

**10108 Minutes of the meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on  
25<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion**

**Present**

Cllrs. J.Claydon (Chairman), K. Merritt, K. Sammons, E. Taylor, J. Walker and J. Wilson.  
Clerk R. Medley.  
Borough Cllr. D. Redhead  
Two hundred members of the public were present.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from County Cllr. J. Midwood.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting of Parish Council on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

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

**3. Matters Arising (for information)**

There were no matters arising apart from a change in speaker from Havebury Housing.

**4. Declarations of interest in agenda items**

Cllr. Sammons declared an interest in Item 8.1.2

**5. Kelly's Meadow - developments**

Recent correspondence from the Borough Council had been circulated to all Cllrs.

The Clerk had checked Parish Council spending powers.

Some 200 members of the public attended and many voiced their reasons against the proposed expansion of Kelly's Meadow. Several were willing to contribute to a 'fighting fund' and help distribute further publicity leaflets. Members of the steering party collected their names. It was agreed in principle that relevant documents and contacts could be placed on the Wickhambrook website but only after prior approval from the Parish Council. The same would apply to any further leaflets bearing the name of the Parish Council.

**6. Affordable Housing - Contact with Housing Associations**

Dennis Heath, Head of Development at Havebury and Elizabeth Storer of the Rural Housing Team gave a presentation on how they would work with the parish to deliver an affordable housing scheme of about 10 properties.

Once the choice of partner has been made a representative from the Housing Society and planning officer would walk around the village to identify potential sites. Ideally this would be one development of about an acre in an 'unproductive corner'. The chosen housing society would also source suitable grants and arrange for the drawing of alternative designs. In this particular case, Orwell would build the units, paying due attention to modern insulation standards and Havebury would then own and manage them. Examples of recent building designs and annual reports were left for Cllrs. to consider.

**7. Comments by Borough Cllr., Police and member of the public.**

Cllr. Redhead outlined the Borough's response to the Boundary Commission proposals favouring three unitary councils – east Suffolk, west Suffolk and North Haven (Ipswich and Felixstowe).

A brief report from the police explained that they were unlikely to be consulted about the Kelly's Meadow proposal and there had been 4 minor crimes committed in the Parish over the last month.

A member of the public voiced concern about the fence at 4, Coltsfoot Close encroaching on Footpath 24. He was advised to contact Rights of Way.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**

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**8. Planning**

- 8.1 The following applications were considered on circulation.
  - 8.1.1 SE/08/1243 2, Browns Close No objection
  - 8.1.2 SE/08/1275 Samples Farm, Ashfield Green No objection
  - 8.1.3 SE/08/1315 Willow Cottage, Coltsfoot Close No objection
- 8.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council.
  - 8.2.1 SE/1122/5/7/8 Oak Cottage, Ashfield Green Granted
  - 8.2.2 SE/08/1121 White Gates, Bunters Road Granted

**9. Clerk's Report**

- 9.1 Circulated Documents.
  - 9.1.1 Structural Review of Suffolk. The Clerk was instructed to respond using Cllrs. written comments on the previously circulated document.
  - 9.1.2 Adoption of BT payphones. There was no support for adoption of the one payphone under threat – that at Nunnery Green.
- 9.2 Other information
  - 9.2.1 Clerk's Holiday. The Clerk explained that he would be away from 4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr. Taylor offered to deal with planning matters and cemetery enquiries.
  - 9.2.2 'Meet the Police' sessions. The Chairman took details.
  - 9.2.3 Suffolk ACRE AGM. Details were available.
  - 9.2.4 Parish Planning Conference. The Chairman and Clerk would attend this meeting.

**10. Finance.**

- 10.1 The following payments were approved.
  - 10.1.1 001433 Mdsign Internet services from June to September 165.97
  - 10.1.2 001434 Rainbird Partnership Printer cartridges and paper 80.91
  - 10.1.3 001435 R. Medley Salary for September 384.58
  - 10.1.4 Direct Debit Tiscali broadband payment for August 31.92
- 10.2 The following income was noted.
  - 10.2.1 100445 Interment (Southgate of Newmarket) 55.00
- 10.3 Other financial matters.
  - 10.3.1 Fidelity Guarantee insurance. Cllrs. agreed that additional cover should be arranged for the maximum amount of cash held in the Bank (£50,000). This would cost an extra £136.50 annually.

**11. Estates Committee Report.**

- 11.1 Proposed increase in cemetery fees. The suggested 10% increase to come into effect on January 1st 2009 was approved.
- 11.2 Progress on Playground improvements. A delivery of safety tiles had been promised for 26<sup>th</sup> September and it was hoped that work would start in the following fortnight.
- 11.3 Bus shelter developments. Further information was being sought on the siting, financing and justification for the bus shelter.

**12. United Charities Report**

There was no report.

**13. MSC matters**

There was no further news.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**

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**14. Roads, hedges, verges and drains.**

A letter requesting trimming of hedges was being sent to a landowner at Malting End. The Clerk was instructed to check who was responsible for a mature oak abutting the edge of the metalled surface of B1063.

**15. Rights of Way.**

15.1.1 The 'closed' footpath 20, between Home Farm and the A143, had been re-opened under a temporary arrangement.

**16. Standing Orders**

Cllr. Sammons had identified differences between the model standing orders and the current version of Wickhambrook Parish standing orders. The two documents would be circulated together with relevant literature.

**17. Appointments**

17.1.1 Vice Chairman. The appointment of Cllr.Sammons was approved unanimously.

17.1.2 Tree Warden. Cllr. Sammons had already volunteered for this role.

17.1.3 Cllr. with governance and oversight of village website. Cllr. Taylor offered to take on this role and this was gratefully accepted.

17.2. Appointment of new councillor.

Viki Mayes explained why she wished to become a member of the Parish Council and was offered and accepted the position.

**18. Date of next Parish Council Meeting**

This would be held on a Thurs. 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008.

**Meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.**

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**