

MINUTES

A meeting of Wortwell Parish Council took place on

Monday 30 January 2023 at 7.30pm, in the Waveney Room of The Wortwell Community Centre

Two members of the public attended and asked to speak on matters related to items 4a 5a and 6

1. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting
 - a. Present: Clive Aylett (CA) Chairman; Daphne Cook (DC); Allison Copeman (AC); Robert Hadingham (RH); William (Bill) Eddy (BE); Julie Worley (JW)
 - b. In attendance Jeremy Savage SNDC Councillor and Lua Leggett Clerk
2. No apologies
RH did not take part in discussions regarding item 6
3. **Minutes:** Council approve and the Chairman signed the Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 28 November 2022 and the Minutes of the Precept meeting held on 9 January 2023 (there being no meeting in December)
4. **Chairman's Report:**
 - a. **PURA VIDA:** An enquiry had been received regarding Alcohol and Entertainment Licenses at the café. Investigation by Clerk and confirmation from Proprietor confirmed licence had been sought on an ad hoc basis in the past when required, but they are progressing a permanent licence with SNDC. The Proprietor attended the meeting confirming he employs several local people, has a steady flow of return customers and they have received a business development grant to take the business further.
 - b. **Member of the public Q** does it make sense to have three similar businesses in close proximity. A This is out of the hands of the PC but all three appear to be managing to survive in the difficult economic climate.
5. **Councillor Reports District, County and Parish**
 - a. AC Pura Vida – traffic flow – linked to the above matter. Parking has been raised as an issue as the business grows. Proprietor confirmed they are looking to expand their own car park and also to invest in grass matting to protect the grass verges opposite which could be compromised by the Desire Line of parking. It is noted that up to 7 of the cars parked along the road belong to residents and are nothing to do with the café.

Action JW A to site visit PV
 - b. JW took council through a couple of grant opportunities one of which she will pursue to see if we qualify. JW to report to a future meeting with results.
 - c. Recycling: Play Equipment and Defibrillator: reports passed to clerk. RH to do February checks
6. **South Norfolk District Cluster Housing Allocations Plan VCHAP**
 - a. Council expressed disappointment that the land owned by the Durrant Family appeared to be a late entry. Chairman attended a ZOOM conference and it appears that this is not unusual (Note post meeting established that the representation did arrive within deadlines – no further action needed)
 - b. Views expressed by Council is that this proposal for 8 houses is too dominant for such a small area and concerns over drainage, access, dominance and parking.
 - c. In principle it would be acceptable for say 5 or less as it does represent an obvious area for infilling.

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- d. VCHAP can be seen online at
 - i. Southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk?vchap
 - ii. South Norfolk Council Offices
 - iii. The Octagon
 - iv. Libraries in South Norfolk
 - v. Millennium Library in Norwich
 - vi. Submissions to be made in writing either online or using the formal documents available from any of the locations above.

Meeting was adjourned for the public participation and the member of the public present agreed to these questions being asked of the planning committee at SNDC VC

7. Clerk and RFO Report

- a. Administration matters: Murray Gray wishes to place a memorial bench for his late partner Pauline, who did so much to bring about the Infant Play site and all its early equipment. Council is very happy with this proposal and suggested the existing concrete pad by the basketball net; r Gray has been asked if he would like to have a small ceremony or keep it private Clerk to follow up.
- b. Financial Matters
- c. The clerk stated that the PC dedicated laptop needs replacing Budge agreed up to £500
- d. Cashbook and accounts reviewed

8. Gardening and Maintenance report:

- a. GW contract review due
- b. Excite Solutions – LL to review
- c. Open spaces working party report received
 - i. Lest we Forget Bench to be place on the knoll
 - ii. Pavilion roof repairs should be completed this week
 - iii. Football goal on infant site has been re-sited to protect bypass following incident of ball going over the very high fence
 - iv. A working party for signage replacement agreed: RH CA BE
 - v. It was agreed to leave the new tree plants until the spring to assess survival Clerk to place on April agenda to be discussed

- 9. **Barclays and online Banking issues** – the saga continues and LL and CA have it in hand. Council should consider moving away from Barclays. Clerk to seek information from other councils.

10. Allotments: Plots to be advertised in Mardler

- a. 2 xNo ½ size plots 125sqm (approx.) £30 pa
- b. LL to send advert to AC for Mardler

- 11. **Energy Pricing for street lighting** – upate from Npower due in the next few weeks on fixed price contract. Meanwhile we wait as now is not the time to fix a price.

12. Preparation of Annual Accounts – f/y 2022/23 and appointment of Auditors

- a. **Internal** – there is a serious shortage of Auditors but clerk is looking for an internal auditor for the 22/23 accounts.
- b. **External** – PKF Littlejohn appointed for a further 5 financial years

13. Planning Applications – none

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14. Councillor Vacancy and Election in May 2023

- a. Council keen to find someone with energy and drive commitment and a good knowledge of running teams and businesses. All residents of Wortwell can qualify and should speak to the clerk in the first instance.
- b. A recruitment drive was agreed with each Councillor promoting the role to at least one member of the village as we need to have a full Council. It is noted that there is an election due in May 2023.

15. Next Meetings: 27 February 27 March

16. Meeting ended at 9.25pm