

**10277 Minutes of the Meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on
26th September 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion of MSC Hall**

Present

Cllrs. K. Sammons (Chairman), S. Bradbury, J. Claydon, J. Girling, K. Merritt, J Wilson.
County Cllr. M. Evans (arrived 8.00pm and attended the whole meeting)
Borough Cllr. D. Redhead (7.45 to 8.15pm)
Clerk R. Medley.
No members of the public were present.

Having taken advice from SALC, and as no members of the public were present, Cllrs. resolved to revert to the usual style of agenda.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr. J. Walker

2. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 29th August 2013

The minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising (for information)

3.1 Item 3.1 of previous meeting – Letters of thanks to those donating to the playground. Cllrs. Sammons and Bradbury would agree a format and send the outcome to all those who had donated.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Sammons declared an interest in item 6.1.3 and Cllr. Wilson in 8.1.1.

OPEN SESSION 7.35pm

Police representatives Ryan Wilson and Claire Fuller presented their crime report. Two reported crimes in the last month were a quantity of animal feed stolen from Black Horse Farm and ‘making off without payment’ from Wickhambrook Stores. Due to keen observation by members of the Public and the subsequent reporting of suspicious behaviour a male had been detained for ‘going equipped’, as were occupants of a blue van selling power tools and an individual attempting to sell artwork.

County Cllr. M. Evans reported that the potholes in Nunnery Green area would be filled. Letters had been hand delivered to the owners of the hedges bordering Meeting Green crossroads. She would check what follow up action was possible. Mary confirmed that Matthew Hancock would be holding the surgery on 1st November. She hoped to arrange an on-site meeting to progress the flooding situation at Attleton Green.

Borough Cllr. D. Redhead said that the Borough was determined to go ahead with the rationalisation of Kelly’s Meadow site and the occupants would continue to use the existing entrance/exit.

He confirmed the phasing out of the precept grant over the next 4 years and was asked to find out what proportion of the precept was grant in 2013/14.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION at 8.15pm

6. Planning

6.1 The following applications had been considered by Councillors.

6.1.1 SE/13/0753/FUL Half Moon Cottage, Giffords Lane. Replacement dwelling and cartlodge.

6.1.2 SE/13/0960/HH 9, Nunnery Green. Erection of conservatory.

6.1.3 SE/13/0948/FUL Samples Farm, Ashfield Green. Erection of dwelling following demolition of fire damaged building.

6.1.4 DC/13/0045/FUL 8, Wickham House Bungalows. Provision of 8 lighting columns to serve ménage.

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Chairman

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Date

6. Planning (continued)

6.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council

No applications had been received.

6.3 Any other Planning matters

6.3.1 SE/13/0013/FUL Easterwood Bungalow, Baxters Green. Erection of new dwelling following demolition of old dwelling.

After discussion Cllrs. accepted that there should be no objection to this application. A minority of Cllrs. were against the proposal because of the size of the dwelling and the fact that whereas a 2 bedroom bungalow may be within reach of those starting on the property ladder a 6 bedroom dwelling was not. These comments would be included in the response.

7. Clerk's Report

7.1 Village magazine. Cllr. Bradbury offered to suggest changes to the current format of the 'Scene'. Cllrs. repeated their offer to subsidise the cost of printing providing the publication went to every residence in the Parish and that no charge was made. The possibility of a monthly magazine which would be a combination of the contents of both the 'Scene' and 'What's On' was mooted.

7.2 Other matters

7.2.1 Replacement printer. Cllr. Sammons was arranging purchase of an updated version.

7.2.2 Recognition of Golden Weddings, etc. The Carnival Committee had offered to donate £20 to some form of recognition of parishioners' 'life's milestones' providing that their contribution was recognised. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter of appreciation and proceed with the arrangement.

7.2.3 Clerk's Holiday. The Clerk gave prior notice that he would be on holiday from 4th to 11th November. Cllr. Girling offered to cover for that period.

8. Finance.

8.1 The following payments were approved.

8.1.1	001852	Mdsign. Internet Services June to August	169.50
8.1.2	001853	Suffolk Wildlife Trust. Annual membership.	38.00
8.1.3	001854	E-On Electricity use in Chapel	6.96
8.1.4	001855	HMRC Employer payments	367.60
8.1.5	001856	BDO External Audit	360.00
8.1.6	001857	Denny Bros. Supplies Chair mat	56.75
8.1.7	001858	R. Medley Printer cartridges	29.98
8.1.8	001859	R. Medley. Salary for September	509.53
8.1.9	001860	R. Medley. Petty cash	50.00
8.1.10	DD	BT Phone rental in August	24.25
8.1.11	DD	BT Internet services	67.20

8.2 The following income was noted.

8.2.1	Aon Ltd.	Playground insurance rebate	53.46
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8.3 Other financial matters

8.3.1 Recycling payment. St Edmundsbury staff had promised that the shortfall in payment for the last six months would be made up in the October payment.

9. Action to be taken to fill vacancy for Councillor.

The formal procedure was being followed. A 'Vacancy for Councillor' notice had been placed on both Parish Council notice boards on 7th September and parishioners had been given 14 working days in which to call for an election. If no request was received by 27th September the vacancy would be advertised.

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Chairman

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10. Highway Matters

10.1 Meeting Green junction. The hedge of Clematis Cottage had been trimmed. There had been no trimming of the hedges at Sunset Bungalow or Brooklands.

10.2 Flooding at Attleton Green. County Cllr. M. Evans offered to arrange an on-site meeting.

10.3 Footpath Network. County Cllr. M. Evans offered to find out more about the possibility of the Parish taking on responsibility for footpaths and the trimming of roadside verges.

11. Estates Matters

11.1 Bury Road playground update. Nothing further had been received from Risbygate Solicitors. The Clerk was instructed to make enquiries.

11.2 Main playground update. The two new benches (plus the beetle climbing frame on the Bury Road playground) had been installed and the final payment made.

12. Audit

The Auditors, BDO, had drawn attention to three matters i) The purchase of the new playground would add to the value of the assets, ii) a typographical error had been made with regard to Trust Funds, and iii) the need to minute the annual review of the risk assessment. The Audit would be placed on circulation.

13. Facebook

Cllr. Bradbury requested more information about items of topical interest. There was no support from Cllrs. for the inclusion of planning applications.

14. There were no reports from representatives from other village organisations

15. Parish Plan next moves.

15.1 Community First Responder Scheme Re-launch. Jon Needle, Community Partnerships Manager (Suffolk), would explain what is involved at a meeting in the MSC Pavilion on 15th October at 7.30pm. This information had been passed on to the Clerks responsible for the neighbouring villages of Stradishall, Ousden, Depden and Chedburgh.

16. Affordable Housing.

Niki Hollingworth of West Suffolk gave a presentation on Wednesday 18th September covering details of the Rural Profiling Project. She emphasized the facts that in Wickhambrook more than 50% of the population was aged 50 and above and that 20% of the population lived alone. She asked if this should alter the thinking on the type of 'affordable housing' required. Further proposals will follow.

17. Correspondence

17.1 There were no comments on documents previously circulated.

17.2 Correspondence requiring a response.

17.2.1 Geocaching in Wickhambrook. The Clerk was instructed to thank the organisers for the recent information.

Date of next meeting. Thursday 31st October 2013 in the MSC Pavilion at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.47 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 26th September 2013.

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Chairman

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Date