

WRENTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wrentham Parish Council held at The Village Hall on Monday 17th June 2024 at 7:30pm

Present: **The Chairman** – Cllr Ian Watson
Councillors – Cllr Mark Buxton, Cllr Sue Child, Cllr Alison Evans, Cllr Simon Forder, Cllr Lindsay Hanger, Cllr Lucinda Hutson, Cllr Roger Middleditch.
The Clerk – Mrs Frances Bullard (via video conferencing)
Suffolk County Council – not present
East Suffolk Council – Cllr Paul Ashton
Members of Public – One present.

		ACTION
1	OPEN FORUM	
	<p>Mrs Jacqui Wynn spoke re the Chapel Road Development – Jacqui feels the developers take no responsibility for the Bonsey Gardens side of Chapel Road as the PC will receive CIL monies. Large lorries drive up onto the grass verge and then back into the new development. ESC vans are also parking on the verges. This is causing bad feeling amongst residents. The grass is now higher than the planters and the footpath so narrow that you cannot walk to the village centre without getting wet feet. Residents in the area feel they do not matter. At the last PC Meeting Cllr Dunning offered to speak with the Developers – Cllr Ashton offered to pick this up and liaise with Jacqui.</p> <p>Mrs Jacqui Wynn spoke re the Bonsey Gardens play area – this is in a poor state. Cllr Hutson explained there are plans to improve the play area and ESC have set aside £30,000 for this project. ESC have now completed formal consultations and the results are awaited. Cllr Ashton will chase the results of the consultation & plans – he believes work is likely to begin in the Autumn. There will also be a new play area on the Jubilee Park development.</p> <p>Mrs Jacqui Wynn noted CIL spending was agreed for VAS signs & possibly village entrance signs last month – she believes these are a waste of money. Cllr Buxton said data shows that VAS do have an impact on a majority of drivers – there will also be some who pay no attention. Cllr Child asked Jacqui if she has any suggestions for CIL spending – Jacqui feels the whole village needs tidying up as it currently looks uncared for. Cllr Ashton spoke re ‘Suffolk is Amazing – Let’s Keep it That Way’ – he hopes this will make a real impact on the area.</p>	
2	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENC/E	
	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr David Fletcher, Cllr Keith Perry & Cllr Paul Wren.	
3	PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS	
	All as Sole Trustee of Village Hall Cllr Buxton – Item 12.5	
4	TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PC MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th MAY 2024	
	The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 20 th May 2024, having previously been circulated, were proposed as a true record by Cllr Forder & seconded by Cllr Buxton - All in favour – The Chairman will sign a copy.	
5	TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th MAY 2024	
	The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 20 th May 2024, having previously been circulated, were proposed as a true record by The Chairman & seconded by Cllr Hutson - All in favour – The Chairman will sign a copy.	
6	MATTERS ARISING	

<p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p> <p>6.5</p> <p>6.6</p> <p>6.7</p>	<p>26 High Street – Work has begun on the footpath. Cllr Ashton advised ESC conducted a survey last December which confirmed bin lorries cannot go down Palmer’s Lane – a solution is being sought – Cllr Ashton will explore whether the emergency access in The Larches could be utilised to give bin lorries access.</p> <p>Maintenance Work at Wrentham Old Cemetery – Cllr Ashton spoke re ‘East Suffolk is Amazing – Let’s Keep it that Way’ – this will extend to all outdoor spaces, roadside verges, litter/fly tipping. As part of this work Cllr Ashton is looking at a Cemetery Improvement Plan & will do all he can to make improvements. An email from Mrs Rosie Carter re trip hazards etc was discussed. Cllr Ashton will ask that areas which are regularly visited are identified and trimmed as a priority.</p> <p>Bonsey Gardens Play Park Refurbishment – Results of the public consultation are awaited – Cllr Ashton will chase these.</p> <p>Discussion re CIL spending – Village Sign - The Clerk has previously made enquiries with 2 companies and shared the findings with Councillors. It was agreed that the Norfolk company should be approached – The Clerk has done this and will share their brochure will all for consideration. Design of the sign was discussed – it was suggested the River Wren, Church, Pound & Guildhall could be included. <i>Meeting suspended</i> Mrs Wynn will seek views of the Knit & Natter group. <i>Meeting reconvened.</i></p> <p>VAS – Cllr Buxton spoke re Elan City signs – they are used in many villages including Blythburgh & Halesworth – they cost approx. £1400 less than our previous VAS. Cllr Buxton suggested one be purchased for the Walker Gardens pole. He would also like to site one at the Northern end of the A12 but overhanging trees would restrict the effectiveness of the solar panel. The Chairman proposed that CIL monies be used to purchase 1 Elan City VAS at a cost of £2250+VAT, seconded by Cllr Evans, All in favour. Cllr Buxton will progress.</p> <p>Move to gov.uk email address – Cllr Buxton has applied for the £100 grant. We may need to change our domain name as wrenthampc.gov.uk is unavailable. The Clerk said best practice would be for each Councillor to have a dedicated PC email address – The Chairman said currently this is guidance rather than compulsory – a vote was taken with no Councillors in favour of having a dedicated email address. Currently The Clerk’s email is used for any contact with the PC/Councillors.</p> <p>Chapel Road (matters raised by Mrs Wynn) – covered under Open Forum.</p> <p>Any other Matters Arising – None.</p>	<p></p> <p>FB</p> <p>MB</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>REPORT FROM CLLR ANNETTE DUNNING (SCC)</p>	
	<p>None received.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>REPORT FROM CLLR PAUL ASHTON (ESC)</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass cutting – the grass on the verges is now higher than the Jubilee Planters & residents have, rightly, been complaining. Cllr Ashton will chase grass cutting at Dyer Terrace – other roadside verges are scheduled to be cut by SCC next week. The Clerk asked if the PC could purchase additional cuts – Cllr Ashton said whilst this is possible through East Suffolk Services he would not recommend it at present. • Gull Wing Bridge due to open later in June. 	

9	HIGHWAYS ISSUES	
9.1	UPDATES RE SID/VAS SIGNS/REPLACEMENT POLES Covered during CIL discussion.	
9.2 9.2.1	Any Other Highways Matters – Entrance Signs at Northern end of Village – The Chairman & Cllr Hutson will propose some new dates to meet with Highways.	IW/LH
10	FLOODING MATTERS	
10.1	River Wren – desilting etc - The Clerk advised nothing more has been heard from the Environment Agency re desilting the river downstream of the Village Hall or from Cllr Dunning re the clearance of Himalayan Balsam. <i>Meeting suspended</i> Mrs Wynn said she believes there may be Himalayan Balsam in the flower bed at the Village Hall. <i>Meeting reconvened.</i>	
10.2	Emergency Plan – ongoing.	
11	PLANNING	
11.1	Any further Planning Applications/Matters – DC/24/1388/P3Q – Building and Land North of Falcon Inn Road, Change of use of the building and land from an agricultural building to a residential dwelling – This application was discussed last month and a holding objection lodged. The Clerk advised the application has been refused.	
12	FINANCE	
12.1	Balances at Bank – £92,255.26 Business Saver Account (WRAC) - £1.01 - Current Account - £38,902.14 - Business Saver Account (CIL) - £53,352.11. The Clerk confirmed SAGE balances with Bank Statements.	
12.2	Account received from Bus Shelter Cleaner - £55.00.	
12.3	Clerk's salary	
12.4	Quarterly HMRC payment – Nil	
12.5 12.5.1 12.5.2	Any other accounts received – Mrs Buckingham – Jubilee Planter - £22.99 Cllr Buxton – set up of new laptop for Clerk, security & mileage - £171.00	
	Above payments 12.2 to 12.5.2 were proposed by The Chairman & seconded by Cllr Child, All in favour (1 abstained due to a declared interest). Online payments have been raised and will be approved by The Chairman/Vice Chairman.	IW/LH
13	CORRESPONDENCE	
13.1 13.2 13.2.1 13.2.2	Email from Mrs Rosie Carter re reinstatement of Beacon – The one in Kessingland was built by the Kessingland Men's Shed. Cllr Ashton advised the CSP funded the Southwold Men's Shed and this should also cover Wrentham. The Clerk will make enquiries. Any Further Correspondence – Email from Mrs Jane Drane re Jubilee Planters – after discussion Cllr Hanger proposed the budget be raised to £50 per planter, seconded by Cllr Buxton, All in favour. The Clerk advised she had received a call from a resident re flooding of the car park in the centre of the village due to blocked drains.	FB
14	ANY OTHER BUSINESS/MATTERS FOR NEXT MONTHS AGENDA	
14.1 14.2 14.3	The Clerk advised she has offered the vacant allotment plot to those on the waiting list – 2 have declined – she will now go to the next on the list. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Forder for keeping on top of the weeds whilst the plot is empty. Cllr Forder said a section of hedge at Clyfton House is across the footpath & causing pedestrians to step into the A12 – Cllr Forder will visit in the morning. Cllr Forder advised Community Speedwatch Group were active today & reported 14 offenders.	
15	DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 15th July 2024 – 7:30pm	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:20pm

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