

A Parish Council Meeting of Wortwell Parish Council took place

On Monday 25th March 2024 at 7.30pm

At the Waveney Room Wortwell Community Centre

4 members of the public were in attendance

Welcome by the Chairman Cllr Aylett

Present: Cllr Carter (HC), Cllr Eddy (BE), Cllr Copeman (AC), Cllr Hadingham (RH), Cllr Worley (JW) taking minutes. Also in attendance Mr Kevin Vincent (KV) – Maintenance

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

RH declared an interest on item 10.

Minutes: Council approved the Minutes of the meeting held on the 26 February 2024 and signed by Chairman Cllr Aylett.

115) A planning application was received late, councillors to look at report their views back to CA by Friday 29th March, the latest.

116) Locum Clerk Mrs Margaret Colyer, was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. In her absence JW took minutes of the meeting.

117) Councillor Reports: No report from Cllr James Eddy. CA read a report from Councillor Stone regarding Funding for Norfolk and that a delegation had gone to parliament with regards to Norfolk's flooding and coastal erosion. Cllr Trevor Graham's report referred to the annual South Norfolk Council's Big Litter Pick and the possibility of an Open Wildlife Friendly Gardens event.

With regards to the litter pick, which was suggested for a Wednesday, a member of the public suggested a weekend when more people may be able to help. CA will liaise with DC.

It was thought too early at present to think about an open gardens event, but this is something that can be discussed at a later stage.

118) Maintenance: KV advised some drain covers in the driveway of the Community centre are broken and full of debris. Are these to be fixed or replaced? Basketball net is broken again, and it was thought a chain replacement might be more cost effective at some stage. Football goal areas to be seeded and goal nets have holes. AC said she had repaired with net twine in the past and will look to see if she still has any. KV has strimmed around the recycling centre and the Knoll but needs some clarity as to exactly what he should be doing alongside the contractor who appears to still be cutting the Knoll. LL to clarify with him. KV reminded CA that he needs plastic to go around the posts of play equipment, so they do not get damaged when strimming. AC to provide an updated jobs list to Clerk who will liaise with KV.

AC advised she has spoken to a wood provider for the Train repairs – 1 piece is £7.29 or 5 pieces milled for £52.00. The single pieces are slightly smaller in thickness. Council agreed to purchase 5 pieces at £7.29 each = £36.45. AC to order and KV will pick up from Huw Gray's in Diss.

119) Incidents Report: AC reported that a neighbour had had an altercation with a dog walker who was walking their dog in a prohibited area. Another resident was also seen walking their dog on the playing field and when spoken to said they always do it, will continue to do so, and will pay a fine if necessary. It was agreed it is difficult to police but we must ensure that No Dog signs are clear so if taken any further we can show notices were in place.

There does not appear to be anymore vandalism at the pavilion, JW has purchased the dummy camera and KV will collect from her. Purchasing a proper camera was discussed but CA advised that a SIM card and internet connection would be required, and this might be problematic. See how the dummy one works at present and discuss further at a later date if necessary.

120) Assets & Street Furniture: Nothing to report as DC was absent from meeting. Adjourn to next meeting.

121) Speeding & SAM2: Nothing to report.

122) Defibrillator Report: HC reported that on checking she could not switch the Defibrillator off on first attempt. BE will be completing checks for April so to be aware and report if still an issue. Also pads to be checked – should be 2, one attached to defibrillator and one in pouch.

123) Playground Inspection Report: HC reported spring on gate, Tunbeck Road has been fixed. HC asked about the soil under the swings on the old playing field because it has flints in it and could be hazardous. KV could use the soil for gardening purposes around the village so will have a look. Pavilion has been made secure by KV after recent vandalism. HC reported some wire at the back of the dugout, left side looking from Tunbeck Road, needs cutting away. On the new field on the bridge of the fort, the plastic coating on the wire is split and needs repairing. Wood on the fort also needs repair – KV has some wood painted red already. Various bolt covers need replacing – KV aware. Basketball board still needs replacing. KV to clean child swings because they have bird excrement on them.

124) Recycling Report: All ok. KV will trim the hedge around the centre.

125) Street Lighting Report: Nothing to report. BE will contact TT Jones re replacing light bulbs.

126) Welcome Pack & Updates: AC reported Welcome pack updated.

127) Potholes: RH has reported pot holes on pavement in Low Road but has not heard anything back.

128) Finance: Richard Canwell Internal Auditor has been appointed to replace Christine Hall. Council agreed with the appointment.

LL will publish draft financial figures for 2023/2024 ahead of APM. AGAR deadline for external audit is 30/06/2024.

129) VESPA update: LL is liaising with Kirsty Burns and it is hopeful that we will get the £10k shortfall. Additional £33k which will still be required is still being sourced.

130) Annual Parish Meeting: Invites to be made to The Bell, Pura Vida, The Dove, Goodswens, The Core, Guide dogs, Chapel, Allotments, and community centre user groups. Agenda for the meeting will need to be published by the 17/04/2024. Agreed to continue to start meeting at 7.30pm.

AC has sent her apologies in advance, as she will be away.

131) Biodiversity Update: RH has 2 volunteers at present. Bloom grant applied for. A meeting will need to be arranged at some point to take this forward and AC suggested she and RH have a meeting to discuss action plan.

132) Mardler Update: Final addition published and delivered to residents. Couple of requests made for hard copies of future newsletters.

133) Speed Watch: Sam has 4/5 volunteers but a minimum of 6 are needed. BE advised he would help if no-one else comes forward. CA to liaise with Sam to move forward.

134) SNDC Village Cluster Plan: Before discussions took place the council discussed if RH did have an interest and therefore should exit the meeting during this discussion. It was agreed that this was not necessary. CA spoke to planning at SNDC and was advised there are 2 projects – Mrs Teresa Riches and Mr Richard Bond. These will incorporate the 12 houses known as WORT1. RH family land back in 2015 had underlying permission for 5 properties which was increased to 10 but this has been refused and remains at the original 5 proposed. CA was informed that the land next to the chapel did not come under the Wortwell remit but will be the 3rd piece of building land! CA was a bit confused by this and SNDC did not make it clear.

135) Harleston Football Club: Micky Ellis, Chairman of Harleston Football Club was present to discuss the facilities they would like to use. He advised they would like to use the field 4 nights a week. Training in the evenings will be from 6 – 9pm the latest. On Saturdays there will be girls' games and on Sunday boys or mixed teams playing from 10 – 12pm. This would not commence until September 2024. They are happy to sort out the lights and pay the electric for running them and if possible, use the pavilion for storage and again would be happy to make it secure. Further discussions to take place with BE, RH and David (Harleston Football Club) to agree on finer details of opening The CORE for toilet facilities and refreshments.

Meeting closed at 9.28pm.