

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE

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

Public comment. The Meadowlands flint wall is in urgent need of the ivy being removed as it is now impeding pedestrians. Repair work has not been carried out.

The Clerk will contact MSDC.

Action: the Clerk

Cars are being sold from amenity grass areas in the village. The Police advise that this is not illegal and the Clerk was asked to contact SCC.

Action: the Clerk

The road name sign for Old Stowmarket Road needs repairing as the wooden posts are rotten. The Clerk will advise MSDC

Action: the Clerk

Cllr Melvin advised that MSDC held no meeting during August and has nothing to report.

PC Swain and PCSO Pendergast were in attendance and gave the Police report.

There were eight reported crimes between 7 July and 31 August, 1 assault occasioning ABH, 1 criminal damage to dwelling, 2 theft, 1 theft from person and 3 burglary from buildings.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr George and Mr Howard.
2. **To receive declarations of interest.** There were none.
3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 20 July 2009.** The minutes were approved and signed.

The meeting adjourned at 7.38 p.m.

4. To have further discussion with the Community Watch SNT Liaison Officer on promoting the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and take any necessary action.

Mr Kemp advised that 12 NW Co-ordinators have been recruited with 1 lead co-ordinator who will disseminate information to other co-ordinators and act as a conduit between the Police and the Parish Council. Cllrs would welcome the lead co-ordinator attending PC meetings. Mr Kemp advised that signs are required for lead roads into the village to advertise you are in a Neighbourhood Watch Area. These cost £35.00 each including fitting. The PC unanimously supports the scheme and agreed to purchase 7 signs.

The meeting reconvened at 7.58 p.m.

5. Rookery Farm, Drinkstone – to receive an update on current issues and to take any necessary action.

The Clerk has again written to MSDC who have advised that their evidence has found that Mr Clarke has not been in breach of his undertaking not to cause a nuisance. The smell appears to be from the lagoon and from material being spread on fields in Drinkstone. Mr Clarke took best practicable means which is a defence available to commercial operators in nuisance laws to control the odours from these activities and MSDC are not in a position to take any action.

There were 160 complaints in July and 358 in August.

6. Clerk's Report

Steeles Road bus service – County Cllr Storey has been involved as complaints have been received that the bus will not access Steeles Road during the redevelopment programme. Investigations have found that there are not many users at the Health Centre drop of point and SCC consulted with the Health Centre who is happy in the short term with a bus stop at the Skoda Garage. To loop around

Green Road is not viable and could put the whole route in jeopardy. Less able bus users can use the community transport option run by Optua.

Vandalism in Millennium Garden – a number of bricks have been torn up and thrown about. The Clerk will contact Gadd Brothers to see if they can carry out repairs.

Action:the Clerk

Trees in the Village Hall car park – are causing issues for a neighbouring property. The Clerk has advised the resident to contact the Village Hall Committee.

Woolpit Diary reports – a suggestion for articles from advertisers has been suggested. Cllrs do not feel this would be suitable material for the Diary.

7. To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.

Mrs Scotford concerns regarding road safety for school children along Mill Lane and during Steeles Road redevelopment. The Clerk will advise Mrs Scotford to contact the Village Hall Committee regarding use of the Village Hall car park. The Clerk will contact the housing associations regarding hedge cutting in Mill Lane, Mrs Parker will talk to the Headteacher regarding a reward scheme for those children walking to school. **Barclays Bank** changes to terms and conditions. **Green Suffolk** Conference on climate change 2 October. **East Anglian Daily Times** requesting Parish Council reports for publication. **SLCC** regional conference 24 September. **Age Concern** information and posters. **MSDC** distribution of Mid Suffolk Messenger 2009. The Parish Council will arrange for a group to distribute these to raise funds for their group at 15p a copy. **MSDC** the Gambling Act 2005:Tri-ennial review of Mid Suffolk's Statement of Principals. **MSDC** Parish Liaison meeting 28 September. **MSDC** Thornham walks and Mid Suffolk Countryside Activities September. **The following items were passed to Cllrs for circulation:** Suffolk ACRE AGM documentation; Mid Suffolk South and Stowmarket Neighbourhood Watch newsletters 19, 24, 31 July, 7, 14, 24 August and 4 September 2009; The Local Councillor issue 3 2009; Suffolk ACRE Update July 2009; SALC report to area meetings August/September; Clerks & Councils Direct September; Suffolk View summer 2009; MSDC guide to allotments; NHS Suffolk application for preliminary consent for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list – Scarlett Healthcare Ltd, Station Road, Elmswell. **Product information** Shaws, Funlands Leisure products.

8. Planning – to consider any current applications and receive MSDC decisions.

1676/09 Installation of canopy to provide access to all weather fresh air learning environment. Woolpit Primary School, Heath Road – permission has been granted. Cllr Melvin advised that a letter from MSDC Planning Enforcement has been sent to the residents of Bryanston, Borley Green who are running a dog security business. A breach has occurred as people are collecting and dropping off dogs and they have been advised to submit a planning application.

9. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr Harknett £118.98 litter picking July and August; Suffolk County Council £251.10 pension payment July & August; Gadd Brothers £531.00 July & August Millennium Garden maintenance + annual hedge cutting; SPL print £180.00 August/September Diary; Mid Suffolk District Council £96.35 pest control fee for destruction of wasp nest by footpath Drinkstone Road; Woolpit Institute £71.00 room hire January-June; Suffolk ACRE Services £1050.47 annual insurance premium including a 10% discount for 5 year commitment; Anglian Water £98.76 allotment water 18 Feb-27 August. All payments were approved and cheques issued.

10. To consider maintenance of the Pump garden and take any necessary action.

The garden is now in a poor state. It was suggested that the grass be removed and the area made more attractive. Cllrs were in agreement and the Clerk will contact Mr Jackson Woolpit Nurseries and the Gadd Brothers to provide ideas and costings.

The specification must be for low maintenance, low vandalism, attractive and in keeping with the village centre and have disabled access. *Action: the Clerk*

11. To discuss the statutory consultation on traffic regulation on Warren Lane and Kiln Lane, Elmswell and take any necessary action.

It is proposed to change weight restrictions of 7.5T to both ways. Cllrs are concerned that this could have an adverse affect on lorry movements in parts of Woolpit. The Clerk will ask if the restrictions can be extended to cover the remainder of Warren Lane and Wood Road. *Action: the Clerk*

12. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

MSDC has replaced the damaged large bin in the play area with two smaller ones for ease of emptying. However one has been erected in the wrong place. The Clerk will contact Sarah Carter, MSDC. *Action: the Clerk*

13. To receive report from the Footpath & Tree Warden.

Footpaths. -All paths have been walked in the last 4 weeks. The only issues to report are FP2 (Warren Lane end) is a dead end at A14. There is no bridge to continue with the Elmswell path. The culvert for the stream could be deepened to accommodate a path to join with the other side.

FP6 across Clopton Green Farm has been diverted but the signage remains unchanged. Mr Eburne has asked SCC for the latest definitive map.

Trees – no problems with trees adjacent to footpaths or on public authority land. There are however several on private land adjacent to public roads mostly either dead or heavily covered in ivy. The Clerk will ask Mr Eburne to provide the PC with a list of where they are and the landowner involved. *Action: the Clerk*

14. To receive an update on Steeles Road redevelopment

The first stage of old properties has been cleared. Concerns were expressed that developers vehicles are going through the village centre rather than turning left along Green Road as previously advised. Mr Guyler is attending a liaison meeting on 9 September and will raise the matter.

15. Parish Council room in Woolpit Institute.

Following renovations of the caretaker flat, a room is available which could be used as Clerk's office and central point for residents to contact the Parish Council. The Clerk will contact the Institute Committee to see if the room could be made available for this use and costs involved. *Action: the Clerk*

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

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....