Mdsign Internet services October to December 165.97

11.1.4 001446 Mdsign Licence and maintenance fee 258.50

11.1.5 001447 R. Medley Salary for November 459.86

11.1.6 001448 R. Medley 'Home as Office' allowance 45.00

11.1.7 001449 R. Medley Mileage for CiLCA training 84.00

11.1.8 001450 R. Medley Petty Cash 50.00

11.1.9 001451 MSC Recycling credit 792.10

11.1.10 01452 E.On Electricity use in Chapel 16.04

11.1.11 01453 Anglian Water Water use by Bowls Club 48.36

11.1.12 01454 BDO Stoy Hayward External Audit 334.88

11.1.13 01455 Suffolk County Council Mowing playing fields 1251.15

11.1.14 01456 Donation to SARS 50.00

11.1.15 01457 Donation to Suffolk Family Carers 50.00

11.1.16 01458 Donation to Newstalk 50.00

11.1.17 01459 Donation to Optua 20.00

11.1.18 01460 Donation to Village Recorder 30.00

11.1.19 Direct Debit Tiscali payment for October 35.56

11.2 The following income was noted.

11.2.1 Recycling credit 792.10

11.3 Result of External Audit

The only recommendation from BDO Stoy Hayward LLP was that the level of Fidelity cover should be reviewed but Cllrs. felt that the necessary changes had already been made.

The Annual Return was approved and accepted by the Council.

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Chairman

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Date

10116

12. Estates Committee Report.

12.1 Membership. The Clerk raised the matter of there being 3 Cllrs. on the Estates Committee and that to meet the requirements of a quorum all 3 had to attend. He asked if another Cllr. could be appointed. This would be considered at the Annual Parish Council meeting.

12.2 Access to Bridge House, Coltsfoot Green. The new owner had been asked to arrange for an easement to be drawn up for consideration by the Parish Council. He would be responsible for all legal costs. This would be confirmed by letter.

12.3 Playground improvements. Cllrs. were given the latest information.

12.4 Bowls Club. Cllrs. agreed that up to £500, on a match funding arrangement, could be provided for support over the coming season

12.5 Bus shelter developments. There was general support for the proposal. Cllr. Walker would discuss proposed sites with the MSC trustees.

12.6 Cemetery update. Cllrs. were supplied with the latest information.

13. United Charities Report

Cllr. Wilson reported on the difficulties of obtaining the best return from investments.

14. MSC matters

Reports from the recent AGM would be circulated.

15. Roads, hedges, verges and drains.

15.1 The response from the landowner at Malting End included the information that roadside hedges would be cut to a higher level than the previous year.

16. Rights of Way.

16.1 Footpath 20. Evidence was being collected from regular users of this route.

17. Response to St Edmundsbury consultation on Local development Framework

The Clerk was instructed to collate Cllr. responses to meet the deadline of 5th January 2009

18. Training opportunities

Cllrs. were offered the opportunity to attend Freedom of Information training on 5th December.

19. Freedom of Information Scheme.

The new scheme was formally adopted. Cllr. Taylor offered help in completing a list of available information.

20. Figures for 2009/10 Budget.

Amendments were made to selected income totals (bank interest, vat and receipts from cemetery) and the budget was formally adopted (copies attached). The approved precept figure was £25,760.

21. Date of next meeting.

Thursday 15th January 2009. To be held in the Church Rooms.

22. Meetings for 2009

The suggested dates were accepted. These were 19th Feb., 26th March, 30th April, 28th May, 25th June, 30th July, 27th Aug., 24th Sept., 29th Oct., and 26th Nov.

Meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 27th November 2008.

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Chairman

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Date