

AGENDA

**You are summoned to a meeting of the Parish Council Meeting of Wortwell Parish Council
on Monday 27 November 2023 at 7.30pm at the Waveney Room Wortwell Community Centre
Members of the public are welcome to attend.**

1) Welcome by the Chairman

2) To receive and accept Apologies from those members unable to attend.

To receive any declarations of interest (personal, prejudicial or pecuniary), in particular matters to be raised at this meeting (Note: A declaration of a personal interest should indicate the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which it relates and in this case the member may speak and vote, however if it is a prejudicial or pecuniary interest, the member should withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Minutes: Council to approve, Chairman to sign and Clerk to retain in records, minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2023

*The Meeting will be adjourned for 10 minutes to permit Public participation. Please note that members of the Public **may not comment on agenda items during the course of the meeting** but there will be an opportunity to comment or ask questions at the end of the meeting.*

3) Planning Applications Received: none received to date.

4) Parish Councillor Reports: All to be circulated in advance please:

- a) Wortwell Town Lands Charity Report AC

5) Councillor Weekly Checks:

- a) Recycling Centre report DC (December AC) plus new rota from January 24
- b) Defibrillator – new instructions sheet
- c) Playground Inspection Report -bolts on fort slide
- d) Outdoor Gym Equipment - weekly checks required – papers circulated

6) Clerk and RFO report:

- a) Cashbook, Financials, Budget 23/24
- b) Reserves – Fixed Term Deposit £20,000
- c) Clerk activities – paper circulated with this agenda
- d) Accounts for Payment – see appendix attached
- e) Winter Pressures Grant

7) 2024/25 Budget Proposal

- a) Council to sign off draft proposals for 24.25 financial year ahead. Any last adjustments will be made by the RFO ahead of the January Precept Meeting before final figures are submitted to SNDC.

8) Biodiversity Responsibilities

- a) Wortwell has signed up to the Nature Recovery in Wortwell
- b) January 2024 Government requirements – see appendix 2 attached
 - i) Formal policy to be put in place by January 2024 to comply with Government requirements
 - ii) Working Party to review future purpose of land which could include the potential to acquire Alburgh Allotments land (?)

9) Review of Maintenance Contract: in light of work done on the Knoll and the biodiversity responsibilities in (8) above

10) Speed-watch

- a) update from Chairman re Police Checks
- b) update from SH re Village speed-watch team

Meeting will be adjourned to permit further public participation:

11. FUTURE MEETINGS

8/1/24 (Precept Sign off Meeting only) 29/1/23 26/2/24 25/3/24 29/4/24 (Annual Parish Meeting)

APPENDIX 1

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

| | |
|--|------------------|
| HMRC PAYE NI M7 | £ 522.87 |
| NEST Pension M7 DD | £ 57.06 |
| K R Vincent | £ |
| Hugh Harris Ltd t/a Fresh Air Fitness | £4,540.92 |
| NPower Business Solutions | £ 666.99 |
| Barclays bank – failure to close account | £ 690.45 |
| Total BACS payments made | £6,478.29 |

APPENDIX TWO

New Government Guidance on Biodiversity

Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 there is a duty on public authorities in England to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of their policy or decision making. Conserving biodiversity can include restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.

English public authorities including town and parish councils should be able to show their duty to have regard for conserving biodiversity and how they integrate biodiversity by:-

- Developing policies and strategies and put them into practice
- Manage the planning system
- Manage their:
 - Land and buildings
 - *Woodlands and nature reserves*
 - *Gardens, parks* and public open spaces
 - Community amenities eg sports grounds and cemeteries
 - Waste and pollution
 - Energy and water
 - Wood and plant products
- How they develop infrastructure such as roads, buildings or flood defences
- Make decisions about procurement
- Implement economic, environmental and social programmes

This duty has been reinforced under the Environment Act 2021 and government guidance asking for councils to complete their first consideration of what action to take for biodiversity in their locale by 1 January 2024 and agree policies and objectives as soon as possible.

Note those in italics do not apply to Wortwell