

Minutes of a meeting of Wortwell Parish Council, held in the Community Centre on Monday, 28th November 2016 at 7.30pm

Councillors attending, Allison Copeman (Vice Chairman), Margaret Colyer, Daphne Cook and Chris Shore

Also attending, District Councillor Dr. Murray Gray, County Councillor Mrs. Margaret Stone and the Clerk, Mrs Jane Pearce.

1191 Apologies

1191.1 Were accepted from Councillor Hadingham (Chairman) who was on a family holiday and from Councillor Leggett due to illness.

1192 To appoint one parishioner to the role of Parish Councillor

1192.1 An application had been received from Mrs Julie Nutt to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council. In her application she said that she had moved into the village last December previously having lived for 31 years in Burgh St. Peter, near Beccles. Whilst living in Burgh St. Peter she was on the Village hall committee for many years helping to arrange village hall events. She said that she had always enjoyed being part of a community and felt that being a Parish Councillor will aid in this as well as serve and support the community in their best interest.

1192.2 Proposed by Councillor Cook and seconded by Councillor Colyer that Julie Nutt joins the Parish Council. Councillor Nutt was then welcomed to the Council and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1193 Declarations of Interest

1193.1 None

1194 To approve the October Minutes

1194.1 Following one amendment, these were signed by the Vice Chairman, as a correct record.

1195 Reports from District and County Councillors

1195.1 County Councillor, Mrs. Margaret Stone reported:

- Broadland and South Norfolk Councils overwhelmingly supported Devolution but a meeting at Kings Lynn, on the same evening, rejected the proposal, the government has now withdrawn the offer of a Norfolk and Suffolk combined authority. We have therefore lost the funding for any major infrastructure or new affordable housing.
- Norfolk will however get an extra £2.5 million towards its highways budget – a figure the government claims is the equivalent to 46,700 pot holes.
- NCC and Waterstones have teamed up for the eleventh successive year to launch the Giving Tree appeal, a Christmas project aimed at bringing joy to the County's looked-after children. Customers wishing to support the appeal can buy the books, which are collected by the County Council and wrapped for children in time for Christmas.

1195.2 Councillor Stone then left the meeting.

1195.3 District Councillor, Dr. Murray Gray reported:

- The new Local Plan proposed three sites in Wortwell. In Sancroft Way, Bell Field and opposite the new affordable housing on High Road. The Plan will be assessed next year and a draft plan will be available in the Autumn of 2017.
- A public meeting will be held on the 8th December, in Harleston to discuss the District Council's proposal to bring in charges in September 2017, for parking in Bullock Fair Close and Broad Street car parks. Many parishioners from the surrounding villages are unhappy about the proposals.
- The new self cleaning Toilets in Harleston, installed nearly two years ago have proved to be plagued by vandalism and complaints by local residents. They will now be

removed. Harleston TC are then set to take on the old facilities, subject to a refurbishment and an agreement.

- Car Sales Business on High Road – A comment in the October Minutes relating to stated that “All Councillors were surprised that the business was being encouraged to apply for planning permission over the land that does not belong to them”. In an email, Dr. Gray explained that *“If someone is doing something without planning consent and wishes to continue, they are requested to submit a planning application. If they refuse, the planning committee will often be recommended to take enforcement action to stop the activity. Similarly, if they do submit a planning application and permission is refused, then enforcement action may follow. Land ownership is not generally taken into account as a planning matter. For example, if you wanted to buy your neighbour’s house with the intention of demolishing it and building a new one, you would probably want to know in advance whether you would get planning permission to do this. So you can apply for planning permission to demolish your neighbour’s house! But obviously you would not be allowed to do so without their consent”*.

1196 Chairman’s Report

1196.1 In his absence Councillor Hadingham had emailed a report to the meeting.

1196.2 **Bird Gel** – He had spread the gel on the frames of the swings on both fields.

1196.3 **Football Pitch** – With the Norwich City’s floodlight pitch overlapping the full size pitch I have been investigating the possibility of relocating the full size pitch on the new field. However following talks with Derek Wooltorton, Mike Whitehouse and Mick Fisher, all of whom were very involved with the old football club, it decided to leave it on the old field to avoid issues with both the play equipment and the bypass. Keeping the pitch on the old field will involve moving the goalpost socket holders about 20 yards. Mick Fisher has agreed to help with this next summer.

1197 Parish Councillors Reports

1197.1 **Councillor Copeman**

1197.2 **Light at the entrance to the Community Centre** - The light at the entrance to the Community Centre is not working. Councillor Colyer to report this to the Management Committee. **Action Councillor Colyer**

1197.3 **Recycling Centre** – The bin on the post outside the Recycling Centre is not standing straight. Councillor Shore to investigate. **Action Councillor Shore**

1197.4 **Councillor Colyer**

1197.5 **Stile on Bell Meadow** – She had received a complaint from an elderly parishioner that Kissing Gates should be installed in the place of the stile on Bell Meadow.

1197.6 **Councillor Shore**

1197.7 **Dog Bin – Low Road** – He wondered whether we should install a Dog bin on Low Road as there were no bin facilities available to dog walkers in this area. . Councillors pointed out all the problems we had envisaged in the past when this had been suggested. Agreed that no further action be taken.

1197.8 **Councillor Cook**

1197.9 **Concrete Pad on Cook’s Lane** – She told councillors that there was a lot of rubbish dumped on the large concrete pad, again. It was agreed to arrange a Litter Pick after Christmas. **Action Councillor Copeman**

1198 Clerk’s Report

1198.1 **Faulty Street Light opposite 25 Low Road** – Several parishioners had reported a fault in this light during the last few weeks. An email had now been received from our lighting contractors saying the faulty light has today been reported to UKPN. UKPN have 28 days to rectify the fault.

- 1198.2 **Local Bus Service** – Following complaints to the County Council regarding proposed changes to service 581 a reply had been received saying that *“The route within Bungay and the naming of the stops is noted and will be considered along with keeping the 18.30 departure from Diss at 18.30 and not at 18.20. I will also ask that connections to other train and bus routes are shown on the revised timetables”*.
- 1198.3 **Broken Bolt Heads on Locomotive** – Councillor Shore to check the size of the Bolt Heads for the train, and inform the Clerk. **Action Councillor Shore**
- 1198.4 **Joint Meeting** – 17 Parishioners from four Parish Councils had attended the meeting on the 14th November. The next meeting to be arranged by Alburgh Parish Council in 2017.
- 1198.5 **Hedge and Tree trimming** – She had asked Mr. Bond to carry out hedge trimming to the playing fields and allotment hedges on Tunbeck Close. An email had been sent to Highways requesting that the trees on the Bypass be trimmed back as they are growing through our chain link fencing.
- 1198.6 **Rangers** – The team will be visiting the village shortly and had been asked once more, to clean the drain at the bottom of Mill Lane on Low Road.
- 1198.7 **Overgrown hedges outside Oakhill** – The Clerk had asked Saffron Housing to trim back the hedges on High Road outside Oakhill, and also from around the “Wortwell” sign.
- 1199 Correspondence (for information only)**
- 1199.1 NCC – First countywide gritting run of the season to take place today
- 1199.2 Clerks and Councils Direct – November 2016.
- 1200 Waveney Valley Signs**
- 1200.1 Installation of the two signs still awaited. The Clerk to contact the County Council again. Invoice requesting payment of £386.49 had been received. Agreed not to pay until the signs had been installed.
- 1201 Speeding on High Road**
- 1201.1 Councillor Shore told the meeting that the “No Speeding” signs are on order. Although the telegraph poles do not belong to us it was agreed that the signs be attached to these. We would however remove the signs, if requested to do so. **Action Councillor Shore**
- 1202 To receive an update on the ownership of the Community Centre and its grounds**
- 1202.1 The Clerk produced a copy of the Planning Permission, for the building of the Community Centre. The application had been applied for by Wortwell Parish Council on the 3rd August 1990 and approved by the District Council on the 11th January 1991.
- 1202.2 **Tree Warden Vacancy**
- 1202.3 An application had been received from Mr. David Pemberton offering to fill the Tree Warden vacancy. The Clerk read his application and Councillors agreed to offer him the position.. The Clerk would ask our retiring Tree Warden, Roger Turpin if he would be prepared to show Mr. Pemberton the recent tree planting schemes that had been implemented in the village during the last few years.. **Actions Clerk**
- 1203 Playing Field**
- 1203.1 **Report for November** - Councillor Leggett was absent from the meeting and no report for November was available.
- 1203.2 **Norwich City Training** – A cheque amounting to £432 had been received covering charges from March to the end of October 2016.
- 1204 Defibrillator Training**
- 1204.1 Councillor Copeman to email all Councillors as soon as she received a date for Defibrillator training. The date would be advertised in the Jan/Feb Mardler enabling all parishioners an opportunity to receive training if they so wished. **Actions Councillor Copeman**

1205 Proposed Bus Shelter

- 1205.1 The Clerk circulated details of bus shelters from three companies. These were discussed and three shelters were chosen as possibilities. The Clerk to request further details from the companies and inform Councillors. Once a decision was made as to the preferred shelter, she would proceed with an application to NCC under the Parish Partnership scheme, requesting half the funding for the shelter. She had applied for a Street Furniture Licence and was awaiting confirmation from NCC.

Actions Clerk

1206 Proposed Car Parking Charges in Harleston

- 1206.1 This item was discussed under item 1195.6

1207 Proposed Boundary Changes for South Norfolk

- 1207.1 Dr. Gray told the meeting that the Boundary Commission had prepared draft recommendations for new council ward boundaries which if implemented, would result in Wortwell and Harleston becoming one District but served by 2 District Councillors. It was wondered whether Harleston would dominate the new arrangement with not much attention being given to Wortwell. Councillors discussed the proposals but agreed unanimously to the proposed recommendations, which if implemented would come into force in 2019. The proposals are out for consultation until the 9th January 2017. A decision was expected in March or April next year.

1208 Planning Applications

- 1208.1 **2016/2262 – Mr. Dale Deburgh** – Application for side and rear extensions at 90 High Road, Wortwell. The application had been withdrawn.
- 1208.2 **2016/2326 and 2016/2327 – Mr. Tony Sprake** – Application for removal/variation of Condition 2 of planning permission 2015/2754/F on land at rear of 131 High Road, Wortwell. –This had been approved by the District Council.

1209 To discuss the possibility of a Village Fete in 2017

- 1209.1 Councillor Copeman pointed out that the Community Centre will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary on the 25th July 2017 and wondered whether it would be possible to combine a village celebration together with celebrating the anniversary of the Centre on the Saturday closest to the 25th July. Councillor Colyer would put the suggestion to the Management Committee to receive their views, and report back to the January meeting.

Action Council Colyer

1210 To arrange a date for an Extraordinary meeting to discuss the Precept for 2017/18

- 1210.1 Agreed that we hold an Extraordinary meeting on the 9th January 2017 to decide on the 2017/18 parish precept.

Actions Clerk

1211 Accounts

- 1211.1 Copies of budget figures and all payments made to date had been circulated and approved by Councillors.

1212 Business for the January meeting

- 1212.1 Agreed that the proposed Bus Shelter, Community Centre celebration, Waveney Valley Responders Waveney Valley Signs and Litter Pick be included on the January Agenda.

1213 Close of Meeting

- 1213.1 There being no further business, the Vice Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 9pm.

1214 Payment of Accounts

- 1214.1 Bungay Printers – Nov/Dec Mardler - £143
1214.2 Wortwell Community Centre – November - £14
1214.3 Mrs. Pearce – Salary £323.36, Allowance £69.44 = £392.80
1214.4 Mr. Reynolds – Groundsman November – 6 hours £48

1214.5 **Income**

1214.6 Allotment Rents - £42

1214.7 Norwich City – March to October Rent - £432

1214.8