

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

**Present:** Mr Howard (Chairman), Mrs Jenkins, Mrs Moore, Mr Wheatley, Mrs Ewans, Mr Aldis, Mr Hardiman, Dr Geake and 8 members of the public.

**Public comment:** Mr Hardiman advised that artic lorries are coming up Broomhill Lane from the Bury Road end as there are no signs say unsuitable for lorries. County Cllr Storey will look into a sign.

Green Road closure signs were left in situ over the weekend. Anglian Water has been fined £1000.00 as they should have been removed by midnight 31 January. The bin operatives are still leaving bins on pavements. District Cllr Mansell will report again to the relevant officer.

Several residents have complained regarding procedures of MSDC planning committee where one week both Woolpit applications had to be adjourned and last week the application was not heard due to a lack of time.

Mrs Ewans advised that a meeting has been held with the owners of the Rags Lane site and a dialogue opened regarding the use of the rest of the site excluding the 5 properties. It is hoped a parish council meeting can be convened to discuss further the application before it goes to before the planning committee again on 19 February. There was a mixed reaction to this and it is questionable whether our objection to the current application could be revoked. It was unanimously agreed to await the return of Mr Guyler before taking further.

Community Watch Scheme need additional volunteers and the speed gun could need replacing shortly. District Cllrs reminded members that Locality Funding will be available for the 2020/21 financial year.

A flower planter appears to have been removed from the centre of the village.

**County Councillor's report.** Suffolk's recent Care Quality Commission statistics are in and Suffolk is now top of the table for comparator local authority areas. Cllr Hicks has made a statement regarding the Ipswich Northern route and will be bringing a paper to a meeting of Cabinet on 25 February where the final decision will be made. Suffolk County Council's Cabinet gave the go-ahead for a new permit scheme that they hope will reduce delays on Suffolk's roads caused by roadworks. Suffolk residents are being urged to dispose of their waste safely to protect the countryside as part of a new fly-tipping campaign. Suffolk Highways plans to repair areas of blockwork, and improve two existing crossing points, on Angel Hill and Crown Street in Bury St Edmunds. The £3.9million flagship new recycling site in Fornham Road, Bury St Edmunds, opened on 16 January and replaces the now closed recycling centre at Rougham Hill. Councils in Suffolk are ramping up activity in order to take on responsibility for local parking management from 6 April 2020. Parking patrols in Suffolk will soon be managed by district and borough councils, in a bid to improve parking locally and drive down nuisance and unlawful parking in towns and villages across Suffolk. Suffolk County Council launched a review of its Children's Centre service, with a view to strengthening its current family offer and expanding services. There is a County Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February. This will be discussing the budget proposed for the financial year 2020/21.

**District Councillors report.** There is currently a review of planning enforcement processing and procedures. The long term aim to make the enforcement service swifter, more efficient and transparent and it is hoped that this will be completed by the end of March. The budget and financial strategy will be discussed at Cabinet meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February. It is proposed that there will be a Council Tax increase of 1.66%, this equates for a Band D property to £2.76 pa, 5p per week. Following a Cabinet recommendation the budget will be due for approval at Full Council on 27<sup>th</sup> February. There are a number of very heavy agendas for the planning committees.

On

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January the planning referrals committee had 6 items on the agenda, but only 3 were discussed between 9:30 and 17:55. All three of the

application sites were for sites which were not allocated in adopted neighbourhood plans, but were identified as sites in the draft Joint Local Plan. Two of the sites were in Thurston; 210 dwellings off Barton Road were approved and 210 dwellings east of Ixworth Road were deferred. They were both recommended for approval by the officers who seemed to place more weight on the draft JLP and the housing numbers than on the adopted Neighbourhood Plan. The application for 300 homes east of Bury Road, Woolpit was on the agenda, but had to be deferred due to time. It is now due to be on an agenda for the next Planning Referrals meeting.

Stowmarket Town Council and MSDC are funding a refurbishment project at the Regal in Stowmarket. Work is due to begin in March and should be complete by the end of the year. During this time films will be shown at the John Peel Centre.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr Guyler.

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

3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 6 January 2020.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

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

**20/00072** Application under S73 to vary or remove conditions relating to approved DC/17/04673 dated 08/12/2017 and subsequent S73 application DC/18/01612 dated 12/06 2018 -to vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) - To include erection of detached Cart Lodge/Store. Land South Of The Firs, Broomhill Lane – support.

**20/00094** Application under S73 to vary or remove conditions following grant of Planning permission DC/18/02178 dated 07/12/2018 and subsequent application under S73 DC/19/03743 dated 02/10/2019 - Erection of external stairs to storage area over garage, complete with door in the gable and high level roof lights. Land North West Of, Warren Lane – support.

**20/00233** Submission of details under Outline Planning Permission DC/18/01279 – Appearance, Layout and Scale for erection of 1no. warehouse, erection of an office and associated car parking and storage yard; Discharge of Conditions for DC/18/01279 - Condition 16 (Construction Environmental Management Plan), Condition 17 (Farmland Bird Mitigation Strategy), Condition 24 (Surface Water Drainage Scheme), Condition 25 (Maintenance and Management of the Surface Water Drainage Scheme) and Condition 27 (Construction surface Water Management Plan). Land at Lawn Farm, Warren Lane – support.

**20/00356** Replacement roof structure over existing house, single storey rear extension and alterations. Dermuth, The Green – support.

**Reconsultation 19/05196** First submission of details application (for approval of reserved matters) for outline planning permission 1636/16 amended by Section 96a permission DC/18/03517. Layout, Scale, Appearance and Landscaping to be considered for the erection of 115 dwellings. Land South Of, Old Stowmarket Road – support alterations.

**19/05584** Erection of 2 detached single storey dwellings, access driveway and enlargement of existing access and relocation of parking and shed. Land to rear of 9 & 11 Steeles Road. MSDC decision – refused, unsympathetic to setting and density + impact on the street scene.

**19/03361** Discharge of Conditions appl 18/01279 Condition 6 (Highways surface water), Condition 12 ( surface water design) Condition 23 (construction surface water management plan). Land at Lawn Farm, Warren Lane. MSDC decision – satisfied.

**19/05266** Discharge of Conditions app 1636/16 Condition 18 (surface water drainage details) Condition 20 (construction management). Land south of Old Stowmarket Road. MSDC decision – 18 refused, 20 satisfied.

**19/04885** Application under Section 73 of the Town & Country Planning Act for

removal or variation of a condition following grant of 4782/16 (3 storey extension, office block, parking and landscaping and subsequent appl 18/03820 to remove Conditions 2 (approved plans & drawings) and Condition 8 (surface water drainage), Energy House, Unit 23 Windmill Avenue. MSDC decision – granted.

**19/02339** Demolition of storage buildings, conversion of brick cartlodge to dwelling house and construction of 3 new dwelling houses. Lawn Farm, Warren Lane. Appeal dismissed, harm to the setting of Listed Building and not a suitable location for development.

## 5. Clerk's Report

**Street light – Heath Road, Church Street** – residents are amazed that this pole in the centre of the path has been replaced without having been moved. This may be rectified when the 2 roundabouts are installed. County Cllr Storey has advised that if the pole should have been moved by the developer Hartog Hutton this needs to be pursued with MSDC Planning Enforcement.

**Proposed car park for Woolpit Health Centre** – a meeting is to be arranged to take the matter forward.

**Woolpit Poor's Land Trust** – Lisa Hicks has agreed to be the Parish Council's representative.

**Parish proportion of council tax** – this has increased by 8.85% for 2020/21 to £37.30 per year for a Band D property.

**Buckingham Palace Garden Party** – Mr Guyler has been allocated one of the two places available to SALC.

**V E Commemorations 8 May 2020**– the sub group has met and the commemorations will be afternoon tea and cake in the village hall with games on the field for children, an evening service at the church, followed by BBQ, lighting of the beacon and fireworks. This will be discussed further at the March meeting.

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

Resident regarding large lorries from the Green Road development using Green Road, they will be advised to register a formal complaint with MSDC. Resident with concerns regarding issues at the Green Road development, they will be advised to register a formal complaint with MSDC. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Rural Service Network** Rural Bulletin 7 14, 21, 28 January, funding Digest January. **SALC** new course preparing for audit and GDPR workshop, ebuletin 10, 24 January, Ipswich Northern Route: strategic outline business case published, The Local Councillor January 2020 winter edition. **NALC** Chief Executive bulletin 24 January. **MSDC** Great British Spring Clean 2020, Community Governance Review 2020. **Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association** request for donation. **Suffolk Police** PCC asks for your views on his precept proposals, Constable County February. **Community Action Suffolk** training news. Copy letter to MSDC highways mitigation scheme Green Road pinch point.

## 7. To approve accounts for payment.

Laura Bayly £44.00 Millennium Garden January, Mrs P Branham £110.52 edit February/March Diary, Mr K Harknett £62.40 litter picking January, Suffolk County Council £278.14 pension payment, Mrs P Fuller overtime 2019 + expenses October – December, Gipping Press £277.30 Woolpit Diary February/March, Parkers Pitches £2412.00 mowing village hall field, play park, tennis court area, bottle bank area and bank to Woolpit Cricket Club for 2019 and maintenance of the boundary of the playing field July-December 2019. All accounts were approved and cheques issued. Payments by Standing Order Mrs P Fuller £835.45 January salary, Mr R Bulk £175.33 January salary.

## 8. To receive a monthly financial report.

The book balance at the end of January is £103,891.54 which needs to be reconciled to the bank statement once received.

**9. To discuss the quote from Gipping Press for a price increase for printing Woolpit Diary and consider increasing advertising rates from 2020/21 and take any necessary action.**

Gipping Press has advised that cost increases have been incurred for materials and printing costs. The revised quotation for printing Woolpit Diary is now £277.30 for a 24 page + 4 page cover for 1000 copies. This was unanimously accepted by Cllrs. It was agreed to increase advertising rates to £60 per annum for 2020/21.

**10. To consider Parish Council email addresses for councillors and take any necessary action.**

An email has been received from Suffolk Cloud advising that Cllrs should not use their personal emails addresses for council business. The Clerk will contact SALC for advice.

*Action: the Clerk*

**11. To discuss archiving of old documentation and take any necessary action.**

A list of old documentation has been sent to Bury Archive to see if they will accept for safe keeping. They will do so after June 2020. It was unanimously agreed to send for archiving but to advise Woolpit Museum.

*Action: the Clerk*

**12. To consider a “Spring Clean Woolpit” litter picking event and take any necessary action.**

Mrs Moore and Mrs Jenkins will organise a litter pick/spring clean for Saturday 28 March.

*Action: Mrs Moore/Mrs Jenkins*

**13. To discuss inconsiderate parking along Heath Road and take any necessary action.**

Photos of poor and inconsiderate parking along Heath Road have been received this will be passed to SCC Highways for investigation.

*Action: the Clerk*

**14. To put forward road names for the Green Road development and development of properties by Southlands, Old Stowmarket Road.**

Stackfields, Spring Close, Grange Road and Parkers Field have been put forward for the Green Road development and Southlands Row for Old Stowmarket Road.

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

The second half payment has been made for the fencing. Mr R Baker will look into digging the trench so that Mr Seeley can install a tap near to plots 14-16. There are 3 half plots available for rent.

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

**17. To receive a report from the Footpath and Tree Warden.**

Although paths are very muddy there all paths are free of vegetation. A tree is blocking the light from the street light in Briar Hill. Dog fouling of the footpaths has improved only to be worse on pavements. Skirting out of the path from Steeles Road to the Grange is needed to increase the width.

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

Bookings have increased. The committee are looking at carpeting the upper room. The performance license has been dealt with. Quotes have been requested for the refurbishment of the ladies' toilets but many contactors do not reply.

**19. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 2 March 2020 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute.** Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.

Signed..... Dated.....