

10403

**Minutes of the Meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 30 March 2017
at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion of MSC Hall**

Present

Cllrs. P. Couzens (Chairman), J. Barton, J. Claydon, K. Merritt and J. Midwood

Cllr J Wilson arrived at 7.40 p.m.

County Cllr. M. Evans arrived at 8.30 p.m.

Borough Cllr. C. Pollington

Clerk S. Thorburn

There were six members of the public present

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Apologies for absence

Were received from Cllrs K. Sammons and J. Walker

2. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 February 2017.

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

14. Reminders had been sent to clubs and societies to present reports at the Annual Parish Meeting in May

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

10.3 Cllr J Claydon

5. OPEN SESSION 7.35 pm

5.1 Presentation of Local Council Award Scheme, Foundation Award by David Wheeler, SALC Area Chairman and SALC Board Member. The framed certificate was presented to the Chairman of Wickhambrook Parish Council, Paul Couzens. Mr Wheeler said it gave him great pleasure to present the award to the Parish Council one of only a few in Suffolk to have achieved the standard to date.

5.2 Comments from County and Borough councillors and members of the public. .

Borough Cllr. C. Pollington – funding would be available from 5 May 2017 and all agreed to support the suggestion that it would be directed towards the MSC hall refurbishment.

Anglian Water would be installing a pipe to Kelly's Meadow across land owned by Mr and Mrs Willis.

The Parish Council had all been in receipt of a report from **County Cllr. M. Evans** as follows:

I chased up the speed enforcement team to find out about what patrols are being undertaken in response to the submission of VAS data and how they wished that data to be presented. It turns out the officer in charge of deployment had left the service and her superior is on an extended career break.

I have made contact with Phil Payne, the person leading the team in the interim and have forwarded to him all the most recent VAS data reports and asked for his guidance on how the data should be presented. He will get his team to run speed checks and identify the most suitable locations for the speed camera vehicles.

He and I are arranging to meet with the officer in charge of deployment so we can get some police action on speeding.

In the meantime, I have met our local police inspector – Danny Cooper – who also asked that we send speed data to him so he can send his team out on covert speed patrols.

His email address is Daniel.Cooper@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

I am aware that that there are some residents keen to start a Community Speedwatch group and I would support them. The police tend to run speed patrols more often in those communities which have Community Speed Watch – it does indicate to them that there is a significant problem if members of the public are prepared to go to the trouble and effort to set up CSW.

Other villages locally with CSW are Lidgate, Great Bradley, Cowlinge, Withersfield and Cavendish.

There is currently a strong drive to set up a group in Clare

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There followed a discussion involving four members of the public present regarding speeding in the Ashfield Green area of the village. A Speedwatch group was discussed but it was pointed out that any such group would need to cover the whole village and the cost of the equipment may be prohibitive. The members of the public concerned would email their details to the Clerk for future reference should any such group be formalised. The residents present requested a sign to signal to drivers that they were entering the village and Borough Cllr Pollington thought this idea should be supported and would contribute an amount from the locality budget towards a sign. 30 mph stickers for wheelie bins were discussed and the fact that the VAS machine was shared with Lidgate and had many other locations in the village.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION 8.00 p.m.

Item 10.1 was moved next due to the members of the public concerned having family commitments.

10.1 Email from resident regarding ditch at Coltsfoot Green

A resident had again raised concerns of flooding due to silt in the ditch at the rear of the green. The resident was present at the meeting and invited to express their views. The issue was discussed and the Clerk was instructed to locate the land registry document held by the Parish Council for each of the village greens. The Parish Council would then be able to make a decision from the boundaries shown.

6. Planning

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6.1 Applications considered by Parish Council - None

6.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council

6.2.1 DC/16/2802/FUL Land adj. Whitehouse, Church Road. Change of use Agricultural to Equestrian. Approve application

7. Clerks Report

7.1 Circulated documents

The twelve month action plan has been circulated by email for revision at the next meeting. All agreed to forward plan ready for the April meeting.

7.2 Circulated correspondence.

Letter from Deborah Cadman CEO Suffolk County Council regarding drainage

The Clerk was instructed to contact Suffolk County Engineer Tom Nunn and obtain suggested dates for a site visit meeting with the Parish Councillors.

7.3 Any other matters

7.3.1 Clerks holiday arrangements. The Clerk requested some non-contact time in July but would not divert telephone calls and would produce the necessary paperwork for meetings. Any non-urgent items would be put on the August agenda, all agreed to this arrangement.

8. Finance

8.1 Payments to be made as listed below proposed by Cllr Wilson seconded by Cllr Claydon

	Cheque no.	Detail	Amount £
8.1.1	002230	Anglian Water Bowls club Nov –Feb standing charge	15.52
8.1.2	002231	S Thorburn - Home as Office allowance Jan-Mar	45.00
8.1.3	002232	S Thorburn-printer cartridges purchase	41.00
8.1.4	002233	J Barton – warning signs- Footpath Officer purchase	13.98
8.1.5	002234	Wickhambrook MSC pavilion rent Jan and Feb 2017	42.00
8.1.6	002235	Vertas Group – playing field grass cut	461.18
8.1.7	002236	SALC – award scheme fee	60.00
8.1.8	002237	E.ON chapel electricity – 14/3/17	8.51
8.1.9	002238	S Thorburn (Clerk) salary for March	538.88
8.1.10	002239	Aon Ltd – annual insurance premium	1280.02

8.2 Recent income for information

8.2.1	Tesco Groundworks – ¾ payment of grant	6000.00
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8.3 Other matters

8.3.1 Internal auditor appointment

All agreed to retain Ladywell for the fee of £185.

8.3.2 Insurance renewal for 2018. The Clerk reported that next year would see the end of the current 3 year agreement and investigations to date had shown that competitive quotes could be obtained.

This would be progressed before renewal next year.

8.3.3 National CLT Network Membership renewal for 2017. The benefit of the £150 subscription fee was discussed and the Clerk was instructed to add it to the next agenda for April payment.

9. Highways matters

9.1 Vehicle Activated signs – invitation to speed enforcement team Officer to attend a Parish Council meeting. All agreed not to initiate an invitation following the report from County Councillor Evans regarding submission of data.

10. Estates Committee matters

10.1 Email from resident regarding ditch at Coltsfoot Green. This was dealt with following the open session.

10.2 Spring litter pick revised date 2 April 2017. The Parish Councillors were made aware of the date.

10.3 Wooden pavilion update. An email from Jim Friend, Chairman of the Tennis Club had been circulated prior to the meeting, this outlined a plan to have the pavilion removed from the site which would be levelled and the container used by the Wickhambrook Carnival Committee, currently off-site, to be the replacement storage. All agreed to the content of the email with the proviso that the container be painted green to blend in with the surroundings within a four week period of arrival.

The Clerk was instructed to reply to Mr Friend with the decision of the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Merritt.

10.4 Grass cutting contract. The Clerk informed the meeting that Vertas had increased the cost of cutting the recreational field by 2.78%. All agreed to continue with the contractors.

10.5 Alternative chapel quote progress. The Clerk reported difficulty in obtaining alternative quotes as the work entailed both redecoration and attention to the roof. Two other local contractors had been sent emails requesting a site visit but no response had been received. In view of the urgency to repair the roof of the chapel it was agreed to refer it to the Estates Committee for a final decision.

10.6 Footpath from Coltsfoot Green to the Six Acres. The Chairman would speak to the owner of the adjacent property to see if the condition of the land on the fence line could be improved.

10.7 Public Space Protection Orders. All agreed not to pursue the registration of the playgrounds as no access areas for dogs as the cost of £100 per site per annum was prohibitive. Signs were already in place to this effect.

11. Update on broadband development.

A discussion took place as to whether the S106 monies to be granted on the development of the Cemetery Road site could be allocated to improved broadband reception. County Councillor Evans offered to investigate this possible use for the grant.

12. Alf Hicks Biscuit Barrel recipient nominations

Two nominations were put forward and the Parish

Council unanimously agreed that Mrs Margaret Elers should be the recipient for many years of serving on the Carnival Committee. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mrs Elers to enquire if she would be accept the award and attend the Annual Parish Meeting in May for the presentation.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Date of next Parish Council meeting Thursday 27 April 2017.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 31 March 2016.

Chairman

Date