

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

Present: Mr Hardiman, Mr Gallagher, Dr Geake, Mr Foster and Mrs Jenkins.

In attendance: Mrs Fuller, Clerk and Mrs Ewans

1. To elect a Chairman.

Dr Geake was proposed, seconded and unanimously elected as Chair of Woolpit Parish Council. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office form was signed.

2. Apologies for absence.

These were received and accepted from Mr Auchincloss and Mrs Symons.

3. To receive declarations of interest

Mr Foster declared a pecuniary interest in 6a as Chair of the Village Hall Committee and signed the interest book.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting 14 June 2023

The minutes were approved and signed.

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

To date £106,126.73 of CIL funding has been spent and £73,281.18 has been reserved for agreed projects. The current spreadsheet is appended to these minutes. It is understood that the Village Hall has now withdrawn all previous CIL requests. £35,000.00 has been allocated for SIDs and it was agreed to purchase 3 solar units from Westcotech + additional brackets so the units can be moved at a cost of £14,775.00. There will be a 6-8 week wait for delivery. The Clerk will contact our insurer to add to our policy. *Action: the Clerk*

6. To consider CIL grant requests from

b) Woolpit Primary School

The Clerk advised that due to an issue with the plumber, the school has had to use a different contractor. This has increased the overall library project by £225.00. It was proposed, seconded and carried to pay the additional costs.

It was agreed to have an agenda item at the next meeting to discuss giving the Clerk the discretion to approve a change in costs up to a maximum of £500.00.

c) Woolpit Institute

The heating in the two downstairs rooms only have 15m pipes instead of 22m and this means heating is erratic. This can be rectified by replacing the 15mm pipework and installing an additional pump. Councillors unanimously agreed to pay £749.00 + VAT.

d) Woolpit Short Mat Bowls Club

The club would like to install a light to the already agreed under stage storage and retrieval area. Cllrs agreed to the CIL funding request of £50.15.

a) Woolpit Village Hall

Woolpit Village Hall has applied for a grant of £8900.00 to pay for architects' costs for getting the redevelopment of the Village Hall project to planning permission. This includes reconfiguration of the current building plus an extension. Mr Foster was asked if the VH Committee will increase hiring fees in the future. The Committee is looking at having a new pricing structure for village residents, village organisations and others. They are hoping for additional bookings to pay for ongoing maintenance. While the hall has good usage compared to many halls it is not as well used as the Blackbourne in Elmswell. Running costs last year were £18,600 and predicted to be about £20,000 this year. No business plan has been drawn up for the proposed café area but the committee have had discussions with various user groups and some

members of the community. The preferred architect is Modece Architects as they have experience of getting grants to fund projects.

Mr Foster left the meeting at 8.33 p.m.

Whilst Cllrs wish to support the Village Hall Committee to improve the hall, concerns were expressed regarding if these plans are what residents want, WVH needs to be sure of the projected income before taking this redevelopment further. Residents, Woolpit PC and Woolpit Recreation Ground Charity would need to be consulted to see if it is thought appropriate to give land to the village hall for a café and foyer. It was agreed that a store at the back of the hall would make it easier for users. It was felt that it is overambitious timetable to get planning permission by January 2024. It was agreed that no grant would be forthcoming at the moment and that the Village Hall Committee will be asked to carry out a consultation with residents and users groups, arrange a meeting between The Village Hall Committee, MSDC, WPC and WRGC, produce a business plan with and without a café. Consultation costs can be funded from CIL. It is possible that MSDC has a grant cap for projects and this needs to be established first. Mrs Ewans undertook to contact Christine Thurlow, MSDC Infrastructure Team and to put Mr Foster in touch with her.

Mr Foster rejoined the meeting at 8.57 p.m. and was advised of the decision. It was reiterated that WPC wants to support WVHC and work together.

7. To discuss surfacing of the Village Hall car park and the car park by the tennis courts and take any necessary action.

The middle concrete section of the village hall car park is breaking up and needs attention. The problem is to decide if all the car park or just the central section is done before the village hall refurbishment. The cost of spray and chipping will be investigated for a temporary solution.

The quote from Chris Daniels for the car park by the tennis courts advises that the surface he will provide will be strong enough to take coaches.

The Clerk was asked to find out if WRGC needs to get tenders as charities have to be reasonable, careful and transparent on spending. *Action: the Clerk*

EV charging points for the village hall car park and the car park opposite the church have been investigated. Anglia Car Charging is supplier preferred by Plug In Suffolk. EV points need to be positioned near a UK Power Networks supply. 2 EV points would be installed the Mill Lane side of the village hall car park and 2 by the power pole in the Church Street car park (side by Churchgate House). WPC would need to provide concrete pads for the units to sit on. The cost for this is £10335.00. There will be annual fees on top of this in the region of £450.00. UK Power Networks will charge £1800.00 per site for connection. It was proposed, seconded and carried to proceed with the installation.

Anglia Car Charging have looked at the car park by the tennis courts but have not quoted but advised that they will need to be sited on the far side of the green area and can be marked in some way. They have intimated that the costs will be about £5000 for two EV points + UK Power Network charges. As time goes by chargers will get faster with technical improvements and we may wish to upgrade. Credit/Debit card machine is included in the cost so drivers can pay and WPC will set costs.

8. To discuss the fencing and future re-wilding of Warren Lane land.

This was deferred to the next meeting.

9. To consider our comments for the 20mph speed limit report and take any necessary action.

It was agreed to state that Woolpit NP Community Action section records that 81% of respondents agreed that the speed limit in the village centre should be reduced to 20mph (p. 46), and 83% felt that the speed limit on Heath Road should be reduced to 20mph at key periods (also p. 46). The Parish Council has Community Infrastructure Levy money to put towards the commissioning of design and necessary works for a 20mph zone and would be very happy to consider proposals.

Action: Dr Geake/the Clerk

10. To agree the date of the next CIL meeting as Monday 18 December 2023.

Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

Signed.....approved.....

Dated.....18 December 2023.....