

WORTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

A Parish Council Meeting of Wortwell Parish Council took place on Monday 31 October 2022 at 7.30pm

at the Waveney Room Wortwell Community Centre

One Member of the public attended

1. Welcome by the Vice Chairwoman Cllr Allison Copeman due to the absence of the Chairman Clive Aylett

Apologies received from Cllr Aylett, Cllr Eddy and Cllr White - illness. The Council remained Quorate.

Present: Cllr A Copeman (AC), Cllr D Cook (DC), Cllr J Worley (JW), Cllr R Hadingham (RH) also present the Clerk Mrs L Leggett (Clerk) District Cllr Savage (JS) and County Cllr Stone (BS)

There were no Declarations of Interest made

One member of the public attended to discuss item 4.3.3

2. **Minutes:** Council approved, AC signed and Clerk will retain in records, the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2022. All matters arising are covered in the agenda items.
3. **RoSPA Inspection** - Play Safety Ltd Report. Submitted an invoice that is prohibitively expensive due to the company being based in Wolverhampton. AC will speak with more local contacts to identify another Play Equipment provider nearer to Wortwell for the Zip Wire survey

4. Reports:

- 4.1. **Chairman** - in his absence the Clerk presented the Chairman's report.

4.1.1. reported on the Zip Wire as above

4.1.2. Defibrillator equipment and supplies have been updated under the contract terms.

4.1.3. SAM2 machine moved and a speed trap team attended the village in October.

4.1.4. Chairman will lay the Poppy Wreath - CA to please collect from Browns the Butchers

4.2. Councillors Reports:

4.2.1. **District Cllr JS** spoke about how successful Harleston Town Council's changes to the town centre have been. However, Council reported a great deal of resentment that in the middle of a fuel crisis people are having to drive much further, the feeling is that you cannot navigate the town centre due to all the upheaval and that villagers are now going to Bungay instead where there are more shops and better parking. However JS is confident that once all the roadworks are completed there will be a better experience for all. Some shopkeepers have concerns though that it is taking so long that they will not survive and there will be nowhere that visitors will wish to visit.

4.2.2. JS also asked regarding the Short Mat Bowls grant request. This is outside the PC remit so Cllr RH will take it up with the club and ask the chair to get in touch with JS

4.2.3. JS also confirmed that the Long Stratton office has now closed and will be operating from Broadland Business Park in an amalgamated office.

4.2.4. **County Cllr BS** had kindly provided his report in advance of the meeting. BS explained that their budget had been cut further leaving a shortfall of £60m Staff are not being replaced which saves money but puts further pressure on services. They are not allowed to increase their Precept.

4.2.5. There has been no further response regarding the Low Road roadworks from Suffolk Council but BS will continue to chase.

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4.2.6.Cllr DC reported that Low Road hedges having been done but 29 High Road has a Pine Hedge encroaching onto the path. Clerk to write to householder but sensitive that the resident is now believed to be in a residential home.

4.3. Recycling Centre and Playground Inspections -

4.3.1.Cllr Eddy reported to the clerk that he is back conducting the playground checks and will report to next meeting. November checks are Cllr AC and December checks Cllr DC

4.3.2.Memorial Bench - GW can provide concrete but needs others to set frame and move bench. AC requested clerk to contact GW and request that he make contact with her one evening or at the weekend to move this forward GW has a number of jobs pending so it is likely the bench will not be moved in time for the memorial service on the 13th November.

4.3.3.Football Goals - meeting opened to the member of the public who sited the following issues following the recent incident of a ball going over the fence onto the bypass.

- The goals are now closer to the fence than in the past.
- The length is restricted by the new tree planting
- It encroaches further into the field than expected
- Bamboo canes are breaking and spreading across the field causing a hazard if you fall on one.
- General opinion that the goals were one of the best things the village has done as they are very popular.
- Member of the public suggested they could be re-sited side by side back to the trees and hedges.

4.3.4. Clerk thanked the member of the public who then left the meeting

4.3.5.Decision by Council to move this item to the November meeting for further discussion when CW WE and CA would hopefully all be well enough to return to the meeting.

4.4. Clerk Report: LL spoke to her report a copy is held with these Minutes.

4.4.1.Street Lighting Consultation - only two villagers attended the Consultation evening and there is little appetite in the village to engage on this topic. Despite the increase in the energy costs Council has no choice but to budget these hiked costs into the Precept planning for 2023/24 financial year. However, Council will continue to try to draw out views on this topic. The only real evidence is that in eight years one complaint has been received when a lamp was repaired. On the other hand every time a lamp goes out there is an outcry to the clerk to get it repaired and if not done within a day or two she is chased by residents to get the lamp repaired. Based on this and the overwhelming decision a few years ago we will continue to work with Npower to reduce our costs when fixed prices are available, and take advantage of any assistance out there from Government (Central or Local) schemes. There remain a number of unknown factors in this matter which the Clerk will continue to monitor.

4.4.2.Parish Partnership Scheme refused initially for the gates but now resubmitted - await response PPT scheme also used for the new memorial bench. Answers in the Spring.

4.4.3.RFO Report Accounts for Payment attached as appendix to these Minute - all approved and paid

4.4.4.Cashbook analysis up to date and balances with Bank Accounts at Barclays

4.4.5.Barclays Allotments account to be identified as a connected account with Barclays.

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5. **Finance Committee Report** - Due to the absence of three Councillors, whose views are paramount to the running of the fiscal plan, all Councillors present agreed it would be best to postpone this report. To be carried forward to the November meeting.
6. **Land opposite Pura Vida** - It has been established that this land belongs to Highways. They have expressed that it is not desirable to have cars parked on the splay and will contact Pura Vida direct about this matter. Cllr Stone has offered to fund bollards, but this will now be between Cllr Stone and Highways. The item will be removed from Parish Council Agenda going forwards. Any villagers who have a concern or issue should raise it directly with either the Cafe or Highways.
7. **Planning Applications:** No applications received this month.
8. **November meeting:**
 - 8.1. Budget 23/24 phase 2 Forecast and Finance Committee Report
 - 8.2. Football Goals
 - 8.3. Trees and better protection/replanting going forwards
 - 8.4. Wreath to be collected by Clive Aylett for 3.00pm on the Knoll on the 13/11/22

Next Meeting 28 November 2022 7.30pm at Wortwell Community Centre

Close of Council Meeting: 21.09

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APPENDIX A ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT October 2022

HMRC	£168.48	PAYE NI October	Cheque no 102264
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Regular Payments Pending

Excite Solutions	£546.35	Land Management - October
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Clerk	Salary
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Groundsman	Salary
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Nest	Pension
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NPower NPower)	£439.35	Street Lighting - October (estimated - to be confirmed by
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Roberts and Son	£177.00	FPO Mardler November December
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Redenhall and Harleston Cemetery	£172.80	12% contribution to graves
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Anglian Water Services Ltd	£125.77	Water bill Allotments
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Receipts

SNDC	£20.00	Litter Pick
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Wortwell Parish Lands	£125.77	Water bill Allotments counter payment
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Signed

28/11/22