

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY  
1 DECEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE.

**Present:** Mr Howard (Chairman), Mr Melvin, Mrs Cook, Mr Guyler, Mr George, Mrs Parker, Rev Farrell and 6 members of the public.

**Public comment:** Mrs Burns, Chair of New Woods for Woolpit advised the group has been running for 3 years and are no longer financially sponsored by the Greenlight Trust and are looking for financial help. A set of accounts have been provided and the matter will be discussed fully at the January meeting.

District Cllr Melvin advised that MSDC is preparing its budget.

PCSO Pendergast advised that there have been 6 reported crimes between 3 November and 1 December; 1 affray, 2 possessing Class C Drugs, 1 possession of an offensive weapon without authority and 2 common assault. 4 cautions have been given, one further enquiries are being completed and one person has been bailed for further enquiries.

Sgt Curtis detailed changes to the Safer Neighbourhood Team and the reasons for this. When SNTs were set up there was a 60% 40% split for response and SNT work. This has had to be changed to 80% response 20% SNT. A further P.C. should be joining the team from January 2009. Various Parish Councils are looking at match funding a PCSO and further details will be sent to the Clerk so Cllrs can consider this further.

County Cllr Storey reported that SCC Cabinet will be discussing the Budget Outrun report. There has been some pressure on the "looked after children" budget but this will be managed by the Children and Young Peoples Directorate. It has been suggested that SCC contingency funds be used to help out in the current economic situation. The Cabinet will also discuss the 2008 Annual Public Health report which this year deals with health inequalities and diversity. The budget planning is now set against the backdrop of the LGR and economic downturn. The budget figures and forecasts for 2009/10 will be presented to a Resources Scrutiny Committee on 16 December.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr Wiley.

2. **To receive declarations of interest.** There were none.

3 **To approve minutes of the meetings 3 & 19 November 2008.** Both sets of minutes were approved and signed.

#### 4. **Clerk's Report**

**Christmas tree lights** – the Clerk has used her emergency powers to ask Woolpit Nurseries to purchase and erect a new set of lights as one of the original sets would not work. The approximate cost will be about £20.

**Allotments** – rats and damaged fencing. MSDC has advised that they think the allotment holders have responsibility for sorting the issue of rats. It has been brought to the Clerk's attention that some tenants have had muck delivered and this is pushing against the fencing. Cllrs feel that no action needs to be taken at this stage.

**Clerk's appraisal** – standard form has been received from SALC and passed to Mr Howard. The appraisal will be arranged in the new year. *Action: Mr Howard/the Clerk*  
**LDF Site Specific Allocations** – MSDC has confirmed that Woolpit will be considered in section b) the rest of the district but no dates have been set.

**Dog mess** – complaints have been received about the amount of dog mess around the village. MSDC has been advised but Cllrs were made aware that evidence and witnesses will be required for any prosecutions and to make residents aware of this.

**Mid Suffolk South Community Board** – is now to be known as "Your Place" to encourage community involvement. The Town and Parish Reps have been elected as Ron Raisey - Onehouse, Brian Relf – Gt Bricett, Josephine Lea – Needham

Market, Ray Melvin – Woolpit, David Bailey – Bramford and Trevor Messenger – Claydon.

**5. To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.**

**NHS Suffolk** Rural dispensing regulations – classification of Elmswell. A recent application has been made for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list and Elmswell needs to be classified for rural dispensing purposes. Elmswell was last classified in 1999 as controlled (rural). The Clerk will respond that it should remain as controlled (rural) and that there are satisfactory pharmaceutical services already available and WPC cannot foresee any need to change the classification. **SCC** has decided to consult MSDC and the emergency services regarding any potential difficulties of closing one end of Masons Lane before consulting residents. **SCC** advising that Susan Room is now dealing with Highway Network Improvements in the Woolpit area and SCC has decided not to proceed with the installation of bollards on Wood Road/Heath Road. The Clerk will send a letter to Susan Room reminding her of Anthony Smith's commitment to bid for funds to carry out road improvements for the pump area. **NHS Suffolk** further information regarding application for outline consent to dispense from The Gipping Valley Practice, Barham. **MSDC** advising a new Tetra Pak bank has been located at Elmswell recycling centre. **Bank of Ireland** written confirmation of Irish Governments guarantee on all funds until midnight 28 September 2010. **John Guyler** attended Steeles Road Steering Group meeting 19 November. Section 106 will be finally signed in the next few days after which planning permission will be granted. The process for closing the footpaths can formally start and will take about 3 months. It is estimated that the building work will commence in March. The removal of agreed hedges is likely to take place in December and affected residents will be notified. Residents have already been moved for the first stage of the work. **SCC** annual surface clearance of Public Rights of Way. The Clerk has asked for an updated map and this will be considered further at the January meeting. **MSDC** Landlords Forum 8 December. **The following items were passed to Cllrs for circulation:** SALC Training update; SMIT West Suffolk newsletter summer 2008; Stowmarket Town Council The Town Crier winter 2008; Clerks & Councils Direct November; Your Place Matters newsletter November; SALC agenda for Mid Suffolk South Area meeting 20 November, minutes of meeting 4 September and report to area meetings; Response letter from Suffolk Constabulary. **Product information:** Outdoor Furniture, Whitehouse Enterprises, Playquest Adventure Play Ltd, Glasdon UK Ltd.

**6. Planning – to consider current applications, any others received prior to this meeting and receive MSDC decisions.**

**3311/08** Lime tree to be pollarded. The Limes, Drinkstone Road. MSDC does not wish to object to the proposal.

**EN/08/00438** Withdrawn application 1649/08 installation of 0.74m satellite dish to rear of building. H C Addisson and Son, The Street.

**4070/07** Drop kerb to gain vehicular access at front of property. 6 Heath Road. Appeal has been dismissed – the proposal would cause material harm to highway safety and free flow of traffic on Heath Road.

**0779/08** Erection of 2 semi-detached dwellings. Land to rear of Broomhill House, Broomhill Lane. Appeal has been allowed and permission granted.

**7. To approve accounts for payment.**

Mr K Harknett £51.60 litter picking November; SCC £120.92 November pension payment; SLCC £113.00 annual subscription 2009; Viking Direct £64.76 stationery; S J Wales £6673.21 Institute Kitchen; D F Ward Associates £237.99 Monkey Ladder children's play area; Woolpit Playing Field £236.61 reimbursement children's play area repairs to fence and inspection/maintenance April-September. All payments were approved and cheques issued.

**8. To consider a one off set up charge for the village website [www.woolpit.org](http://www.woolpit.org) and take any necessary action.**

It was agreed to carry forward this item to January meeting as a letter is required from Mr Sieve for a breakdown of the set up fees, ongoing costs and commitment.

*Action: Mr Wiley.*

**9. To consider revised quotes from SPL Print for Woolpit Diary from April 2009 and other recommendations from the working group and take any necessary action.**

It was agreed to have a pale green 120gsm cover, 1000 copies per issue and an additional page of adverts. SPL will be used from the April 2009 issue.

**10. To discuss the additional information provided by Suffolk Constabulary regarding the licensing offence in August.**

The Clerk will ask the Police if a prosecution is taking place or pending. If so WPC would like the date or notification of the outcome.

*Action: the Clerk*

**11. To consider a request that allotment tenancy agreements are altered to allow for small sheds to keep equipment on site.**

After discussion it was proposed, seconded and carried to maintain the status quo and not allow sheds due to keeping the site tidy and security issues. *Action: the Clerk*

**12. To receive a report from Woolpit Village Hall and Playing Field Committee meetings.**

The ROSPA safety check report has been received and any issues put right. There is a problem of water leaking from pipes in the Kathie Prior room and the kitchen which is being investigated by a plumber. Lucy Bulman has resigned as the bookings clerk. The Committee are looking into an all weather surface area at the sports field. The approximate cost is £70,000 and this could make a good village project over the next few years.

**13. To consider a request from Woolpit Village Hall Committee regarding an extension to the Village hall car park and take any necessary action.**

Cllrs have a few concerns regarding the project and the type of surfacing to be used. It was proposed, seconded and carried that the Clerk ask Woolpit Village hall Committee to investigate surfaces that are safe, durable, wont spoil the playing field or street scene and can still be played on.

*Action: the Clerk.*

**14. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.** Nothing to report this month.

**15. Rookery Farm, Drinkstone – update on current issues.**

The Inquiry report decision which was expected by the end of November has not yet been received. The judicial review will take place in the new year. The next meeting of the Steering Group is on 9 December but this date was set to consider aspects following the Inspectors decision. There were 72 complaints in October.

**16. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 5 January 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute.** Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.22 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....

