

# WRENTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Wrentham Parish Council  
held at The Village Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7:30pm**

**Present:** **The Vice Chairman** – Cllr Lucinda Hutson  
**Councillors** – Cllr Mark Buxton, Cllr David Fletcher, Cllr Simon Forder, Cllr Roger Middleditch, Cllr Keith Perry, Cllr Paul Wren.  
**The Clerk** – Mrs Frances Bullard  
**Suffolk County Council** – not present  
**East Suffolk Council** – Cllr Paul Ashton  
**Members of Public** – One present.

		<b>ACTION</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>OPEN FORUM</b>	
	<p>Mr Tony Robinson spoke re flooding &amp; asked if there had been any response from The Environment Agency. He wonders whether they will do any clearance at all now that Himalayan Balsam has spread. The Clerk explained that despite chase ups there has been no update from the Environment Agency since they said they would begin the desilting process. The Chairman plans to escalate the matter to our new MP. Cllr Perry advised the Village Hall Management Committee will discuss the clearance of the riverbank at the Village Hall.</p> <p>Mr Robinson said with the increase in traffic through the village he would like to see a bypass reconsidered. The Vice Chairman &amp; Cllr Ashton said it is very unlikely that there would be an appetite or funding for such a scheme.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENC/E</b>	
	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Sue Child, Cllr Alison Evans, Cllr Lindsay Hanger & The Chairman, Ian Watson	
<b>3</b>	<b>PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS</b>	
	All as Sole Trustee of Village Hall.	
<b>4</b>	<b>TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PC MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b>	
	The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, having previously been circulated, were proposed as a true record by Cllr Forder & seconded by Cllr Perry - All in favour – The Vice Chairman signed a copy.	
<b>5</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>26 High Street</b> – The Clerk made councillors aware of emails received from residents regarding the recent footpath work and issues when exiting Palmers Lane. Councillors discussed the matter and are happy with the work now it has been redone. It was felt there has been no change to the exit from Palmers Lane. Refuse collections – it was noted that the new shop has now opened and bins from Palmers Lane properties are still being left at the front of it. Cllr Ashton has met with the resident of The Larches who raised concern about the emergency gate being used by refuse collectors to collect the bins from Palmers Lane. Cllr Ashton is working on a plan and will push for a decision.	
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Maintenance Work at Wrentham Old Cemetery</b> – Cllr Ashton is progressing an improvement plan for the whole district. He will also look into forming a local working party, in conjunction with ESC, for Wrentham Cemetery. Cllr Ashton will link with The Chairman to set a date & rally volunteers.	
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Bonsey Gardens Play Park Refurbishment</b> – Results of the public consultation have been received – The Clerk will share with all. The Clerk, Chairman & Vice Chairman had a Teams meeting with Tim Snook & Sarah Shinnie of ESC. They have secured £60,000 of funding for the play area, this will provide replacement	

<p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p>	<p>equipment for toddlers and younger children. ESC need to know before going out to tender whether the Parish Council are going to contribute to the scheme from CIL funding. Following discussion, The Vice Chairman proposed we allocate £20,000 from our CIL funds to the project, this is subject to final approval once plans are received &amp; we will also stipulate that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• we would like to see activities for older youngsters</li> <li>• goalposts be included as these can be used by all age groups</li> <li>• a zipwire is <b>not</b> included as the previous one led to complaints from residents</li> <li>• the existing equipment is carefully assessed and recycled wherever possible</li> <li>• the plans for the new play area at the Chapel Road development are taken into account to avoid duplication</li> <li>• a review of the access to the park be undertaken</li> <li>• attention be given (or removal) of the double hedge around the play area</li> </ul> <p>This was seconded by Cllr Buxton, all in favour, The Clerk will update ESC.</p> <p><b>Discussion re CIL spending –</b> The Clerk will update the CIL Spending spreadsheet to reflect the commitment to the play area.</p> <p><b>Any other Matters Arising –</b> None.</p>	<p>FB</p> <p>FB</p>
<p>6</p>	<p><b>REPORT FROM CLLR ANNETTE DUNNING (SCC)</b></p>	
	<p>No report received.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p><b>REPORT FROM CLLR PAUL ASHTON (ESC)</b></p>	
	<p>Cllr Ashton advised –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a Government consultation re National Planning Framework – there is an uplift across the Country in housing targets but the percentage rise in Suffolk is one of the largest - East Suffolk Housing target will increase from 900 to 1600 – the Planning Team are responding &amp; will make their covering letter public. The Local Plan to 2036 currently includes 20,000 houses worth of land. The Levelling Up Bill proposes double Council Tax for second homes.</li> <li>• Changes to recycling legislation proposed by the previous Government are supported by the current Government – by April 2026 it will be compulsory to make weekly kerbside food waste collections – this will lead to less waste going into black bins. By April 2026 there will also be kerbside collections of glass &amp; tetrapacks. New bins for Paper and cardboard will be introduced. Food waste will be collected weekly – glass, plastic &amp; tetrapak collection will alternate with paper &amp; cardboard on a weekly basis. The residual waste (black bins) will be collected every 3 weeks. Several Councils have already introduced these changes &amp; found the system works. Further details of these changes will be publicised on the ESC website &amp; media.</li> <li>• Gull Wing Bridge in Lowestoft is now open.</li> <li>• Tour of Britain cycle race has taken place and gave good coverage of Suffolk.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Wren asked if Sizewell Community Fund would provide additional VAS funding – Cllr Ashton said bids would be considered if an impact from Sizewell C could be demonstrated.</p>	

<b>8</b>	<b>HIGHWAYS ISSUES</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<b>UPDATES RE SID/VAS SIGNS/REPLACEMENT POLES</b> Cllr Buxton advised to have an upgraded VAS & poles for every location would cost approx. £11,500 – this is 4 new VAS and 3 upgraded poles. The Clerk will add this to the CIL Spending spreadsheet. Cllr Buxton will seek to identify additional sites for VAS.	<b>FB</b> <b>MB</b>
<b>8.2</b> <b>8.2.1</b>	<b>Any Other Highways Matters –</b> Entrance Signs at Northern end of Village – The Chairman & Cllr Hutson will propose some new dates to meet with Highways. Carried.	<b>IW/LH</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>FLOODING MATTERS</b>	
<b>9.1</b> <b>9.1.1</b>	<b>River Wren – desilting etc –</b> As per Open Forum.	
<b>9.1.2</b>	<b>Emergency Plan – ongoing.</b>	<b>IW</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>PLANNING</b>	
<b>10.1</b> <b>10.2</b>	<b>DC/24/3125/TCA – 2m Crown Reduction and Pruning of Gleditsia – 3 Eagle Court</b> No objections. <b>Any further Planning Applications/Matters –</b> None.	
<b>11</b>	<b>FINANCE</b>	
<b>11.1</b>	Balances at Bank – £87,586.81 Business Saver Account (WRAC) - £1.01 - Current Account - £37,164.30 - Business Saver Account (CIL) - £50,421.50. The Clerk confirmed SAGE balances with Bank Statements.	
<b>11.2</b>	Account received from Bus Shelter Cleaner - £69.00 (inc £14 for new broom)	
<b>11.3</b>	Clerk's salary & Expenses of £43.14	
<b>11.4</b>	Quarterly HMRC payment – Nil	
<b>11.5</b>	Invoice from Suffolk.Cloud for renewal of domain name, registration of gov.uk domain, Clerk's mailbox - £106.50	
<b>11.6</b>	Invoice from Zurich Municipal – Parish Council Insurance (LTA) - £570.65	
<b>11.7</b>	Any other accounts received – None.	
	Above payments 11.2 to 11.6 were proposed by The Vice Chairman & seconded by Cllr Perry, All in favour. Online payments have been raised and will be approved by the Vice Chairman.	<b>LH</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
<b>12.1</b> <b>12.2</b> <b>12.3</b> <b>12.4</b> <b>12.5</b> <b>12.6</b> <b>12.6.1</b> <b>12.6.2</b>	The Clerk advised there is a SALC East Area Forum on 1.10.24 at 7pm via Zoom should anyone wish to attend. The Clerk advised there is a Your Police Your Say with the Chief Constable & Police & Crime Commissioner on 3.10.24 6pm at the Wherry Hotel or Via Teams on 6.11.24 at 6pm should anyone wish to attend. <b>Email from Mr Easton re footpath around Jubilee Park development –</b> Mr Easton was concerned that the surface used would not be hardwearing and would be muddy in Winter. The Clerk contacted Cripps Developments who explained the reasons for the surface used & The Clerk has updated Mr Easton. <b>Email from Mr Rayfield re junction of A12 &amp; Palmers Lane &amp; parking outside the Village Store –</b> as per item 5.1. The Clerk advised the next Community Partnership Meeting will focus on Cost of Living Support – it takes place on 17.09.24 at East Anglia Transport Museum should anyone wish to attend. <b>Any Further Correspondence –</b> <b>Email from Mr Seatory re standard of work to pavement outside 26 High Street –</b> as per item 5.1. <b>Email from Rosie Carter re hedge at 33 Southwold Road –</b> Cllr Middleditch will contact the owner.	<b>RM</b>

<b>12.6.3</b>	<b>Email received from Reydon Parish Council re the potential closure of Reydon Pharmacy</b> – The Clerk will respond asking if they have more detail of why the pharmacy may be closing.	<b>FB</b>
<b>12.6.4</b>	<b>Emails from Copyright Agent</b> – The Clerk advised that emails have been received from Copyright Agent in regard a photograph in the Jubilee Park brochure the PC shared on their website on behalf of Cripps Developments. It is unclear if these are a scam but The Clerk has shared with The Chairman & Vice Chairman, as well as making Cripps Developments aware as it relates to their brochure. The Clerk will update if any further correspondence is received.	
<b>13</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS/MATTERS FOR NEXT MONTHS AGENDA</b>	
<b>13.1</b>	<b>Jubilee Park</b> – The Clerk will chase a response re the bund on Priory Road side of the development – in some places it is over 3m high and very steep – there has been no planting of the top of the bund as yet which was part of the planning conditions.	<b>FB</b>
<b>13.2</b>	<b>Clerk's Appraisal</b> – The Clerk will arrange a date with The Chairman & Vice Chairman.	<b>FB</b>
<b>13.3</b>	The Vice Chairman spoke re events planned for next year – Event to mark the 80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day to be held on 10.05.25 & a Drumhead Service to commemorate VJ Day on 17.08.25 – The Clerk will add to next agenda to allow funding to be discussed.	<b>FB</b>
<b>13.4</b>	Cllr Wren advised he has discovered some very old plans of St Nicholas Church – The Clerk suggested he link with Rosie Carter, the Village History Recorder.	
<b>13.5</b>	Cllr Forder advised a post in the village centre car park has again been knocked over by a car – The Clerk will report.	<b>FB</b>
<b>13.6</b>	Cllr Fletcher asked that replacement pads be ordered for the Defibrillator. The Clerk will progress.	<b>FB</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 – 7:30pm</b>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:45pm