

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16th May 2019 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Hannah Pretty, Matthew Wetmore, Geoffrey Kiddy, Paul Parry, Camilla Prior, Frank Burton, Beryl Matthews

APOLOGIES: Tony Goldson

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO, PRESENT: Bill Simpson (Parish Clerk), Cllr. Alison Cackett, 2 Members of the public

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

The Chair read out the report for the past year 18/19, copy attached. There were no questions arising.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

Hannah Pretty was elected Chair and Mathew Wetmore was elected as Vice Chair. All members of the Parish Council duly signed the acceptance of office.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None declared

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 21st March 2019:

Minutes of the meeting were signed as true copies.

REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS.

Local Hospice request for donation was rejected.

NSPCC request for fund raising coffee morning event was rejected but the Chair took the request to see if any resident or business might want to arrange.

It was reconfirmed that future requests for dispensations would only be considered if directly relating to the Parish or it's Parishioners.

PARISH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE.

The Parish Council agreed to readopt the existing Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct, and to continue to accept Summons to attend Parish Council Meetings and communications via email.

REPORTS:

Alison Cackett advised of the new East Suffolk District which she and Tony Goldson were elected to for our local area. They hold a surgery every 2nd Saturday in the Halesworth library.

The VAS equipment will in use during June.

Village Hall Repairs- There are still planning issue to overcome regarding the new doors and windows. Fund raising is progressing well but with an estimated shortfall currently of £8.000.00. Plans are in place to raise further funds. Works to the floor

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

have been commissioned and expected to take place mid-June and will take 3 days. Roof repairs have been commissioned and expected to start late August / early September and will take 2 – 3 weeks.

Village Sign. The restorer has reported that having had the old paint removed, the condition of the wood is in a far worse condition than expected. Restorer advises a repair is possible but will require a lot of extra filling at additional cost and estimates circa £1,500.00 Recommended having a new sign carved at an estimated cost of circa £2,000.00. Matthew Wetmore will inspect the sign at the restorer's premises, photograph and report back.

Proposed storage facility on the village field. No further updates received.

Water supply to the Village field. Clerk submitted the account application forms to SES Business Water on 31st January 2019 and chased 27th March but has had no response to date. Will chase again.

Defibrillator. An official commissioning event inviting those that donated and the local press etc. is still in planning.

Paths at Brickhill Cottages. Still trying to see if any funding might be available to improve access and install disabled access. Clerk has contacted Highways to try and determine ownership of the "lay-by" which constantly floods in order to effect repairs.

Village Litter Pick. Was another success. We have been promised a £25 cheque for the work done from Waveney Norse, which will be donated to the Village Hall fund. A further day will be planned for October.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS:

DC/19/1138/FUL Wissett Village Hall – Repairs were approved subject to East Suffolk Council and Conservation Officer approval.

DC/19/1745/TCA The Rickyards, Mill Lane - Works to Oaks and Hornbeams - Was approved.

It was resolved to consider costs of the possible repainting of the bridge railings over The Beck at Lodge Lane after quotations for the work had been obtained.

It was resolved to purchase a new traffic safety mirror for opposite Buntings Lane subject to a resident installing it.

FINANCE:

The 2018/2019 audit has been signed off by our internal auditor and was duly signed off by the Chair and the Clerk as Responsible Finance Officer. The Certificate of Exemption - AGAR 2018/19 Part 2 will be sent to the external auditors and details posted on the Village website.

The Village Asset Register was reviewed.

The budget for the year 2019-2020 was reviewed.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

Suffolk Assn of Local Councils	SALC subscription	£135.45
Mr W Simpson	Clerks salary for 6 months	£560.46
Wissett Parochial Church Council	Churchyard Grant	£980.00
Wissett Web	Grant	£100.00

All were approved and cheques signed.

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

INCOME RECEIVED:

East Suffolk Council	First half of 19/20 precept	£1,906.00
Brampton & Stoven PC	VAS insurance contribution 18/19	£18.72
Blyford & Sotherton PC	VAS insurance contribution 18/19	£18.72
Ash Farm Partners	Rent for land near Rumburgh	£100.00

Account balances at 15th May – Current £2,783.96 - Deposit £26,916.26

Clerk to arrange for Andrew Howlett to be removed from the bank mandate and for Camilla Prior to be added.

CORRESPONDENCE/CIRCULARS:

Various circulars were shown with no actions required.

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL;

Clerk reminded all Parish Councillors to complete their election expense forms, even if nothing spent, and to complete their Register of Interest details with East Suffolk Council. Clerk has registered each of them on the system and all should have had an email to link to the system.

The “Our Water” survey details and forms have now been returned to the Clerk, who will pass on.

A Parishioner had raised a concern about the possible use of “round up” or similar that could contaminate our waterways. Our contractor, Waveney Norse, responded; *“Where we do need to control weeds, we use a product called Barclay Trustee which is classed as a non-toxic, clean label product. All of our staff who apply herbicides are NPTC trained and certificated so we are confident that any chemicals used by us are applied in accordance with the label instructions and legislation.”*

The quote from Waveney Norse to cut and trim the agreed areas of grass between the Village car park and the street inc. ditch sides and also the grass verge outside the village hall inc. road side bank of the ditch, had been sent to our old email address. We now have this and the Parish Council agreed for them to continue as it is already in the budget.

A reminder on how to report highway issues such as potholes, street lights, blocked drains etc. This should be done online and the best place to start is <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/>

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 18th July 2019 at 7:30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting 16th May 2019

Chairman's Report 2018/2019

Finance:

I can report that the Council's finances remain good with a yearend closing balance of £258.53 in the current account and £26,916.26 in the saver account.

The Council's expenditure was £6,956.76 with income of £5,329.34. The deficit of £1,627.42 was mainly due to the maintained increased grant for the upkeep of the Churchyard, contribution to the "Battles Over" event, purchase of the defibrillator and 2 new salt/grit bins. The increase in income was due to donations towards the defibrillator. We also successfully reclaimed 2017-2018 VAT at £331.49.

This is in line with the budget plans.

The precept for 2019/2020 increases 4.55% from £3,646.00 to £3,812.00.

Developments over the year:

We continue to use the community benefit monies to make contributions towards various Village projects. These include the purchase of a defibrillator installed at The Plough, a promised grant towards the Village Hall refurbishment, the increased contribution to the upkeep of the Churchyard, a donation towards the "Battles Over" celebration in November 2018, 2 new salt /grit bins situated in Lodge Lane and Wash Lane and the refurbishment of the Village Sign in April/May 2019.

Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) signs continue to be used in the village every 3 months at present.

The village website continues to be a source of Parish Council information, as well as the Parish Email list comprising of residents who have signed up under the GDPR rules.

Grants:

The Parish Council made grants of £980.00 for churchyard maintenance, £100.00 for the Wissett Web, £433.77 to the Village Hall Committee to pay for the annual insurance, £250.00 to Halesworth Town Council to help maintain the free car parking and £445.91 to the Wissett Community Council to cover costs of the "Battles Over" village event.

Chairman's thanks:

I should like to thank all members of the Council and the Clerk for their help, support and time over the last year. In particular, I would like to thank Julian Harris and Andrew Howlet who, after many years' service as Parish Councillors, decided to step down in September 2018 and March 2019 respectively. Frank Burton QC was co-opted to the Council in October 2018.

I would also like to thank Peter Aldous MP and County Councillor Tony Goldson for their generous donations towards the purchase of the Defibrillator.

I would also like to thank County Councillor Tony Goldson and District Councillor David Ritchie for their continued support for the village over the last year.