

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6 OCTOBER 2008 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE.

Present: Mr Wiley (Chairman), Mr Melvin, Mrs Parker, Mr Lomax, County Cllr Storey, P.C. Catton and 1 member of the public.

Public comment: P. C Catton advised that there have been 5 reported crimes between 1 September and 6 October, 1 criminal damage to a motor vehicle, 2 theft from a motor vehicle, 1 drink driver and 1 arson. One crime has been detected and the others remain pending. As the problems in the car park have diminished it is unlikely that the police will pursue the use of CCTV. P.C. Catton confirmed that there have been several speed checks in the village and he will ask for the results to be sent to the Clerk. From next week there will only be one P.C. plus 3 PCSOs and Sgt Curtis based at Elmswell. P.C. Catton is being transferred to Debenham. He was thanked for his work within the village over the last couple of years.

District Cllr Melvin advised that staff are already starting to leave MSDC in light of the Local Government Review even though no decision has been made yet. Cllr Melvin attended the recent Parish Liaison meeting where members of SCC gave a presentation regarding the LGR changes and MSDC gave a presentation on the changes to Section 106 levy, how it is structured and administered.

County Cllr Storey advised that that SCC has led 4 out of 5 business cases for the LGR and these have been passed to the Boundary Committee.

SCC cabinet will discuss lorry management issues raised by the policy development panel including overnight parking facilities, highways issues from planning applications, and SCC role and responsibilities in responding to Goods Vehicle Operator Licence applications. The Clerk informed Cllr Storey that Parish Councils are not informed on GVO Licence applications and Cllr Storey will take this up at cabinet. The cabinet will also discuss SCC contribution to Healthy Ambitions and the problems caused by obesity; the integrated Risk Management Plan for Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and the Local Government Flood Forum. Cllr Storey has asked officers to help with issues of G39 conflict with regard to street lighting. This has not been very forthcoming so she is escalating her request and hopes to get everyone together for a meeting.

Mr Baker advised he has been approached regarding a lorry park near to the café on the slip road. Before taking it any further he would like a meeting with SCC, MSDC and the Parish Council. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council has not been contacted on this issue. Cllr Melvin will talk to David Benham about this.

Mr Baker advised that he has lost a client due to the tardiness of MSDC planning department issuing planning permission notice. Cllr Melvin will investigate the matter.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr Guyler, Mrs Cook, Rev Farrell, Mr Howard and Mr George.

2. **To receive declarations of interest.** Mrs Parker declared an interest in two payments, one to herself and one to Woolpit Cricket Club. MrMelvin regarding planning application 2850/08 4 Briar Hill as the garden abuts his property. Both duly signed the interest book.

3 **To approve minutes of the meeting 1 September 2008.** The minutes were approved and signed.

4. **Clerk's Report**

Various highways issues – Jim Nunn has advised that the skirting on the footway in Bury Road will be carried out this week. The trees near to Leggetts do need to be cut back and SCC will arrange work with their contractor. A work order will be issued for SCC to cut the hedge along the cycleway in the near future.

Mr Nunn agreed that the trees in White Elm Road require cutting but are the responsibility of the land owner. The Clerk was asked to write to Mrs Cracknell advising her of this and that she needs to contact Mr Prior. *Action: The Clerk*

Emptying of dog litter bins – Paul Lewis, Head of Waste & Environment at MSDC and John Buckingham, Supervisor for Waste and Environment services have contacted the Clerk to advise that any further problems should be referred to them.

Appeal for 2 semi detached dwellings on land to the rear of Broomhill House - Adrian Matthews, Planning Officer confirmed that all objectors have been notified of the appeal.

Dispensation for website discussions – Ian Rickard MSDC Monitoring Officer has advised that only councillors who stand to make any personal financial gain i.e. if they advertise on the site would have to declare an interest. Councillors who are members of village organisations which have reports of meetings and advertise events on the website would not need to as there would be no personal financial gain.

Community Board nominations – 12 councils have put forward nominations for the 6 places on the board. These councils were asked to forward an information sheet of why they would like to be represented on the panel and a bit about the person put forward. This will be sent to all those concerned to help with voting. Issues of expenses will be looked at later on.

Anti social behaviour – Glemsford PC has confirmed that they used a security firm from Ipswich some years ago but they are no longer trading. It did work from them but was not a cheap option. They currently have a mosquito alarm at their village hall.

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

Issues of garden waste being thrown over a fence into Broomhill Lane has been reported also hedging and brambles overhanging the steps down into Wrights Way. Rubbish at the side of the path from Meadowlands to The Street has also been reported. The Clerk will contact David Abbott, MSDC Fly Tipping Enforcement Officer. Fly tipping in Corkscrew Lane has been reported to MSDC along with a vehicle registration number. **SALC** 5% increase in subscription for 2009/10. **Barker Gotelee** Solicitors re the provision of affordable housing in rural areas seminar 15 October. **NHS Suffolk** application for outline consent to dispense – the Gipping Valley Practice, Barham. Various correspondence between The **Co-op, SCC and Mr Bates** regarding congestion due to delivery vehicles in The Street. **MSDC** Adopted Core Strategy Development Plan Document. **SPS** Community Planner – independent help for your community on planning. Cllrs felt that this post was unnecessary. **SCC** Unitary councils in Suffolk: summary of financial cases published. **Mr Tuke-Bell** regarding volume and speed of traffic through the village. A letter will be sent advising the PC continues to monitor the situation. Copy email from **Cllr Storey** to Jim Nunn regarding the footway between Vindis and the village centre has lifted. **Festival of Christmas Trees** invitation Cllrs regret we are unable to participate as it would be unsuitable for the PC to be involved. **MSDC** migrant workers surgeries pilot project posters. **MSDC** countryside activities and Thornham Walks November/December. **The following items were passed to Cllrs for circulation:** SALC annual report 2007/8; Suffolk ACRE membership list 2008/9, annual review 2007/8 and Directors report and financial statements for year ended 31 March 2008; Steeles Road Steering Group minutes of meeting 17 September; Standards Board for England Standard September 2008; SCC Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) October/November; COIF Charities Investment Fund report/accounts half year to June 2008; Highways Agency roadworks for England September-November; SALC report from Area Meetings; The Ipswich Hospital re foundation trust status; Mid Suffolk Locality Pilot update September; SALC response to Boundary Committee re Local Government Review; Communities and Local Government The making and enforcement of byelaws – a consultation.

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

2850/08 Porch to front entrance of house. 4 Briar Hill – support.

2547/08 Erection of front porch (existing porch to be demolished) 3 Mill Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

1441/08 Retention of detached single storey office with sun deck over. Blake House, The Street. MSDC decision – permission refused. By reason of design, form, scale and siting the shed and decking are considered to be of modern design and bear no relation to local building traditions and form incongruous features in the setting of Blake House, Clandore House and Woolpit Conservation Area. The decking is out of scale and dominates the amenity space to the rear of Blake House. The elevated decking is an overbearing feature and results in overlooking and loss of privacy to Clandore House.

2775/08 Single storey and two storey rear extension. The Cottage, Sharpes Row. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2023/08 Convert part of dwelling to form annex. Tom Pecks House, Borley Green. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2811/08 Erection of garage. Mill View, Mill Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2203/08/ENQ Pre planning application meeting. Proposed annex for dependent relatives. The White Elm, White Elm Road. Mrs Cook and the Clerk attended the meeting where siting, design and external appearance were discussed. Mrs Cook has serious concerns regarding a separate building in the garden, the impact on the neighbours garden and issues of building outside the original line of the boundary. Nothing can be decided until plans are received in due cause.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Payments to SCC £120.92 pension payment for August and Suffolk ACRE Services £1151.14 insurance renewal 08/09 were unanimously ratified.

Mr K Harknett £58.05 litter picking September; Suffolk County Council £120.92 pension payment September; HM Revenue & Customs £13.78 tax/NI July-September 2008; Mrs P Fuller £63.78 expenses July-September; Anglian Water £39.16 allotments 17/2/08-23/09/08; Woolpit Institute £82.00 room hire January-June 2008; Mrs K Parker £39.41 reimbursement for refuse sacks; Woolpit Cricket Club £539.58 50% ground maintenance sports field 07/08. All payments were approved and cheques issued.

Gadd Brothers £250.00 initial tidy up of Millennium Garden. Cllrs were concerned as to what work has been carried out and the Clerk was asked to contact the Gadd Brothers for a written break down. *Action: the Clerk*

8. To receive an update on the village website www.woolpit.org and take any necessary action.

Mr Wiley advised that he was promised 3 separate ideas for the home page but nothing has been forthcoming. Carried forward to the November meeting.

9. To receive a recommendation from the working group regarding a review of Woolpit Diary and take any necessary action.

Examples of other printer's work is currently in a circulation envelope. Some Cllrs have not seen it yet and therefore the matter was carried forward to the next meeting. A recommendation sheet from the working group needs to be distributed to Cllrs prior to the November meeting.

10 To receive an update of progress regarding the new allotments.

The area has now been staked out into 8 plots. Mr Baker agreed to extend water from the current standpipe to the new site in the spring. The Clerk will get three

quotes for rabbit proof fencing and gates. In the meantime the Clerk will contact residents on the waiting list to allocate the plots.

Action: the Clerk

11. To consider quotes received for cutting the hedge in Ladyswell and take any necessary action.

Three quotes have been received. It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote from J M Forestry for £1938.72 including VAT.

Action: the Clerk

The Clerk was asked to contact SCC regarding cutting of brambles outside the Highways control fence from the boundary of Leggetts to Ladyswell entrance gate as this is a safety issue for those using Ladyswell area.

Action: the Clerk

12. To discuss the response from SCC from the Local Transport Action Plan 2003 meeting and take any necessary action.

7 issues were identified and SCC has advised the following:

1. Speed data on Heath Road. This will be carried out in November to allow for the A14 roadworks to finish and traffic patterns time to settle down.

2. Speed data on The Street, past The Bull. Data from August 2007 shows mean speeds are 34 mph towards the village, 37 mph away from the village. Although higher than the speed limit, accident data shows there have been no personal injury accidents over the last 5 years. SCC does not propose to carry out any further works at this location.

3. 20mph speed limit requested in the village. SCC does not propose to investigate further until their guidance from the Department of Transport has been developed.

4. Speed and volume of traffic in Masons Lane. The existing order limits traffic to access only. To restrict further would require the order to be changed. To gauge the views of the residents SCC proposes to write to them for their views on restricting the road to pedestrians and cyclists only. A copy of the draft consultation letter will be forwarded to the PC for comment by end of September. This has not yet been received.

5. High vehicles hitting the corner of Weaver House. It is suggested that this is put on hold until the Masons Lane consultation is complete.

6. Lack of visibility exiting Old Stowmarket Road. This has been passed to Jin Nunn, Western Area Highways Manager.

7. Drivers abusing the no entry around the pump, junction of Green Road and The Street. SCC does not have budget for this year and will bid for alterations at the junction next year.

Cllrs were disappointed with some of the responses and the Clerk was asked to contact Jim Nunn regarding repainting of the no entry signs and all road markings around the pump area.

Action: the Clerk

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

As Mr George has asked for this item to be on the agenda, it was carried forward to the November meeting when it is hoped he will be in attendance.

14. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

The latches on both gates to the children's play area are broken. The Clerk has reported this to the Playing Field Committee.

15. Rookery Farm, Drinkstone – update on current issues

There were 186 complaints in August. There have been a lot of complaints from Drinkstone regarding injecting waste into land. Cllr Melvin advised that MSDC are following up more complaints and he will ask at next meeting of the Steering Group on 20 October if it is being recorded when officers come out to investigate.

The inquiry into the appeal for a Lawful Development Certificate commences on 15 October at MSDC.

16. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 3 November 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

In view of the comments made by P.C. Catton, the Clerk will write to the Chief Constable regarding our concerns that there is only 1 P.C. and 3 PCSOs based at Elmswell. An email will be sent to P.C. Catton thanking him for his work in the village and wishing him the best in his new post. *Action: the Clerk*

It is noted that the tree planting scheme at the access driveway to Jewers still needs to be carried out. The Clerk will contact the Planning Officer. *Action: the Clerk*

The meeting closed at 9.42 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....