

**A Parish Council Meeting of Wortwell Parish Council took place**

**on Monday 26 February 2024 at 7.30pm  
at the Waveney Room Wortwell Community Centre**

**1 member of the public was in attendance**

**Welcome by the Chairman Cllr Aylett**

**Present:** Cllr Cook (DC), Cllr Copeman (AC), Cllr Carter (HC), Cllr Eddy (BE), Cllr Hadingham (RH), Cllr Worley (JW), Locum Clerk (MC)

**Apologies:** None

*There were no declarations of interest*

**Minutes:** Council approved the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2024 and signed by Cllr Aylett.

**95) Planning** JW reported that she has investigated the matter of the mobile home situated in the grounds of 99 High Road, Wortwell without planning permission. It transpires that the mobile home is being used by elderly relatives of the owners of the main property. South Norfolk Planning Department confirm that the mobile home is ancillary to the main house and the case is closed.

**Reports**

**96) Councillor Reports:** District Cllr Trevor Graham's report was read out by CA and report from District Cllr James Eddy was circulated to Councillors during the meeting.

**97) Potholes** RH reported potholes on the pavement on Low Road between Mill Lane and Meadow View. He will contact Highways in the first instance to ascertain if they are responsible for this work.

**98) The Bell Public House:** AC reported that the PH was re-opening on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Regarding the defibrillator, CA has discussed this matter with the landlord who will co-operate with WPC to keep it fully operational.

**99) Defibrillator:** It has been noticed that the postcode is missing from the machine. It was suggested a more robust postcode sign be purchased. CA is investigating the purchase of an inscribed metal plaque.

**100) Car Accident:** DC reported an incident in High Road where a vehicle ran into the rear of a parked car in the dark. No injuries were reported and the Police attended.

**101) Welcome Pack and Website:** AC reported she will be updating the Welcome Pack and making some changes to the website to include content currently regularly published in the Mardler.

**102) Pavilion:** AC stated that action should be taken to obtain advice and quotes from

carpenters to fit wooden frames in the windows and block off the side door.

CCTV has been suggested and discussion took place regarding using dummy CCTV tactics as deterrent. Suggested CCTV signage and intermittent flashing light mounted at gable end. DC and JW to investigate. The cost was estimated at £20 maximum and all in favour.

**103) Racial Incident:** CA reported a racial incident in the village. Victim to lodge complaint with Police.

**104) Barclays Bank:** CA and RH confirmed that the two remaining Barclays Bank accounts are closed.

**105) Policies and Procedures:** AC and HC will continue to work together to review all policies by June 2025

**106) Playground Inspection:** RH reported following observations:

**Old Field**

Pavilion window has been damaged twice and door at far end. These have now been repaired.

Moles near entrance to car park

Mole hills at vehicular entrance

3 new trees planted behind pavilion

**New Field**

Monitor safety surface on large swings, slight hole directly beneath swing seats when at rest.

Portable goal nets have multiple holes.

Wooden play equipment will require painting at some point.

**Outdoor Gym Equipment:** All in good order

**Recycling:** Cleaned concrete green mould.

**107) Street Lighting Report:** BE reported a communication from TT Jones who advise that the lights on Tunbeck Close are obsolete/unserviceable and cannot be repaired. TT Jones recommended replacing light bulbs on columns A B C at a cost of £363.70 each plus VAT each. Column D would also benefit from an up to date replacement. Subject to discussion with LL, BE proposed in principle, that all 4 lights be replaced, seconded by CA. All in favour.

**108) Financial:** The quarterly internal Control Check was carried out by RH. All in order.

Nest Pension for LL was approved unanimously.

**109) Clerk Report:** Mud on Road. Clerk has contacted Fen Farm who have passed the complaint on to their farm team. If there are any further concerns WPC should contact them.

Fruit Trees: A villager has donated 3 fruit trees to the village. Clerk to send a note of thanks.

**110) Environmental & Biodiversity Policy:** AC advised that the Action Plan is available for the Working Party. District Cllr Trevor Graham gave an interesting talk on the subject at The Community Centre on 9<sup>th</sup> February. Two people from the village were interested and would like to get involved. RH commented on the potential of the old field with more wildlife friendly trees, shrubs and meadow areas. Hedgerows not to be cut back hard to encourage thicker growth.

**(111) Mardler:** AC reported that she will include, in the last printed Mardler (March/April) issue, full details of access to village news with villagers having the option to subscribe to e-newsletters. Regular advertisers in the printed Mardler will be advertised as a free listing on the website.

**112) Community Speedwatch:** Villager, Sam Homewood has posted leaflets through letterboxes to recruit a team to carry out speed checks in the village.

**113) VESPA:** The project is on natural hold awaiting outcome of the Pride in Place award which is not expected until early to mid-March.

**114) Harleston Youth Football Club:** The Parish Meeting was closed, and a meeting of the Trustees of the Wortwell Old Playing Field took place to discuss the proposals put forward by Harleston Youth Football Club who would like to use the field for youth teams next season.

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

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

Meeting concluded at 8:45pm

Signed ..... Date 25/3/24