

10280 Minutes of the Meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 31st October 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. Walker and J Wilson.
County Cllr. M. Evans (arrived 7.45pm and attended the whole meeting)
Borough Cllr. D. Redhead (7.35 to 7.50pm)
Clerk R. Medley.
One member of the public was present.

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence

2. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 26th September 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 agreed to meet and discuss details in the week beginning 11th November.

4. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Sammons declared an interest in item 6.2.6 and 8.1.4 and Cllr. Walker in 6.2.4.

OPEN SESSION 7.35pm

Police representative Trish Sinclair presented the crime report. The four reported crimes in the last month were theft of equipment from the Water Tower at Depden, an attempted burglary of outbuilding in Nunnery Green and two properties broken into at Thorns Close area. As the second break in took place on 31st October any reports of strangers in the area would be appreciated. With regard to speeding on local roads Trish Sinclair advised that those concerned attend the next Safer Neighbourhood Watch meeting where speed check priorities are agreed.

County Cllr. M. Evans reported on ongoing Highway matters. She would check that action had been taken to repair the potholes in Nunnery Green area: she was hoping to get the 'Flood Team' involved in the Attleton Green drainage problem, and enforcement action would be considered with the overgrown hedges at Meeting Green. She confirmed that there was no possibility of the Parish Council taking over responsibility for verge cutting or footpath maintenance. Work had started on a planning application for Kelly's Meadow; the Borough believed that the existing entrance was sufficient for 7 caravans. Suffolk County Council had to find savings of £156 million over the next four years.

Borough Cllr. D. Redhead gave further details of the phasing out of the precept grant to parishes. 25% of the grant paid in the 2013/14 precept year would be removed over each of the next 4 years.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION at 8.15pm

6. Planning

6.1 The following applications had been considered by Councillors.

- 6.1.1 DC/13/0013/FUL Easterwood Bungalow, Baxters Green. Erection of new dwelling
- 6.1.2 DC/13/0071/HH Clematis Cottage, Meeting Green. Erection of studio
- 6.1.3 DC/13/0198/FUL Giffords Hall, Giffords Lane. Livestock building
- 6.1.4 DC/13/0306/HH Coltsfoot Cottage, Coltsfoot Green. Addition of rear extension

6.2 Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the District Council.

The District Council changed their mailing policy on 7th May 2013 and stopped sending out hard copies of decisions from that date. Details are to be found on the St Edmundsbury website.

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Chairman

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6.2	Applications granted/refused/withdrawn by the Borough Council	
6.2.1	SE/13/0503/LB Westlea Cottage, Attleton Green. Rear extension.	Granted
6.2.2	SE/13/0753/FUL Half Moon Cottage, Giffords Lane. Dwelling and cartlodge	Granted
6.2.3	SE/13/0782/HH 4, The Duddery. Two storey side extension	Granted
6.2.4	SE/13/0867/HH Crows Cottage, Malting End. Rear extension	Granted
6.2.5	SE/13/0960/HH 9, Nunnery Green. Conservatory	Granted
6.2.6	SE/13/0948/FUL Samples Farm, Ashfield Green. Replacement dwelling	Granted
6.2.7	DC/13/0045/FUL 8, Wickham House Bungalows. 8 lighting columns	Granted

7. Clerk's Report

- 7.1 Circulated documents.
 - 7.1.1 Clerks & Councils. Cllrs. agreed that the Indemnity Insurance should remain unchanged.
- 7.2 Other matters
 - 7.2.1 Replacement equipment. A new office chair, printer and chair mat had been purchased.
 - 7.2.3 Clerk's Holiday. The Clerk reminded Cllrs. that he would be on holiday from 4th to 11th November. Cllr. Girling would cover for that period.

8. Finance.

- 8.1 The following payments were approved.

8.1.1	001861 D. R. King & Son. Grounds Maint. Second payment	3,000.00
8.1.2	001862 Borough of St Edmundsbury. Emptying dog bins	82.68
8.1.3	001863 Donation to Royal British Legion	50.00
8.1.4	001864 The Rainbird Partnership. Printer and chair	152.36
8.1.5	001865 Anglian Water. Bowls Club use	140.56
8.1.6	001866 R. Medley. Purchase of printer cartridges	26.98
8.1.7	001867 R. Medley. Salary for October	485.18
8.1.8	DD BT Phone rental in September	26.30
- 8.2 The following income was noted.
 - 8.2.1 Additional inscription on headstone 26.25
- 8.3 Other financial matters
 - 8.3.1 Expenditure against forecast. Cllr. Sammons offered to check the draft figures, increase the size of the print out and circulate the summary.

9. Budget and the effect of the decrease in precept grant.

The grant from the Borough would drop from the current figure of £8,200 to £6,000 in the 2014/15 financial year. Cllrs. discussed the 'missing' £2,200 and agreed that this should be added to the Parish portion of the precept as it was money that would be spent to the benefit of the Parish.

10. Highway Matters

(See Open Session above)

11. Estates Matters

Draft minutes of the 10th October meeting had been circulated. There were no questions.

12. Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr. Girling offered to represent the Parish Council at the Remembrance Service.

13. Scene update.

Cllr. Bradbury would contact Becky Baldwin over half term and suggest possible changes.

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Chairman

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14. Reports from representatives from other village organisations

MSC. Cllr. Walker reported that the AGM would be held on 11th November in the main hall. This would mark the completion of the first year of the new committee.

15. Community First Responders.

15.1 The meeting held on 15th October was a great success. Of the 14 people attending 7 wished to take part in the Scheme. Four people who were unable to attend on the night had since expressed interest. Lidgate had hoped to run their own local version but had been advised by the County Organiser that they were too small so they will join the Wickhambrook, Stradishall and Ousden group. This will bring the total of active participants to around 15 and a group can survive on a minimum of 5.

Consideration must now be given to raising the initial £1500 for equipment, including a defibrillator, and £500 per year to continue the service. A donation would be made from the village fireworks event and County Cllr. Evans was willing to consider a contribution from her Locality Funds.

16. Affordable Housing.

The Clerk summarised progress to date. Cllr. Wilson offered to download details of Community Land Trusts and circulate them.

17. Appointment of Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Girling offered to stand. He was proposed by Cllr. Wilson and seconded by Cllr. Merritt. All Cllrs. were in favour of this appointment.

18. Correspondence

18.1 There were no comments on documents previously circulated.

18.2 Correspondence requiring a response.

18.2.1 Statement of Community Involvement. Cllrs. agreed that no response was necessary.

18.2.2 Refresher training for Cllrs. at Hargrave. Cllrs. Sammons and Merritt could be interested if timing and the programme were appropriate.

18.2.3 Dog microchipping. Cllrs. advised maximum publicity for this initiative.

18.2.4 Speeding on A143. The Clerk was instructed to respond

18.2.5 Jane Midwood's letter. The Clerk was instructed to respond.

18.2.6 Gypsy meetings. Cllr. Merritt could be interested in attending.

19. Suggested dates for 2014

Parish Council meetings. Thursdays – Jan. 23rd, Feb. 27th, Mar. 27th, April 24th, May 22nd*, June 26th, July 24th, Aug. 28th, Sept. 25th, Oct. 23rd and Nov. 27th.

Estates Committee meetings. Thursdays – Feb. 13th, Apr. 10th, June 12th, Aug. 14th, Oct. 9th and Dec. 11th.

'Special' meetings – Annual Parish meeting Thursday 8th May

Annual Parish Council meeting Thursday 22nd May*

Date of next meeting. Thursday 18th November 2013 in the MSC Pavilion at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.18 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 31st October 2013.

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Chairman

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Date