

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TO DISCUSS
COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE
2023 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE

Present: Mrs Ewans (Chair), Mr Hardiman, Mr Auchincloss, Mr Gallagher and Mrs Jenkins.

In attendance: Mrs Fuller, Clerk and 2 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Dr Geake, Mr Foster and Mrs Symons.

Mr Gallagher declared a pecuniary interest in item 4a as a Trustee and Secretary of Woolpit ARC. He duly signed the interest book.

2. To approve the minutes of the meeting 29 March 2023.

The minutes were approved and signed.

3. General discussion to agree moneys earmarked for future projects.

The expected payment due in April 2023 of £2,600.71 has not been received. This may have been carried forward to October 2023.

Mrs Ewans and the Clerk met with SCC Highways Community Liaison Officer on site to discuss a feasibility study for a footway along Heath Road from Willow Brook to the post box opposite Warren Lane. The news is not good. Government guidance states that all footways should be 3m wide. Even if SCC looked at 1.8m there would be a problem of ownership of land. There are water and telephone services below ground that would have to be buried deeper at our cost of £15,000.00 per service. The likely cost of a path if it were feasible would be between £35,000 - £40,000 and the feasibility study would be £7,000.00. The final decision would rest with the Asset Manager. The Officer will investigate further and send a report in due course.

A path to Ladyswell was discussed. SCC does not wish to install a footway here as maintenance and liability would rest with SCC.

SCC will not allow mirrors to be installed on verges.

4. To consider CIL grant requests from

a) Woolpit ARC

Mr Everett has confirmed that the windows and doors need replacing. ARC Trustees are currently renewing their lease with SCC and Cllrs feel that no further grants can be given until this is completed.

b) Woolpit Village Hall

Cllrs are concerned that the goalposts keep changing as we are receiving revised applications for things we have already considered. Discussions ensued with the Village Hall committee members present regarding a full project plan. After discussion it was agreed to hold the applications for the time being whilst the Village Hall Committee, which has several new members, can discuss matters further.

c) Woolpit Primary School

The school are looking for funding to remove a sink, decorate and new carpeting for the room that will become the library. There is no amount on the form that they are requesting just that they require the full sum dependant on who is given the contract. Cllrs do not feel it is their place to decide this. The Clerk was asked to go back and ask the school to advise their preferred contractor and request further carpet quote.

Action: the Clerk

d) Woolpit Short Mat Bowls Club and Woolpit Village Hall committee

Cllrs agreed a grant of £256.53 for under stage storage and retrieval system.

5. To discuss surfacing of the village hall car park and the car park by the tennis courts and take any necessary action.

A quote has been received for £100 per sq. m and we are looking to replace about 500 sq. m of the concrete at the village hall car park and £100 per sq. m for block paving the car park by the tennis courts which is approx. 1000 sq. m. Further quotes will be sought. We may need to commission a specification to send out for quotes. We are obliged to go to tender for projects costing £30,000 and above. It was agreed to look for alternative permeable surfaces for the car park by the tennis courts.

The Clerk was asked to investigate permission to remove the tree in the village hall car park as it is in the Conservation Area. *Action Mrs Ewans/the Clerk.*

6. To discuss the future re-wilding of Warren Lane land.

Mrs Ewans has three quotes to fence across the field however it has now been discovered that there is no fence to the left side and back of the site and this would need to be secure for a dog area. Cllrs feel that the site is too far out of the village for people to use the area for dog walking.

The advice from Suffolk Wildlife Trust is that the farmed area would need 5 years to get the soil nutrition down for re-wilding. The farmer may be prepared to farm it but obviously the crops would be poorer as year's progress or might grow grass and crop for hay.

After discussion it was agreed to get a quote to fence the whole area but abandon the dog area for the time being. *Action: Mrs Ewans*

7. To agree the date of the next CIL meeting.

This was arranged for Monday 17 July 2023 at 6.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Signed.....approved

Dated.....19 September 2023.....