

10179 Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 25th November 2010 at 7.30 p.m. in the MSC Pavilion.

Present

Cllrs. J. Claydon (Chairman), V. Mayes, K. Merritt, K. Sammons, E. Taylor, J. Walker and J. Wilson.
County Cllr. Midwood, Borough Cllr. Redhead, and PC 18 Trish Sinclair.

Clerk R. Medley.

Sixteen members of the public were present (Everyone, apart from Parish Council members, left at 9.05 pm)

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies.

2. Minutes of Parish Council meeting on 28th October 2010

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

3.1 Item 5 of previous minutes – 344 bus service. Current timetables had been placed on both notice boards. The reliability of the service was being monitored by the network planners.

3.2 Item 8.3.1 of previous minutes – indemnity cover. No progress had been made on increasing the cover from £50,000 to £75,000.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Wilson declared an interest in 8.1.3 and 8.1.4.

OPEN SESSION

5. Comments from members of the public on Planning Application SE/10/1401; the expansion of Kelly's Meadow . All relevant paperwork was put on display from 6.00pm.

Ian Parker queried the safety information provided to support the proposed access from Kelly's Meadow on to the A143. The quoted vehicle speeds had not been measured at the appropriate position, the figures for a safe access splay were not accurate for a rural areas, A roads and towed vehicles, and to meet the minimum sight line requirements some 60 metres of hedge would need to be removed. Such action would affect both the visual impact and ecological surveys. The whole length of a sight line should be under the control of the site owners and this was not the case.

Doubts were voiced about the efficacy of the proposed drainage system in heavy clay soil, the ability of the Borough Council to enforce the conditions of the covenant particularly after the initial ten years, and everyone was reminded about the original comments from senior Borough staff that 'a site for less than 18 caravans could not be considered because it would not be viable'.

Cllrs. agreed that factual information provided by the Steering Group be placed on the website.

If the application was granted Cllrs. hoped that the village would benefit in some way, such as receiving financial support for playground improvements.

Report from Police representative PC 18 Trish Sinclair

Four crimes had been reported during the last month – three burglary of other buildings and one theft of motor vehicle. A silver blue Subaru Impreza has been linked with most of the above crimes and one of a selection of number plates used was R633ANB.

Report from County Cllr. Midwood.

Cllr. Midwood would contact Suffolk Highways about the splay and sight lines needed for safe exit from Kelly's Meadow . She had reported the water seepage on Shop Hill and several local potholes which had since been filled. The New Strategic Direction is to be debated at a County Council meeting on Thursday 2nd December.

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Chairman

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Date

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Report from Borough Cllr. Redhead.

Cllr. Redhead reported that in an effort to curtail expenditure St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Borough Councils were working more closely together and when staff leave the Councils their responsibilities were being shared between the remaining staff.

Housing Associations are approaching parish councils requesting the release of recreation areas for the building of affordable homes.

Comments from members of the public. Ray Coe of the Wickhambrook Residents Association asked about the possibility of installing a bus shelter on Cemetery Road, if the ditch at Boydton Close could be cleaned and if more seats and litter bins could be placed on the recreation ground.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION at 9.05 pm

6. Planning Matters

6.1 There were no applications considered

6.2 No applications were granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council.

7. Clerk's Report

7.1 Circulated Documents

No further comments were needed on circulated documents.

7.2 Other matters

7.2.1 CiLCA progress. The Clerk had been awarded the Certificate in Local Council Administration.

7.2.2 Parish Council notes for the 'Scene'. The deadline was 1st December. Updates on the Parish Plan and Playground Improvements were suggested.

8. Finance.

8.1 The following payments were approved.

8.1.1 001614 D. R. King & Son Ltd. Grounds Maintenance.	3231.25
8.1.2 001615 P.S.C. Computing Computer repair	110.00
8.1.3 001616 Mdsign Internet Services Licence fee	258.50
8.1.4 001617 Mdsign Internet Services Sept. to Dec.	165.97
8.1.5 001618 HMRC Employer payments	339.32
8.1.6 001619 R. Medley Salary for November	424.30
8.1.7 001620 R. Medley 'Home as office' allowance	45.00
8.1.8 DD TalkTalk Broadband payment for November	24.60

8.2 The following income was noted.

8.2.1 Interment (Armstrongs)	45.00
8.2.2 Sale of burial plot	60.00
8.2.3 BT Part refund of phone rental	5.58

9. Draft budget (previously circulated)

All figures for the 2011/12 budget (copy attached) were accepted with the exception of £50 bank interest. This was lowered to £30. This gave a final budgeted expenditure total of £30,811. Cllrs. resolved that this should be the figure requested in the precept application. Cllrs. further resolved that £8,022 be moved into a Playground Replacement reserve and that £10,000 be moved into a general Community reserve.

10. Charity donations (previously circulated)

Cllrs. resolved that donations should be made as the previous year with £50 being donated to Newstalk, SARS and Suffolk Family Carers, £35 being paid to Marie Curie and EACH, and £30 to the Village Recorder.

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Chairman

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11. Parish Plan.

Cllr. Mayes gave a brief update. The budget was being drawn up. The application for the 'Awards for All' grant was being re-drafted and the final version would be submitted before Christmas.

12. MSC AGM on 8th November.

A full management committee had been appointed.

13. Reports from United Charities.

The letters of appointment for residents were in the process of being re-written.

14. Correspondence

14.1 Possible realignment of Wickhambrook/Ousden parish boundary. Correspondance had been previously circulated. There were no additional comments.

14.2 Rural News (previously circulated) No additional comments

14.3 Community Contacts. This request from Suffolk Police would be placed on the notice board.

14.4 Farm Watch & Equipment Security Seminar on 26th November (previously circulated)

14.5 Communication from Unison ref: New Strategic Direction (previously circulated)

14.6 Invitation to Bury North & South public meeting. Previously mentioned by Police representative.

14.7 Invitation to Democracy Day on 2nd December at Kesgrave Community Centre.

15. Progress on registration of village greens

The necessary paperwork for voluntary registration had been received. Cllrs. Claydon and Wilson offered to assist with their completion.

16. Highways Matters – Road closures and repairs

The C676 road at Lower Green, Denston would be temporarily closed between the A143 and Plough Hill at Stansfield for carriageway repairs between 6th December and 21st January. The recommended alternative route was through Hawkedon and Chedburgh.

Date of next meeting.

Thursday 16th December 2010 in the MSC main hall at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 25th November 2010.

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Chairman

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Date