

**A Parish Council Meeting of Wortwell Parish Council took place
on Monday 29 January 2024 at 7.30pm
at the Waveney Room Wortwell Community Centre**

5 members of the public were in attendance

Welcome by the Chairman Cllr Aylett

Present: Cllr Cook (DC), Cllr Copeman (AC), Cllr Carter (HC), Cllr Eddy (BE), Cllr Haddingham (RH), Cllr Worley (JW). In attendance Mrs Leggett Clerk & RFO (LL), Mrs Margaret Colyer MC), Locum Clerk). Also in attendance Mr Kevin Vincent - Maintenance (KV) District Cllr Trevor Graham (TG)

Apologies: District Cllr J Eddy (JE) who submitted a report which was circulated in advance and read out at the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest

Minutes: Council approved the Minutes of the meetings held on 27 November 2023 and 8 January 2024 and signed by Cllr Worley who was Chair at the November meeting and Cllr Aylett who was Chair at the January precept meeting.

The meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes to permit public participation. The public used their time to ask about the re-opening of The Bell, Public House. The further topic regarding Speed Watch would be raised at the appropriate time on the Agenda.

78) There were no planning applications received for this meeting.

79) Locum Clerk: Clerk and RFO (LL) will be temporarily absent from duties. CA proposed that MC be appointed as covering Locum Clerk and all unanimously agreed.

Reports

80) Councillor Reports: District Cllr Trevor Graham delivered his report to the meeting, and report from District Cllr JE was read in his absence. LL reported that £300 grant application for SNC Community in Bloom for plants for the village had been successful.

81) Policies and Procedures: AC advised that all policies be reviewed by June 2025 and HC to manage reviews and updates going forward and suggested that she distribute policies amongst councillors to review during 2024. Financial Regulations and Standing Orders have been reviewed for 2024.

82) Maintenance: KV and AC indicated budget requirements for repair of basketball board, 'No Dog' sign, replacement panel for locomotive and grass seed totalling approximately £220.

83) Incidents: DC reported the high level of mud on the road in High Road and Low Road. Clerk will write to Jonny Crickmore of Fen Farm to request roads be cleaned.

84) Speeding and SAM2 Report: CA reported that evidence from the SAM2 shows that the highest offenders are those vehicles speeding during the middle of the day. Speed traps are being used in the village and we are supported by the Police.

85) Defibrillator: JW found no problems with the machine. CA reported that a new battery has been installed.

86) Playground Inspection: JW reports that the fort is needing some repair, and the wood is splitting on the Adventure Path. KV to address repairs as required.

87) Outdoor Gym Equipment: All in good order

88) Recycling: Smashed glass swept up from the area

89) Street Lighting Report: BE advised that one of the lights in High Road is blue and lights at top of Tunbeck Close are not working. BE to provide identifying numbers of these lights. A complaint has been received that a light in the CORE Car Park is not working. The question of whether we would be covered by insurance should the lack of light be the cause of an accident. A sensor light might be a solution and further discussion needs to be had on the subject.

90) Financial: LL reported that finances were in order. The quarterly Internal Control Check will be carried out this week by Cllr RH.

91) Environmental & Biodiversity Policy: AC has prepared a policy and action plan, which was approved and adopted. The Action Plan will be a work in progress document requiring review frequently, and certainly January 2025. First review to take place within the next six months. CA proposed the adoption of the policy, seconded by RH. All in favour.

92) Mardler: The poll to determine the format villagers would prefer in future yielded a poor response. The March/April issue will be the last one printed due to unsustainable printing costs. The suggestions for the future are for printed news as and when available and printed on parish council's printer. Decision to be placed in the March/April issue with villagers being offered the opportunity to subscribe to news via email. News can also be displayed on village notice boards and posted to the website. It must be noted that any decision is not irreversible.

93) Community Speedwatch: Member of the public, Sam Homewood (SH) has shown a desire to recruit volunteers to carry out speed checks in the village. They would be required to volunteer one hour per week, be DBS registered, trained to operate a speed gun, and issued with high viz jackets. SH will act as Co-ordinator and appoint a Deputy.

94) VESPA

LL reported that applications for capital funding were progressing.

LL requested Council to confirm agreement that they wish to continue their support for the project. All agreed.

BE and HC have agreed to deputise for LL in this matter during her absence.

NEXT MEETINGS

26/2/24, 25/3/24, 29/4/24 (Annual Parish Meeting)

Meeting concluded at 9:40pm

Signed Date 26/2/24