# Wickhambrook Parish Council

## **Minutes**

Of an ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 27th July 2023

# **Present:** Clirs Couzens, Lavelle and Turner

Clerk: Hilary Workman & 1 resident of the parish

- 23.07.01 **Noted**: When apologies for absence to be noted or approved, the following:
  - Cllr Sandy Thwaite absence noted (apologies had been extended but not received in time to report at the meeting)
  - WS Cllr Sarah Pugh noted
- 23.07.02 **Noted**: That when invited, there were no
  - 2.1 Members' Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and/or other Registerable Interests in subsequent Agenda items
  - 2.2 Declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda their nature, including gifts of hospitality exceeding £25
  - 2.3 Requests for dispensations none
  - 2.4 Additions and/or deletions to the Council's Register of Interests.

## 23.07.03 **Resolved**

That the Minutes of the Parish Council ordinary meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023, and extraordinary meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July '23, as tabled, be agreed as a true record.

#### 23.07.04 **Noted**:

The meeting considered correspondence to this meeting not dealt with as an Agenda item or in the Clerk's report (previously circulated as **WPC.23.07.01**) and agreed the following actions:

- Overgrown footpath Cemetery Road to Browns Close Clerk to write to local residents asking them to keep foliage bounding footpath cut back
- Bus Stop at Bury Road Clerk update website with advice from Stephensons Buses
- West Suffolk Council Public Spaces Protection Orders Clerk to post an item to website

## 23.07.05 **Noted**: Public Forum – (**Open Session**)<sup>1</sup>.19:03

That when invited, and following brief introductions of Councillors to the Member of Public, there were no comments or questions on any Agenda item or matter of concern from those members of the public present.

**Session Closed**: 19:06

23.07.06 **Noted**: Portfolios and take action as appropriate.

## 6.1 **Highways/VAS reporting**

**Clir Paul Couzens** 

An oral report from Cllr Couzens confirming that the post for use of the VAS machine at Nunnery Green had been located



Although sited within the 30mph, the speed limit does go up to 40mph within 50'.

## 6.2 **Emergency Planning**

**Cllr Mike Lavelle** 

An oral report from Cllr Lavelle that the most recent copy had been supplied to Suffolk County Council Emergency Planning team.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting in accordance with standing order 3(e) shall not exceed 15 minutes unless directed by the chairman of the meeting.

# 6.3 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Cllr Tracey Turner

The meeting considered an update on preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan (previously circulated as **WPC.23.07.02**) and Cllr Turner's further comments that:

- the nine Community Actions (9) defined by the group had been drawn out of the responses to the original Household Questionnaire in March 2022 and comments in response to subsequent consultations. Each Action is backed up by an evidence based rationale.
- The slides from Community Lead housing presentation from Community Action Suffolk set out many different options, including:
  - o community housing
  - o alms schemes
  - self-build and self-finish (30 hours a week to builder and a reduction on rent).

The schemes are not quick and can take up to five years. It was important to chose a scheme which is good for the parish so that when the NP goes out to consultation, it can be demonstrated how the NP Working Group and Parish Council have listened and acted so far in response to comments from residents of the parish.

- Landscape appraisal there were some very minor changes for clarity; and
- Masterplan there were some changes identified to ensure that the proposed scheme was relevant to Wickhambrook. These would then be checked with the NP Consultant (Places4People).

The Parish Council will have a draft by the September meeting to approve for consultation in the autumn.

#### Resolved

The parish council confirms the community actions (Appendix B to report WPC.23.07.02) for inclusion into the Neighbourhood Plan.

6.4 Road Safety Working Group

**Cllr Sandy Thwaite** 

The meeting considered an update on Road Safety (previously circulated as **WPC.23.07.03**) and

# Resolved

The parish council authorise the clerk to apply for a parish licence to undertake minor works on the Highways as set out in report WPC.27.07.03, at a cost of £150.

23.07.07 **Noted**: A summary of decisions taken at the Estates Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

## Min No. Action:

EC.23.07.07

#### **Agreed**

Interim appointments until new Councillors co-opted (and/or lay members appointed):

Youth Facilities - Cllr Lavelle

Six Acres - Cllr Lavelle

Cemetery & Churchyard – Cllr Couzens

Village Greens – Mr Medley

#### .08 Resolved

- 8.1.i The estates committee authorise the purchase of a replacement grit bin (following any necessary approval from Suffolk County Council) at a cost of not more than £150 plus VAT. Doctors corner
- 8.1.ii The committee authorise purchase of chestnut paling fence and posts for protection of the natural hedge to be re-established between the cemetery and cemetery road at a cost of not more than £365 plus VAT.
- 8.1.iiiThe committee authorise purchase of gate, fixings and paling fence and posts for the fence line between the cemetery and Footpath 24 at a cost of not more than £150 plus VAT.
- 8.1.iv The Estates Committee authorise the cost of purchasing a memorial plaque, and stake dedicating the Cherry Trees planted at the cemetery to the

Signed: Mike Lavelle Dated: 28/09/2023

Page 10728

memory of the late HM Queen Elizabeth II at a cost of not more than £50.00 plus VAT.

.09 Resolved

To authorise the cost of clearing and draining the pond at Coltsfoot Green at not more than £1400 plus VAT.

.10 Resolved

To authorise the cost of purchasing a new parish notice board for Shop Hill at a cost of not more than £1300 plus VAT.

.11 Resolved

To authorise the cost of purchasing wooden posts (with attachable solar lights) for Six Acres at a cost of not more than £375.00 plus VAT.

## 23.07.08 **Noted**:

The meeting confirmed appointment of the following officers of the Council:

- 8.1 Cemetery & Churchyard Officer
   8.2 Play area inspections Officer Cemetery Road
   8.3 Six Acres Officer
   8.4 Village Greens Officer
   8.5 (Cllr Mike Lavelle)
   8.6 (Cllr Mike Lavelle)
   8.7 (Mr Roger Medley)
- 23.07.09 **Noted**: Clerk's report that:
  - Documents required for the 2022-2023 audit had been submitted to external auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP, the period for public inspection having closed.
  - 9.2 VAT Claims for the months of May (£1596.79, paid), and June (£336.74) had been submitted.
  - 9.3 Excello Law had all necessary documentation and a draft agreement had been prepared to effect a transfer of the Memorial Clock on All Saints Church to the parish council (Min. 23.02.13 refers) WPC.23.07.04 and Resolved

The parish council approve the draft agreement supplied by Excello Law for assignment of the Memorial Clock to the parish council at a cost of £1 including VAT and delegate authority to the clerk to sign the agreement (subject to Excello Law advising that there have been no substantive changes following review and questions from the Parochial Church Council) on behalf of the parish council at a future date agreeable to both parties.

- 9.4 Items supporting Warm Winter Wednesdays had been purchased from a Locality Grant awarded by WS Cllr Sarah Pugh. The meeting asked the clerk to record its thanks to her for the kind contribution. The items:
  - 2 slow cookers, a water urn, bowls, spoons and ladles
  - table games and
  - a trolley for transporting items

are stored in the Chapel of Rest and the clerk would make a booking form available for loan to parish organisations available on the website.

- 9.5 Following the E.ON Next invoice for June (Electricity Chapel of Rest) the account was currently £86.96 in credit. The current contract would expire in September and the clerk having sought quotes, noted that it would be likely that a move to an alternate supplier may be necessary to achieve value for money. The meeting asked the clerk to re-check quotes in September and make any necessary changes to supplier.
- 9.6 The memorial testing in Wickhambrook Cemetery had been completed (236 tested) with 13 memorials only having been staked and banded. The clerk would next contact the holders of the grave deeds and ask them to rectify the Memorials. Abbey Memorials had provided an indicative quote for remedial works to memorials of between £185 £225 per memorial.
- 9.7 The proposal from Suffolk County Council (Highways) who had confirmed that they were scheduling installation of a small bus shelter on Cemetery

10730

- Road (previously circulated as **WPC.23.07.05**). The meeting asked the clerk to confirm to SCC Highways that they wished it to proceed on the basis of the proposals outlined in the above report.
- 9.10 Democratic Services had confirmed that they should be issuing an invoice for parish elections prior to the next meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September '23.

## 23.07.10 Noted:

# 10.1 The following income received

Vouche	Description	Supplier / customer	Account	Total
608	Wayleave Agreement Coltsfoot, Mo	Eastern Power Networks	Wayleaves	521.73
612	VAT refund from HMRC		VAT Repayments	509.16
613	PGS WC/CR/37N(B) 372	Bereaved Family	Cemeteries	275.00
614	Memorial WC/NEW/361N	Saxon Monumental Craft	Cemeteries	175.00
616	Interment WC/CR/37N(b)	East of England Funeral Care	Cemeteries	200.00
634	VAT refund from HMRC		VAT Repayments	1,596.79
635	Interment wc/new/301k	H. J. Paintin Ltd	Cemeteries	200.00
654	Credit Interest to 30.06.2023	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Interest	82.89

## 10.2 The payments listed below to be made:

Vouche	Date	Ref.	Description	Supplier / customer	Account	Total
636	28/07/2023	23.07.12.	EasyPC Accounts	Easy PC Accounts	Other Software Subscriptions	£ 60.00
637	28/07/2023	23.07.12.	EasyPC Accounts Licence Fee 2023	Easy PC Accounts	Other Software Subscriptions	£ 90.00
639	13/07/2023	23.07.12.	Meeting Room Hire 13/06/2023	Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre	Meeting Room Hire	£ 20.00
660	28/07/2023	23.07.12	Q1 Mileage & amp; Subsistence	Hilary Workman	Clerk/RFO Mileage and Subsistance	£ 64.08
661	28/07/2023	23.07.12	Homeworking Allowance Q1 20232.2	Hilary Workman	Clerk/RFO Mileage and Subsistance	£ 64.50

## Resolved

# That the payments to be made, listed above at 10.2 be authorised.

# 10.3 The following payments previously authorised<sup>2</sup>.

Vouche		Description	Supplier / customer	Account	Total
570	23.05	Stationery	Loft & Dires	Office Supplies	£ 2.95
571	23.05	Stationery	Ryman Limited	Office Supplies	£ 13.02
572	23.05		Adobe Systems Software Ireland Ltd	Other Software Subscription	
577	23.02.10.2 DD	Clerk mobile to 15/04/2023	3 Business Services, Hutchison 3G UK Ltd	Phone and Internet Service	£ 22.00
578	23.05	Grounds Maint Parish Day Ma	R.H. Landscapes & Daintenance Services L	Grounds Maintenance (Ger	£ 618.00
592	23.05	Internal Audit FY 2022.23	Suffolk Assn. of Local Councils	Audit	£ 368.40
500	22.02.10.1 LODP	Microsoft Basic 07/04/2023 -	Microsoft Ireland Operations Ltd	Microsoft Office Subscription	£ 37.98
601	23.02.10.1 LODP	Grounds Maintenance April C	R.H. Landscapes & Daintenance Services L	Grounds Contract	£ 1,632.00
602	23.04.7.2	Community Land Trust Netwo	Community Land Trust Network	Neighbourhood Plan	£ 78.00
603	23.02.10.2 DD	Pension Period 2 May '23	NEST Pensions	Pension Contributions	£ 48.23
604	23.04.19	Safety Equipment	TSSC	Safety and Security	£ 71.61
505	23.02.10.1 LODP	Salary Period 2 2023.24	Hilary Workman	Clerk/RFO Salary	£ 1,197.52
606	23.02.10.1 LODP	Tax/NI Period 2 2023.24	HMRC	HMRC/NI Contributions	£ 194.10
607	23.04.18	First Aid - Summer Fete	Wickhambrook Carnival Committee	Grants - Local Support and	£ 221.76
609	23.07	Bowling Green Water to 15.0	Wave (Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd	Water - Bowling Green	£ 244.09
610	22.02.10.1 LODP	Bin & Dog Waste Collect		Bin and Dog Waste Collect	£ 549.12
511	23.02.10.2 DD		3 Business Services, Hutchison 3G UK Ltd	Phone and Internet Service	
615	22.02.10.1 LODP		R.H. Landscapes & Daintenance Services L	Grounds Contract	£ 1,440.00
517			Microsoft Ireland Operations Ltd	Microsoft Office Subscription	
518	22.09.07i	May'23 Corporate Multipay S		Bank Service Charge - Unit	
519	23.02.10.1 LODP	Pension Period 2 May '23 Su		Pension Contributions	£ 1.51
620	22.09.7.ii	Jun'23 Corporate Multipay S		Bank Service Charge - Unit	
621			Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre	Meeting Room Hire	£ 30.00
622	22.09.7.ii		Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre	Neighbourhood Plan	£ 20.00
523	23.07	Transaction Charge Q12023		Bank Service Charge - Unit	
624	23.02.10.1 LODP		R.H. Landscapes & Maintenance Services L	Grounds Maintenance (Ger	
525	ESIOEITOIT EODI		Adobe Systems Software Ireland Ltd	Other Software Subscription	
626			Adobe Systems Software Ireland Ltd	Other Software Subscription	
627		Ribbon for unveiling new play		Services and Supplies	£ 10.00
628	23 02 10 1 1 000	Salary Period 3 2023.24	Hilary Workman	Clerk/RFO Salary	£ 1,216.79
629		Tax/NI Period 3 2023.24	HMRC	Clerk/RFO Salary	£ 212.07
630		Pension Contributions Period		Clerk/RFO Salary	£ 60.04
631	23.02.10.1 DD		3 Business Services, Hutchison 3G UK Ltd	Phone and Internet Service	
632		Print Toner Black +Colour	Printerland.co.uk	Office Supplies	£ 479.59
633	23.02.10.1 LODP	Website - renewal of domain		Website	£ 26.40
636	23.07.12.	EasyPC Accounts	Easy PC Accounts	Other Software Subscriptic	
637	23.07.12.	EasyPC Accounts Licence Fee		Other Software Subscription	
638			Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre	Meeting Room Hire	£ 10.00
639	23.07.12.		Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre	Meeting Room Hire	£ 20.00
640		Salary Period 4 2023.24	Hilary Workman	Clerk/RFO Salary	£ 1,216.99
641		Tax/NI Period 4 2023.24	HMRC	HMRC/NI Contributions	£ 211.87
642	23.02.10.1 LODF	Pension Contributions Period		Pension Contributions	£ 60.04
643	23.04.18	Community Lunches/WarmW		Community Engagement	£ 12.99
644	23.04.18				£ 79.98
645	23.04.18	Community Lunches/WarmW Community Lunches/WarmW		Community Engagement Community Engagement	£ 79.98 £ 71.99
646	23.04.18		Amazon EU S.a.r.I UK Branch		£ /1.99 £ 18.47
647	23.04.18			Community Engagement	£ 18.47
648	23.04.18		HeNanJiaSiDianZiShangWuYouXianGongSi	Community Engagement	£ 18.27 £ 99.34
649	23.04.18		HANGZHOUYIXINYIMAOYIYOUXIANGONGSI	Community Engagement	£ 99.34 £ 25.12
649 650			Amazon EU S.a.r.I UK Branch	Community Engagement	
550 551	23.04.18	Community Lunches/WarmW		Community Engagement	
	23.04.18		Amazon EU S.a.r.I UK Branch	Community Engagement	£ 20.48
552	23.04.18	Community Lunches/WarmW		Community Engagement	£ 57.99
553	23.04.18	Community Lunches/WarmW		Community Engagement	£ 11.27
655		To equate Instant Access Acc			-£ 9,900.70
657	23.09.11.6iii2 &		Microsoft Ireland Operations Ltd	Microsoft Office Subscription	
658	22.09.11.6iii.2	Jul'23 Corporate Multipay S		Corporate Multipay Service	
659	EC.23.04.09	Memorial Testing	Abbey Memorials (Stonecraft) Ltd	Cemetery and Churchyard	
656	Min. Ref 23.05.2	To equate Instant Access Acc	count		£ 9,900.70

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> noting that payments listed as vouches 636, 637 & 639 fell under item 10.2 above

- 10.4 That the current account balances and reconciliation to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, and the Chairman's confirmation that they are supported by relevant bank balances.
- 10.5 The Chair's review of the internal control statement (previously circulated as WPC.23.07.06) and noting that there were no proposed actions from the internal control statement

#### Resolved

The reviewed Internal Control Policy and template Control Statement be adopted by the parish council.

The chair signed the Internal control report for the first Quarter of 2023.24.

#### 23.07.11 Noted:

12.5

The meeting noted the review of income and expenditure against budget and proposed adjustments to the approved budget (previously circulated as WPC.23.07.07) and Resolved

To approve transfer between revenue budget lines and transfer of funds from Earmarked Reserves to Revenue budget lines as indicated in Tables 1 and 2 respectively of report WPC.23.07.06 and note net changes to earmarked reserves.

- 23.07.12 **Noted**: Planning results as notified by West Suffolk summarised below:
  - DC/23/0933/ELEC Application under The Overhead Lines 12.1 (Exemption) (England and Wales) Regulations 2009
    - upgrade overhead lines from 2 to 3 wire to reinforce capacity and better network security

# **Boyden End, Wickhambrook**

WSC: No Objections **WPC:** No Objections

12.2 DC/23/0697/TPO - tree preservation order one Ash (A1 on plan, within G1 on order) remove four low over extended branches overhanging neighbours garage on western aspect

> Commerce House Shop Hill Wickhambrook Suffolk CB8 8XL **WSC: Approve Application WPC: No Objections**

12.3 DC/23/0430/HEDGE - Hedgerow Removal Notice Removal of four metres of hedgerow

**Giffords Lane Wickhambrook Suffolk** 

**WSC:** No Objections **WPC:** No Objections (Min.23.04.16.1)

- 12.4 **DC/23/0020/HH** – Householder planning application
  - a. insertion of two windows to west elevation
  - b. replacement of window with french doors on ground floor east elevation
  - c. single storey rear and side extension (following demolition of existing conservatory)

#### **Rookery Farm Genesis Green Wickhambrook Suffolk CB8 8UX WSC:** Application Granted **WPC:** No objections (Min.23.02.16.1)

DC/23/0021/LB - Application for listed building consent

- a. insertion of two windows to west elevation
- b. replacement of window with french doors on ground floor east elevation
- c. single storey rear and side extension (following demolition of existing conservatory)
- e. internal alterations, repair and refurbishment of existing windows and replacement glazing to the west entrance door.

# **Rookery Farm Genesis Green Wickhambrook Suffolk CB8 8UX**

WSC: Application Granted **WPC:** No objections (Min.23.02.16.2)

12.6 DCON(A)/22/1179 - Application to discharge conditions 5 (further details), 6 (replacement windows), 7 (replacement doors), 9 (waste), 11 (EVC), 12 (AMS), 13 (landscaping), 14 (contamination), 15 (remediation), 18 (bat license), and 19 (ecological survey compliance) of DC/22/1179/VAR **Timber Barn Peacocks Farm Farley Green Wickhambrook Suffolk** 

**WSC:** Application Granted **WPC:** PC not consulted

12.7 **DC/22/1352/FUL** - Planning application

construction of conservation lake

**Conservation Lake East Of Clopton Green Wickhambrook Suffolk** 

**WSC:** Application Granted **WPC:** No comments (Min. 22.09.15.1)

12.8 **DC/22/0634/FUL** - Planning application

change of use of United reformed church and Sunday school building (class F1 (f) to create two dwellings (class C3) and associated landscaping

Persephone Meeting Green Wickhambrook Suffolk CB8 8XS

**WSC:** Application Withdrawn **WPC**: No comments (Min. 22.05.27.3)

12.9 **DC/22/0635/LB** - Application for listed building consent

a. conversion of United reformed church and Sunday school building;

b. with associated internal works and landscaping

Persephone Meeting Green Wickhambrook Suffolk CB8 8XS

**WSC:** Application Withdrawn **WPC:** No comments (Min. 22.05.27.4)

23.07.13 **Noted**: The following Planning applications notified by SEBC for comment:

**13.1 DC/23/1116/HH** – Householder planning application

a) first floor side and rear extension

b) replacement garage

4 Hill Cottages, Cemetery Road, Wickhambrook CB8 8XP

The meeting had no objections to the proposal.

13.2 Resolved:

That the Clerk make known the Council's comments on planning applications above to the Corporate Manager, Growth & Sustainable Planning at West Suffolk Council.

#### 23.07.14 **Noted**:

That when any other Planning matters for information, to be noted or for inclusion on a future agenda were invited, the following:

The meeting agreed that it would decide in respect of each and any application(s) it objected to (at the time of considering that application) whether to ask the clerk to attend any committee hearing West Suffolk (or subsequent planning inspectorate appeal hearing) in respect of that application to present its objection(s) and the reasons for such objection on behalf of the parish.

# 23.07.15 **Noted**:

The meeting considered a report on grounds rent and water use at Bowling Green, Six Acres (previously circulated as **WPC.23.07.08**) and asked the clerk to:

- write to bowls club explaining the increased cost of water bills and ask what they can
  do to make it more sustainable;
- ask Anglian water for additional advice on how to manage water better and whether they might contribute to any capital costs to make water useage at the Bowls Club more sustainable.

The meeting agreed that there would be no change to ground rents for the next financial year (£10 per club per annum).

## 23.07.16 **Noted**:

The meeting considered a review of the grounds specification for the next financial year 2024/25 (previously circulated as **WPC.23.07.09**) agreed by the Estates Committee at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July and, having agreed no changes to the specification as set out in the report, determined that it would continue on the basis of annual contracts, noting that it would provide for flexibility and allow for ongoing review of the specification.

## 23.07.17 **Noted**:

The meeting considered an update on parish lands (previously circulated as **WPC.23.07.10**) and asked the Clerk to proceed with a request to Havebury Housing Partnership to transfer land at Bury Road Play Park to the parish council as below:

- 1. The necessary transfer (blue); and
- 2. Optional transfer 1 (brown); and
- 3. Optional transfer 2 (green)



And additionally to seek to register the remaining third party land (shaded taupe above) within the fencing and grass border which has been adopted by Suffolk Council Council on the basis that the parish council maintains the land.

## 23.07.18 **Noted**:

That when any other matters for information, to be noted or for inclusion on a future agenda were invited, the following:

- Budget priorities for the financial year 2024-25
- Develop outline bid for Six Acres & play area improvements for grant funding
- Approval of draft Neighbourhood Plan for autumn consultation
- Procurement policy
- Overgrown footpath (FP5 Stradishall near Willis Farm) Clerk to write to landowner asking them to cut back
- DDay80 the meeting asked the clerk to look into options for beacons
- Chapel of rest the meeting asked the clerk to research Men's Sheds and report back
- Hedge at Recreation ground the meeting asked the clerk to notify National Power that branches were close to the wires.
- 23.07.19 **Noted**: That the scheduled date for the next meeting was Thursday 28th September beginning at 7:00pm at the Pavilion, Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre.
- 23.07.20 **Noted**: Close of meeting. 20:01