

Minutes of the meeting of Wortwell Parish Council, held in the Community Centre, on Monday 26th June 2017 at 7:30 pm.

Councillors attending: Allison Copeman (Chairwoman), Robert Hadingham, Margaret Colyer, Daphne Cook, Lua Leggett and Chris Shore.

No members of the public were in attendance.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor Nutt who was unwell and the Clerk, Jane Pearce, who was also unwell.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Hadingham and Shore both declared an interest in item 16b.

4. To approve the minutes of 22 May 2017

These were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5. Reports from District and County Councillors

District Councillor Dr Gray and County Councillor Stone were not present at the meeting.

Dr Gray had sent his apologies to the Clerk on 21 June and included his report but this was not available at the meeting.

1) First Class Cars seems to have stopped parking outside their property.

2) As regards Parish boundary changes, there is one property in Wortwell (Greenland Barn) that has requested a boundary change so that it moves into Alburgh. There will be a consultation on this in the autumn.

3) Would Wortwell PC be interested in a training session for new parish councillors jointly with Denton, Alburgh and possibly others and with the cost shared if I can arrange this for a Saturday afternoon in the autumn.

Some councillors have expressed interest in training and Councillor Copeman has since advised Dr Gray accordingly.

6. Chairwoman's Report

Following the recent 'Big Litter Pick', the Wortwell Parish Council has been awarded £200 by South Norfolk Council. It was agreed by the Parish Council that this money be put towards the installation of a Basketball Goal for the play area. Fenland Leisure Products (FLP) has quoted £610 for the goal, £150 for installation and £50 for drilling the concrete. We now have more than enough funds but before proceeding Councillor Copeman will investigate whether welfare facilities are required which will prevent additional costs.

There was a recent incident in the children's play area where a 12 year old girl from the village became stuck in the toddler swing. The Fire Brigade was called to release her. Councillor Leggett spoke to her parents the following day and, although upset, she was OK.

The play equipment has been refurbished by Mac Wright and it has been noted that the bridge requires replacing.

Parish Councillors Reports

Councillor Hadingham reported that it had brought to his notice that the Leylandii hedge was growing into the cricket net. Steve was to be asked to deal with this.

Councillor Colyer said she had been asked by Steve if he could have a water supply for the plants. There followed a discussion about how this could be achieved. Previous investigations on this subject have shown that it was too expensive to tap into the water supply but if it could be done, this would also benefit allotment holders. It was suggested that the Clerk finds the quotation from the water company from a few years ago and the matter would be discussed at the next meeting.

Councillor Leggett has noticed a considerable amount of dog waste in Tunbeck Close. She suggested that the next Mardler contains an article thanking responsible dog owners for picking up after their animals but pointing out that there are still others who do not. Councillor Shore said that the dog waste bag dispenser outside the pub was used regularly.

Councillor Leggett also reported that brambles in Tunbeck Close were getting out of hand. Steve to be asked to trim them back.

Councillor Shore said he had been talking to Steve who said he had not received his new contract or received any increase in pay. Councillor Copeman confirmed that the delay would be back dated to April and she would ask the Clerk to deal with this as soon as possible. **Action Clerk**

Councillor Cook has noticed a silver coloured Audi on the Knoll which looked as though it was abandoned. Councillor Leggett said that it belongs to new villagers. It was noted that this vehicle was taking up valuable parking space on land which belongs to Highways.

8. Clerks Report - Matters Arising from the Minutes in the Clerks absence

Ref 87.4 Cherry Trees at Willow Close: The cherry trees at the bottom of Willow Close had not been cut back yet, but would be done shortly. **Actions Councillor Cook and Councillor Hadingham**

Ref 87.5 Blocked Drain outside Oak Hill on High Road: Councillor Cook reported that the blocked drain outside Oak Hill on High Road has not yet been done. **Action Clerk**

Ref 91.6 Grassed area at entrance to old playing field: The planting of trees on the grassed area on the old playing field would be good. Need to hear back from Steve. **Action Clerk**

9. Silver Festival : Councillor Colyer reported that the content of the Festival is taking shape and currently consists of 12 children's activities, 7 food and beverage outlets, 6 stalls, 3 musical events, 4 activities for adults plus Auction of Promises, Raffle and Classic Cars display.

Advertising and the logistics of who goes where and timings are being tackled. Councillor Copeman is organising a children's writing story/poem/drawing competition for Primary School age children and has advertised this in local schools; the winners to be announced at the Festival and selected entries to be made into a book.

The cricket pavilion has been inspected and, with some sprucing up and repair to the veranda decking, it can be used as a tuck shop at the festival. It was agreed by the Parish Council that we will pay for the wood for the repair of the decking and Councillor Leggett will ask Mick Fisher if he would price the job and report back.

Action Councillor Leggett

Regarding finance, although most of the stalls etc are self-financing, we need funds to cover PA system, banners, programmes, flyers, posters, pavilion repairs etc. The sum of £150 was requested and a proposal for this made by Councillor Copeman and seconded by Councillor Shore. The Community Centre Management Committee are to be asked to also contribute £150.

It was suggested that food stalls be asked to give a donation towards the Community Centre.

10. No correspondence was available

11. Speeding on High Road

The SAM machines which were placed on the High Road recently have been monitoring the speeding 'blind' and the results provided by Barry Woods from Harleston Town Council have confirmed that the number of speeding vehicles and the high speeds recorded are a serious problem.

It was agreed that we do need a SAM periodically on High Road but since it is counter-productive to have it there reminding motorists all the time, it would be better to borrow 3 or 4 times a year from Harleston Town Council, as long as they were in agreement.

It was agreed that this evidence should be reported to Norfolk Council and hopefully we can borrow the SAM when required. The Clerk to contact Barry Woods to action.

Action Clerk

12. Playing Field Issues

a) Councillor Copeman had nothing of significance to report for May. Councillor Hadingham to prepare weekly reports for July, although it was noted that he was on holiday for the first week but would do a check before he goes.

b) Councillor Leggett confirmed that the Clerk had received payment due from Norwich City

13. Recycling Centre

Councillor Shore said that there was green algae covering the ground in the recycling area and he offered to clean it.

Action Councillor Shore

14. Ownership of Community Centre grounds

Councillor Leggett said she had been in contact with Jackamans, Solicitors. They will do their best to locate these documents but according to the Law Society when a Solicitor goes out of business, their cases are divided amongst other solicitors and receipts for documents are issued so there should be a trail. However, since we are not being charged for storage, it is likely only a receipt will be found.

15. Proposed Bus Shelter: Councillor Shore has not yet prepared a survey of the site but will do so shortly.

Action Councillor Shore

16. Planning Applications

a) 2017/0689 Mr Philip Newcombe - Proposed change of use from holiday let to residential.

Approved

b) 2017/0937 Mr and Mrs J Riches – Proposed erection of a two storey dwelling and garage on land west of Low Road. Withdrawn

c) 2017/1306 Proposed notification for Change of Use of agricultural building to dwelling on Cook's Lane, Wortwell

17. Community Emergency Plans

Councillor Copeman said that we should go ahead with these, particularly in light of recent problems in London, suggesting we use the templates provided by the District Council. Councillor Nutt has already agreed to look into this matter and Councillor Copeman suggested that a sub-committee be set up and discussed further at the next meeting.

18. Accounts

Not available due to Clerks absence

19. Business for July Meeting

Proposed Bus Shelter, Ownership of Land, Silver Festival, Community Emergency Plan, SAM machine, Basketball Goal

20. Meeting was not adjourned as no members of the public were in attendance

21. Close of meeting

There being no more business, the Chairwoman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.40pm