

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY
2 MAY 2023 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE,

Present: Mrs Ewans (Chair), Mr Auchincloss, Dr Geake, Mr Hardiman, Mr Guyler, Mrs Jenkins and Mr Howard.

In attendance: Mrs Fuller, Clerk and 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence. There were none.

2. Public comment Mr Hardiman advised that on checking the CCTV the child's springy play equipment was broken by an adult misusing the item. A new head has been ordered. Mr Hardiman asked if an item could be published in the next Diary to thank the Co-op for supplying refreshments for the Coronation celebrations. Mrs Ewans advised there will be a full page in the next Diary thanking all who had contributed to the Coronation. An additional bench in the recreation ground has been requested. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

3. To receive declarations of interest. There were none.

4. To approve the minutes of the meetings 4 April 2023.

The Minutes were approved and signed.

5. Planning

a) to consider current applications

23/00467 RECONSULTATION Erection a single story side extension including conversion of garage and erection of a three bay detached cartlodge. Tamarack, 5 The Oaks – comments unsustainable development and if MSDC is minded to approve the application request conditions a) the extension shall be occupied and used solely as ancillary accommodation to the use of Tamarack as a single dwelling house and b) the 2 bay cartlodge shall be used only for the parking of vehicles and for storage ancillary to the use of Tamarack as a single dwelling.

b) to receive MSDC decisions.

22/05616 Appl for non-material amendment 21/01132 addition of a further electricity substation. Land off Bury Road – refused likely proposed change poses a material effect upon the planning permission.

22/04002 Hybrid Application. Full planning Application for B8 and E(g) storage and office uses for Land Parcels 4 and 5. Outline Planning Application for B2, B8 and E(g) uses for Land Parcel 6. Land At Lawn Park Business Centre Warren Lane – granted.

23/00076 Erection of single storey rear extension, alterations to rear dormer extension and insertion of roof lights. Willowbrook, Heath Road – granted.

23/01023 Erection of lean to conservatory to the rear of the property. 18 Melvin Way – granted.

22/04909 change of use of land and buildings from scaffold business to scaffold/mobile plant/vehicular hire business. Lawn Farm, Warren Lane – granted. It has been brought to Cllrs attention that the outbuilding at The White House, The Street is being advertised for rent.

Mrs Ewans declared an interest as a near neighbour and left the meeting at 7.48 p.m. Mr Howard took the Chair.

Councillors looked up the planning permission and the outbuilding should only be used as ancillary accommodation for The White House and not as a separate dwelling. The Clerk was asked to refer the matter to MSDC Planning Enforcement.

Mrs Ewans re-joined the meeting and resumed as Chair at 7.53 p.m.

6. Clerk's Report

The Hawthorns – Having contacted Dellwood Homes again regarding a barrier at the end of the footway where it joins Rags Lane, they have advised that they are looking at options of barriers prior to opening up the pathway.

Lorry parking in Old Stowmarket Road – District Cllr Mansel is looking into the problem.

Woolpit Diary – the distributor has requested that the copy run is increased to 1200 due to more properties being occupied on the Old Stowmarket Road development.

Meeting with SISK – Mrs Ewans and the Clerk met with SISK representative, the PR company for the reconstruction of the A14 between Woolpit and Tothill. They are doing all they can to get vehicles to avoid villages being used as a rat run and have a variety of signage to use as necessary. Part of SISK local engagement is to volunteer and their project manager is coming to give advice on resurfacing the car parks.

Nitrous oxide canisters – the Litter Picker has found 3 14 inch nitrous oxide canisters. This has been reported to MSDC waste who have collected them as they should not be disposed of in normal rubbish.

Elections – Woolpit PC is an uncontested election and we will have 8 Councillors of which 3 are new Councillors. Current Councillors are in office until 9 May when new Councillors take office.

Barclays Bank – has telephoned to advise that due to new FCA regulations we need to have a Parish Council account instead of a Community Account. The Clerk has requested details of both the new regulations and the account so Cllrs can decide if they wish to continue with Barclays or change to another bank.

No dog signs – the Clerk has been made aware of one of the allotment tenants taking a dog into the allotment area. This is contrary to the tenancy agreement. The Clerk has ordered some no dogs signs.

7. To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.

The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Rural Services Network funding digest April, rural bulletin 12, 18, 25 April. **MSDC** climbing wall sessions for children with SEND, Coronation food safety guidance, Capital Grants and Community Development grants now available, email from CEO regarding update on nominations for local elections 4 May, Woolpit play area DDA report, statement of persons nominated and notice of uncontested election. **SCC** funding opportunities, Vertas shared taxi pilot, SCC response to SID applications. **SALC** news bulletin 11, 17 April, 2 May, training bulletin 18 April. **Woolpit Village Hall Committee** village hall modernisation scope document. **Together TV** sunflower challenge: involve your community. **National Highways** latest newsletter for A14 Haughley to Tothill reconstruction scheme. **Suffolk FA** funding to improve town and parish grass football pitches. **Residents** copy of emails to Bury Road Community, MSDC Planning and Environmental Health regarding starting time on site, construction traffic and non-material amendment application. **Resident** copies of photos lorries at Borley Green sent to County Cllr Mellen. **Resident** copy of comments/objections regarding application 21/06333 for petrol station on land off Elmswell roundabout sent to MSDC Planning.

8. To approve accounts for payment.

Payments of £1,100.00 to Mr P Symons for kitchen fitting ARC (CIL), £342.00 Woolpit Child Care Centre reimbursement for office floor ARC (CIL) and £865.15 H M Revenue & Customs tax and N/I January-March were unanimously ratified. Mr K Harknett £61.10 litter picking April, Mr M Gardiner £464.85 Highways Ranger salary and expenses April, Suffolk County Council £328.99 pension payment, Viking £447.49 printer cartridges, SALC £717.09 annual subscription, Woolpit Institute £416.00 office rent May-July. All accounts were approved and cheques issued. Payment by standing order Mrs P Fuller £1,056.91 April salary. The office rent will increase by 4% from January 2024.

9. Finances

a) To receive a monthly financial report.

The Community Account balance at the end of February was £406,537.93 of which CIL is £325,344.29, Recreation Ground £725.80, earmarked reserves £68,920.46 and general funds £11,547.38.

10. To receive a report from the Vertas minibus taxi trial meeting and take any necessary action.

Mrs Ewans met with representatives of Elmswell, Beyton and Thurston PCs. Elmswell PC will act as the booking office. The service will run on Wednesdays and Saturdays for a month commencing 3 June leaving Woolpit at 9.45 a.m. and the return from Bury at 1.30 p.m. The cost per seat is £6 and any shortfall will be picked up by the four parish councils during the trial period however if there are no bookings the bus will not run and there will be no costs. If there is sufficient support it will be possible to have two buses. Trace Gardiner is still happy to be Woolpit Co-ordinator. It was proposed, seconded and carried to ring fence £200.00 to subsidise the trial. Mrs Ewans advised that Dan Coaches service is going to stop in Woolpit on a Wednesday at similar timings as the Vertas taxibus. Mrs Ewans is trying to get further details.

11. To discuss traffic issues in the parish

a) To receive an update on 20 mph in the centre of the village.

Nothing to report.

b) to receive an update on solar powered Speed Indicator signs and locations and take any necessary action

4 sites have been agreed by SCC. A resident has advised that he is happy to have a SID opposite his property at The Heath so an additional application will be sent to SCC.

We will challenge the two sites rejected in Green Road and Church Road.

12. To receive an update on celebrations for the coronation of King Charles III and take any necessary action.

70 tickets have been sold so far for the concert on Friday evening. School children are decorating the village hall. Mrs Ewans and Mr Hardiman have been invited to the school assembly on Friday to present cups to the winners of the crown competition and distribute badges. Bunting has been put up in the centre of the village. We are all hoping for good weather on Sunday for the craft fair, afternoon tea and outside showing of the concert from Windsor.

13. To receive a report on the allotments take any necessary action.

Taps have been sorted by Mr Seeley. Two half plots have been handed back by tenants and the Clerk will try to re-let these. Mrs Ewans has contacted fencing companies for quotes and information regarding the wildlife area on the old allotments site. Suffolk Wildlife are running some courses which Mrs Ewans will attend.

Woolpit PC as Trustees of Woolpit Recreation Ground Charity

14. To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.

Woolpit Cricket Club is converting to a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Community Amateur Sports Club. The lease of the ground needs to be assigned and WCC will ask Ashton's Legal to draft the document. Cllrs agreed to this as long as WCC pay all legal fees.

Quality Equipment has quoted £15.00 + VAT to replace 4 pairs of D shackles on the swings. This was accepted by Cllrs.

15. To receive a report from the Clerk.

A hirer of the recreation field has asked if they can have llamas on the field. The Clerk has responded that no animals including dogs are allowed. They also wish to have a small Bluetooth speaker for background music. This is acceptable but they need to be aware that they do not disturb neighbours.

16. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 16 May 2023.
Noted.

The meeting closed at 8 45 p.m.

Signed.....Approved.....

Dated.....16/5/23.....