

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY  
2 MARCH 2020 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Wheatley, Mrs Moore, Mrs Jenkins, Mr Aldis, Mrs Ewans, Mr Hardiman and 22 members of the public.

**Public comment:** A resident asked for interest in setting up a movement and music class for those with dementia and their carers. It was recommended that an item was put in the next Woolpit Diary.

Resident asked if revised drawings for the Green Road mitigation scheme have been received. None to date.

Mr Aldis advised that The Swan is for sale as a going concern.

The Litter Pick date has changed to 25 April 2020.

VE Commemorations on 8 May will include Bingo in the evening for those who do not wish to attend the church service.

Trees in the neighbouring garden have fallen in the strong winds into the Millennium Garden area of the playing field. The Clerk was asked to write to the landowner for them to be removed.

*Action: the Clerk*

**County Councillor's report.** Ipswich Northern route will not proceed to the next stage. New LED street lighting is proposed to reduce the county's carbon footprint. SCC approved its budget to spend more on vulnerable residents. SCC Highways are to waive fees for VE and VJ Day Commemoration events. Suffolk County Council is issuing body cameras to some of its crossing patrol officers after 'drive-through' incidents and verbal abuse at school crossings. A number of shops in Suffolk are offering refills for a host of household items in a bid to cut down on the amount of plastic and packaging we use. East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust are consulting on plans to build a new centre at Colchester Hospital for all of their patients who need planned orthopaedic surgery, such as hip and knee replacements. The consultation closes on 1 April.

County Cllr Storey advised that Highways feel that signage at the north of Bury Road is sufficient so that lorries do not use Broomhill Lane. Cllrs Storey will discuss parking along Heath Road with Highways.

**District Councillors report.** The MSDC budget was discussed and agreed at the full Council meeting on 27 February. The administration proposed a 1.66% increase in Council Tax (5p per week on a Band D property). Council house rents are to increase by 2.7% (average £2.19 a week). MSDC have gone into partnership with Icen Homes to deliver a number of affordable housing developments over the next few years. There is a commitment to retain RTB receipts and to increase borrowing moderately to fund such developments. MSDC agreed to enter a development management agreement with Jaynic Properties Limited to promote and develop the Gateway 14 site. The site currently has outline planning consent for B1, B2 and B8 uses. BMSDC Development Management team has been shortlisted in the Best Use of Digital and Technology category at the annual iESE – Public Sector Transformation Awards 2020. The category recognises the innovative use of digital tools and technology in order to improve services for residents. All Locality Grant funding for the year has been allocated. This includes £1000 to WPC for CCTV. Cllr Mansell will again report that rubbish is being dropped from bins and not picked up during waste collection.

1. **Apologies for absence** from Dr Geake and Mr Howard.

2. **To receive declarations of interest.** There were none.

3. **To approve minutes of the meetings 3 & 17 February 2020.**

Both sets of minutes were approved and signed.

#### 4. Planning – to consider current applications and receive MSDC decisions.

**20/00779** Use of land for the storage and distribution of containers including lighting, hard surfacing and landscaping. Goldstar Transport, Elmswell Road.

This is the same land and usage which was turned down by MSDC in 2012 and the appeal dismissed by the Inspector in 2013. There is no limit on the height of the containers or restriction on working hours. Cllrs unanimously approved to object to the proposal due to the detrimental effect to nearby residents and noise disturbance.

**19/03500** Application under Section 73 of the Town & Country Planning Act permission 18/01279 without compliance with Condition 7 (landscaping scheme) to relocate a landscape bund. Land at Lawn Farm, Warren Lane. MSDC decision – granted.

**19/03851** Outline Permission (some matters reserved – access and landscaping to be considered) for development comprising of a mix of B1/B2/B8 uses. Land at Lawn Farm, Warren Lane. MSDC decision – granted.

#### 5. Clerk's Report

**MSDC bin emptying charges 2020/21** – litter bins £36.05 and dog bins £42.23.

**Street Sweeper bin** – this is to change to a fortnightly collection and therefore MSDC will provide a second bin.

**Drain cover outside 7 The Street** – SCC has advised that the stuck cover has now been freed and the drain will be cleaned as part of a scheduled clean later in the year.

**Footpath 4** – will be temporarily closed 4-18 March to facilitate cable laying to the adjacent Green Road development site.

**G39 lighting units** – SCC has received confirmation from UKPN that the necessary approvals have now been received and work commenced from 17 February.

**APM speaker** – it was agreed not to have a speaker as attendance numbers have been low the last few years.

**Dermuth, The Green** – a next door resident has invited Cllrs to view the recent planning proposal from their garden. Cllrs do not feel that this would make them change the response on the application.

#### 6. To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.

**MSDC** to acknowledge the nomination of The Swan Inn as an Asset of Community Value. The nomination will be assessed and the outcome advised by 28 March. 3 additional street names for the Green Road development have been requested. Cllrs put forward Lark Rise, Walters Way and Field Close. **CAB** thanks for the donation of £500.00. **A resident** asking for a communication group to be set up to advise of burglaries etc. There is already a social media group 'Nextdoor' for such matters. **A resident** regarding construction noise. **NP Steering Group** list of comments from the Reg 16 responses. It was proposed, seconded and approved to send the list to MSDC for the Examiner. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Rural Services Network** Rural Bulletin 4, 11, 18, 25 February, Funding Digest February, Rural Strategy Roadshows 2020. **MSDC** Regulation 16 responses to Woolpit NP, Town & Parish Councils Liaison meeting additional information and overview, MSDC funded PCSOs change to duties. **SALC** Trade Union Pay Claim update, ebulletin 7 & 20 February, Mid Suffolk Area Forum programme 17 March, Catch it, Bin It, Kill it campaign. Village Halls and Community Buildings survey – passed to Woolpit Village Hall and Institute committees, Allotment management course 16 March. **SCC** SCC funded school travel 2020/21, Traffic Regulation Order regarding civil parking enforcement. **UK Power Networks** Roadshow 25 March 2020. Green Road construction complaints 2, Rags Lane development 4, copies of letters to Jo Churchill MP regarding Hopkins Homes Bury Road 2.

#### 7. To approve accounts for payment.

W Jarvis & Sons £300.00 tree work Millennium Garden, Laura Bayly £44.00 Millennium Garden February, Wavelength Aerials £972.95 CCTV cameras, Suffolk

County Council £278.14 pension payment, Mr Harknett £55.99 litter picking February. All accounts were approved and cheques issued. It was unanimously agreed to set up Direct Debit payment for the annual data protection fee to the Information Commission for £35.00. Payments by Standing Order Mrs P Fuller £835.45 February salary, Mr R Bulk £175.33 February salary.

**8. To receive a monthly financial report.**

The book balance at the end of February is £107,116.99 which needs to be reconciled to the bank statement once received.

**9. To consider the granting by MSDC of Planning Application DC/18/04247 for 300 homes off Bury Road and take any necessary action.**

MSDC decision to grant permission is very disappointing. The possibility of a Judicial Review (which can only look at the legality and the legal process of the decision) or asking the Secretary of State to call in the application were discussed. It was felt that nothing would be gained by calling in to the Secretary of state as he only does this for matters of national significance and on previous occasions he has advised that it is a matter for the local area. Discussion followed regarding the cost of getting legal council's opinion on a Judicial Review. East Bergholt and Thurston may be able to advise as they have recently been through or are considering taking the same action. Mrs Ewans will investigate. Mr Guyler proposed that this matter is discussed further at the next meeting with knowledge on how to base the decision and likely costs. This was seconded and carried. *Action: Mrs Ewans*

**10. To consider an addition CCTV camera to cover the youth shelter and take any necessary action.**

Having had the additional camera to cover the Millennium Garden there is capacity to add 3 more cameras. Mr Hardiman feels that an additional camera to cover the youth shelter would be beneficial since there is still broken glass being found in the area. This would allow the current camera to cover the whole of the car park. This was agreed at a cost of £300.14 + VAT. *Action: Mr Hardiman*

Mrs Jenkins left the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

**11. To consider Parish Council email addresses for councillors and take any necessary action.** This was carried forward.

**12. To consider the need for new committee members for Woolpit Childcare Centre and take any necessary action.**

The Clerk was asked to find out how frequently the committee meets, what else is involved and any other relevant information. *Action: the Clerk*

**13. To consider the Gold Star application for a Vehicle Operator's License on the Jewers Site, Elmswell Road and take any necessary action.**

Goldstar has applied for a licence for 20 goods vehicles and 20 trailers on the Jewers grainstore site. The Jewers site does not have planning consent for lorries and trailers not pertaining to grain/seed storage. This use would be detrimental to the local area causing a noise nuisance. It was unanimously agreed to write to the Traffic Commissioner objecting to the application. *Action: the Clerk*

**14. To consider a request for a bus shelter in the centre of the village and take any necessary action.**

Cllrs feel it would be difficult to find a suitable type for the Conservation Area and would take up much of the public footway. Shelter can be found in the pump area. Cllrs agreed not to pursue the matter.

**15. To receive an update on the VE commemorations 8 May 2020.**

The working group arranging events are meeting on 5 March with an on-site meeting with the farmer, fireworks company and Tim Parker from the Cricket Club on 11 March.

**16. To consider the Clerk's hours and take any necessary action.**

The Clerk's work equated to 16 hours per week during 2019. She is currently contracted for 15 hours per week. It was agreed to increase contracted hours to 16 a week from 1 April 2020.

**17. To receive a report on the allotments and take any necessary action.**

The bonfire took place on 24 February, many allotments holders taking advantage to get rid of rubbish. The water still needs to be moved.

**18. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.** Nothing to report.

**19. To receive a report from the Village Hall and Playing Field Committee.**

The next meeting is 3 March 2020.

**20. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 6 April 2020 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute.** Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.29 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....