

**Minutes of the Meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 23rd April 2015
at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion of MSC Hall**

Present

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

County Cllr. M. Evans (8.35pm to end) and Borough Cllr. D. Redhead.

Clerk R. Medley.

Six members of the public. 5 stayed for the entire meeting.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr. S. Bradbury.

2. Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 26th March 2015.

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

Item 9 of previous meeting – Parish Council website. The Clerk read the letter sent to the Webmaster giving general guidelines for any information posted on the website.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Claydon declared an interest in item 6.3.1.

5. OPEN SESSION 7.35 pm

Borough Cllr. D. Redhead said that there had been no further progress on the planned business park in the Moreton Hall area.

Police. A written report gave details of the theft of a motor cycle from Farley Green. This was the only crime reported in the parish over the last month.

Jane Midwood expressed concern about a recent cycling event in the area. The Wiggle event took place on 19th April and involved some 200 cyclists per hour passing through the village for 5 hours. The main concerns were the possibility of an accident to the cyclists themselves and/or local horse riders and the number of empty energy packs remaining after the event. The Clerk was instructed to write to the organisers.

Maria Sumner commented on additions to the website. A councillor would be appointed to the role after the election on 7th May.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION at 7.53pm**6. Planning****6.1 Applications considered by the Parish Council**

6.1.1 DC/15/0185/LB Plumbers Arms, Wickham Street. Conversion to flats and dwelling

6.1.2 DC/15/0425/FUL Meadowbrook, The Duddery. Stable block and tack room

6.1.3 DC/15/0496/HH School Cottage, Cutbush, Thorns Corner. Single storey rear extension.

6.1.4 DC/15/0605/HH Giffords Hall, Giffords Lane. Courtyard and pavilion

6.1.5 DC/15/0645/LB Lane Cottage, Coltsfoot Green. Replacement of front and rear doors.

6.1.6 DC/15/0686/HH 2, Malting End. Front and rear extensions.

6.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the District Council

There was none.

6.3 Representation at the Development Control Committee meeting consideration of Claydon Yield-o-meter Ltd. application DC/15/0194/FUL to be held on Thursday 30th April at West Suffolk House.
Cllr. Sammons hoped to attend. If she was unavailable either Cllr. Wilson or Cllr. Walker would attend in her place. Cllrs. Wilson and Sammons would agree the presentation.

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Chairman

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Date

7. Clerk’s Report

7.1 ‘Adopt a kiosk for as little as a £1’ Cllr’s. opinions of this offer differed widely but a decision would not be needed for some time.

7.2 Other matters

7.2.1 Broadband update for Parish Council laptop. Cllrs. were willing to consider an update but felt the priority was the replacement of the laptop.

7.2.2 Replacement laptop. The possibility of a tablet or desk top computer would be investigated before reaching a decision.

8. Finance.

8.1 The following payments were approved.

8.1.1	002011	E-On. Electricity use in Chapel for March	8.61
8.1.2	002012	SALC Annual membership	401.00
8.1.3	002013	EFMS Mowing of playing fields	1657.54
8.1.4	002014	R. Medley. Salary for April	514.35
8.1.5	DD	BT Phone rental in March	30.73

8.2 Recent income

8.2.1	NatWest	Interest on bank accounts (Jan. to March)	No.1 account	6.43
			No. 2 account	1.10

8.3 Other financial matters

8.3.1 Expenditure against forecast. Figures for the completed 12 months (April 2014 to March 2015) were circulated and the Chairman gave an explanation. There were no questions. Cllrs. approved the summary.

9. Local Council Award Scheme. Having considered the criteria previously circulated Cllrs. instructed the Clerk to proceed with an application for Foundation level. The Clerk listed four headings where further work was needed including an Action Plan for the current year and a Policy for training new staff and councillors.

10. Highway Matters

10.1 Parking outside school. The response to a letter sent to the Headteacher (Item 11.2 of the previous meeting) had been circulated.

Cllr. Merritt suggested an extension of the ‘no parking’ area in front of the School.

Additional Open Session to coincide with the arrival of County Cllr. Mary Evans. (8.35 pm)

10.1 (cont) County Cllr. Evans offered to make enquiries of County Highways.

10.2 Lighting on footpath between MSC and Browns Close. County Cllr. Evans had raised the matter with Richard Webster and hoped for a more dynamic response than in the past.

10.3 Vehicle Activated Signs. Cllr. Evans had obtained two Westcotec VAS machines; one was to be shared between Wickhambrook and Hargrave. The Clerk was instructed to arrange installation of the supporting posts.

Other comments from Cllr. Evans. She was concerned that St Edmundsbury had failed to send out postal votes for the election as promised, resulting in a delay and possible ‘missed’ votes.

The County Council were unsuccessful in their bid for funds to re-surface concrete roads in the area. This would have included Nunnery Green.

11. Estates Matters

11.1 Memorial garden. This matter would be passed back to the Estates Committee. Members would consider alternatives to a formal memorial garden.

11.2 Fouling of ‘Six Acres’ by dogs. Four MSC trustees had attended the Estates Meeting. They had agreed to put forward proposals for a flyer to be distributed with the ‘What’s On’.

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Chairman

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Date

12. Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Thursday 4th June.

The agenda would include the regular items plus brief inputs on Neighbourhood Plans and Community Land Trust Schemes. Suggestions for nominees to receive the Alf Hicks Biscuit Barrel would be passed to the Chairman.

13. Neighbourhood Planning. There was no further news.

14. Replacement biscuit barrel box. There was no further news.

15. Reports from representatives of other village organisations.

W.U.R.C. A hole in the oil tank had been noticed recently. This needed repairing.

16. Parish Council Elections. Cllr. Claydon made the point that newcomers to the village may know nothing about the candidates who had put themselves forward for election. Cllrs. agreed to send a brief description and maybe a photo direct to the Webmaster.

17. Correspondence

17.1 There were no comments on correspondence previously circulated.

17.2 Correspondence requiring responses.

17.2.1 Village Greens and Common Lands course. The opportunity to attend would be offered to Julian Girling – member of the Estates Committee.

**Date of next meetings – Annual Parish Council meeting to be held on Thursday 21st May 2015.
Annual Parish meeting to be held on Thursday 4th June 2015.**

Meeting closed at 9.01 pm.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 23rd April 2015.

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Chairman

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Date