



PARISH COUNCIL of Walsham le Willows

MINUTES of the meeting held on Wednesday 12th January 2022 commencing at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall.

[Pending formal approval at the next meeting, these minutes have been informally approved by Parish Councillors as a true record. If any further corrections are required these will be minuted at the next meeting prior to formal approval]

MEMBERS PRESENT – Cllrs Arbon; Belson; Bartholomew; Kinnair; Mecrow; Roberts

[The Council, members of the public and press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and press are not lawfully excluded. All will be required to comply with any social distancing/Covid measures in place at the time and numbers may be limited in order to comply. To attend please advise the Clerk at the earliest opportunity. Members of the public not wishing to attend in person may submit written representations.]

1 FIRST BUSINESS

- 1.1 **Apologies** – None received
- 1.2 **Consent to Apologies Received** - None
- 1.3 **To receive pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests of members** Cllr Belson re agenda item 9.1.
- 1.4 **To receive requests for dispensation** – Dispensation granted to allow Cllr Belson to provide information.
- 1.5 **Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December** were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Belson as Chair.

2 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION - to receive written reports for information only [district and county reports previously circulated and posted on village website]:

- 2.1 **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** – Chair of Neighbourhood Plan Group, Phil Newby, not present.
- 2.2 **County Councillor Jessica Fleming** not able to attend.
- 2.3 **District Councillor Richard Meyer** invited questions on his report and noted an additional item re BMSDC being appointed for pilot into a simpler approach to Neighbourhood Planning. He had no further information at this stage.

3 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM including County and District Reports and *Questions* [Members of the public may be invited to speak at the discretion of the Chair and each representation should take no more than 3-5 minutes. An immediate response should not be expected & councillors may wish to ask questions] No members of the public present

4 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED incl. any received after the publication of this agenda & **PLANNING MATTERS** [to be brought to the attention of the council]

- 4.1 **Stanton Development – reference DC/21/02384** Cllr Roberts reported that nothing new had appeared on the website. Cllr Meyer clarified his position on the request to co-ordinate a meeting amongst interested Parishes and offered to broker a meeting of Wattisfield, Badwell Ash and Walsham (as these are parishes on which this development will have similar impacts).
- 4.2 **APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/21/06878 Proposal:** Householder Application - Erection of five bar automatic entrance gates and fencing. **Location:** Sunnyside House, Finningham Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk IP31 3BJ **PARISH COUNCIL MADE NO COMMENT**
- 4.3 **APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/21/06943 Proposal:** Householder Application. **Re-submission of DC/21/05331** (Erection of side/rear two storey extension, and

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- single storey porch extension) to alter position of rear wall. **Location:** 44 Townhouse Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk, IP31 3BP **PARISH COUNCIL MADE NO COMMENT**
- 4.4 **APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/22/00092 Proposal:** Householder Application - Erection of rear extension (following demolition of conservatory). **Location:** Felbrigge, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk IP31 3BD **PARISH COUNCIL MADE NO COMMENT**
- 4.5 **Notice of sale of land running along The Avenues** – Cllr Bartholomew had spotted this. The Parish Council discussed the potential implications of the sale and also the possibility of the Parish Council buying the land should it be possible to negotiate an appropriate price and raise the necessary funding. The Clerk was asked to register an interest on this basis with the agents.
- 5 PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning)**
- 5.1 **APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/21/04498 Proposal:** Planning Application - Change of use from class E (commercial, business, service) to class C3 (residential), associated conversion /small scale demolitions to provide 1no dwelling with 2No off street parking spaces and external garden area. **Location:** Linton House, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk IP31 3AZ **MSDC REFUSED PERMISSION**
- 5.2 **APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION DC/21/06217 Proposal** Householder Application - Erection of two storey side extension. **Location** 34 Townhouse Road Walsham Le Willows Suffolk IP31 3BP **MSDC GRANTED PERMISSION**
- 5.3 **Application Reference: DC/21/06382 Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area:** Reduce 3no Horse Chestnuts (T1, T2 and T3) back to original pruning points Clarks Of Walsham Ltd, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk **MSDC DID NOT WISH TO OBJECT**
- 6 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**
- Cllrs Belson and Mecrow advised that last meeting by zoom was very well attended. There were 142 respondents to the household survey (the last in the process towards developing a plan) which has just been published and can be found on the village website. The biggest planning issue identified was in opposition to any more development. Although in the short term this may be possible in the longer term development is probably inevitable. The only question is how much control the community will have over that when it happens. This is where a solid neighbourhood plan can help. Character Appraisal work is being finished off and Cllrs Belson and Mecrow highlighted the immense effort that group member Sally Johnston has put into this over the past weeks and months. An onsite meeting with AECOM is to happen very soon to look at the Design Code work needed. As a result of discussions in the group as to whether or not sites should be put forward, the consultants are drawing up a proposal to include carefully written policies that address the documented concerns.
- 7 PLAY AREA DEVELOPMENT**
- 7.1 **Sub-committee report** – Cllr Kinnair reported that obtaining a written third quote required by grant funding bodies is proving quite slow but he was hopeful that this should be forthcoming very soon. A verbal quote has already been received. Of the three quotes two are much higher than the other and push up the amount of funding needed. This will be interrogated much more closely once formal tender stage is reached but Cllr Kinnair proposed that in the meantime the Parish Council commit another £15k (in principle) to assist with moving forward with the grant funding bids. This was unanimously approved. Clerk to seek advice from Badwell Ash re level of detail required for the specification for formal tender process. It is hoped that by February the Council will be in a position to go to formal tender.
- 8 CLERK'S REPORTS**
- 8.1 **Reconciliation to 31st December 2021**– The ledger reconciles with the bank balances which were duly approved and signed by Cllr Kinnair.

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- 8.2 **Request for payments** - The summary of payments has been circulated in advance of the meeting and were approved then signed by Cllrs Bartholomew and Kinnair.

#	Payments OUT	Amount	Description
1	Turner Hire	£172.80	Billy Goat Hire December
2	Memorial Hall	£20.00	Hire for Parish Council Meeting
3	David Murray	£14.81	Fuel for Billy Goat
4	David Murray	£150.00	Leaf Collecting October to December
5	Clarkes	£15.89	Paint for Village Sign
6	Suffolk Agri Centre	£64.20	Blade for Ride-On Mower
7	Parish Council Employee	£887.77	Wages
8	GeoXphere	£48.00	Subscription Parish Online
9	M&TJ's	£96.00	Play Area Hedge Cutting

- 8.3 **Problem Reports SCC** – Clerk to advised no real issues of note other than the Acorns hedge replanting issue which was now in the hands of SCC Highways and MSDC Planning Enforcement.
- 8.4 **Action Log** – The Clerk had previously circulated a re-rated priority list, and this was approved. Cllr Roberts to forward frame sizes to Clerk for ordering of litter pick signage.
- 8.5 **Website analytics** – Clerk attempted to show councillors the analytics dashboard but for some reason either broadband connection or website hosting platform was not playing ball.
- 9 **MATTERS ARISING** [from previous meeting only where further decisions are required]
- 9.1 **Wildwood – Parish Council Support** Cllr Belson requested further consideration and decision on support for the Wildwood. Council discussed the costs, and it was proposed to offer a grant of £500 pa for the next three years before reviewing the position. This was carried unanimously. This is made under s.164 Public Health Act 1875. Clerk to arrange for first payment.
- 9.2 **Village Gates** – Cllr Belson was of the opinion that this has not been properly considered as a project to be pursued. He is concerned about feasibility with regard to available verge widths. The Clerk referred council to the clarification of current position as circulated by email before the meeting (based on minutes 2.2 and 9.1 from December meeting) which noted that suggested locations have been submitted to highways for a response on costs, process, potential locations etc. No decisions to proceed any further have, or could have, been made or acted upon at this stage. Parish Councillors are not in a position to make any further decision until more information and guidance is received from Highways.
- 9.2.1 Installation of village gates the Parish Council unanimously agreed that a settled position had been reached at the December meeting to submit suggested locations for a response on feasibility and to ascertain the required process and costs.
- 9.2.2 The Parish Council resolved to wait until a response is received from Highways before any further consideration.
- 9.3 **Four Ashes Finger Post** – The Clerk referred to previously circulated quotes to a parishioner who had started to look into this. The Clerk raised the viability of the decision at the last meeting when as yet a certified contractor who is willing to take on the installation has not been found. Clerk to follow up with contact at SCC who was involved with the Community Self Help regeneration of the Four Ashes triangle to see if this can be progressed any other way.
- 9.4 **CIL grant funding request for repairs to allotment sheds** – The previously circulated request was considered and a sum of £1000 was unanimously approved. Clerk to arrange for payment.

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10 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

- 10.1 **Development signage** – Cllr Bartholomew enquired as to how this could be removed. Clerk advised that as we learnt with the discussions over signage for The Acorns, these are usually on public land anyone can remove them as the developers rarely seem to do so. Only issue is the height at which they are sometimes fixed.

11 OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN** *[No decisions can be made under AOB. Matters requiring decision must be placed on the agenda for the following meeting]*

- 12.1 **Village Quiz Team** – 2 volunteers, two more needed. Clerk to advise a Parish Council team would be put forward.
- 12.2 Cllr Bartholomew asked if the **order for the stage** could now be placed as per minute 8.3 from meeting held on 8th December 2021. Clerk to action.
- 12.3 Cllr Mecrow asked about the need for **work on trees in the closed churchyard** to deal with epicormic growth, which was last carried out some years ago now. Cllr Belson to take a look.
- 12.4 Cllr Mecrow raised issue of **lighting from sports ground** that has been arranged at an angle that is a **road traffic hazard**. Cllr Meyer advised that this had been raised at the Sports Club. Clerk to email Chairman to ask that it is rectified.

Meeting Closed at 21:05

Kevin Boardley, Proper Officer and Clerk to Walsham le Willows Parish Council

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