

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
20 JULY 2009 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPITP INSTITUTE

Present: Mr Wiley (Chairman), Mr Melvin, Mrs Parker, Mr Guyler and 2 members of the public. Mr Lomax joined the meeting at 7.50 p.m.

Public comment: The Clerk read the report from County Cllr Storey. At the AGM Jeremy Pembroke was appointed Leader and Portfolio Holders were also appointed. The first Cabinet meeting of the new administration has met and discussed various issues including the Budget Report and proposals to bring forward the improvements to Bury Library. This will involve temporary relocation while work to a new coffee shop, children's centre, Learning and Enterprise Access Point plus current library refurbishment takes place.

The Clerk read the Police Report. The 4 persons who represented Woolpit in the SNT Quiz were congratulated for coming second, having lead for two rounds. There were 9 crimes reported between 10 June and 19 July; 1 assault occasioning ABH, 1 theft by an employee, 1 theft of motor vehicle, 5 thefts from motor vehicles (all reported on the same day) and 1 burglary with intent. An item will be put in the next Diary asking residents to ensure they lock their vehicles when parked. P.C. Luke Swain will start on 8 August to replace P.C. Catton.

District Cllr Melvin reported that there has been a 70% take up for concessionary bus passes. MSDC is looking to extend this to cover a companion for the disabled. The MSDC is looking to recruit officers to help carry out the 2011 census.

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

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

3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 15 June 2009.** The minutes were approved and signed.

The meeting adjourned at 7.45 p.m.

4. To discuss promoting the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme with the Community Watch SNT Liaison Officer and take any necessary action.

Mrs Wortley advised that there are currently 4 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Woolpit of which 2 are quite dormant. She asked if the Parish Council would support their work to extend the scheme to cover further areas of the parish. After discussion it was agreed that Philip Kemp CWSNTLO would investigate the current schemes and call a meeting to initiate further co-ordinators. This issue will be discussed further at the September meeting.

County Cllr Storey arrived. She will look into funding from the small transport fund regarding the closure of Masons Lane to through traffic and build out kerb at the Co-op end. Mr Guyler asked about progress on G39 street lighting issues and is keen that the follow up meeting takes place. The recent spate of road signs being taken was discussed and SCC is looking into using different materials so that they are not stolen for scrap metal value.

5. To review the current maintenance of the Millennium Garden with the contractor and take any necessary action.

Mr Gadd advised that the original quote for 8 hours per month is not sufficient to cover all the work required to keep the area in good order. A lot of time is being given over to clearing weeds from the bricks and the side area. Mr Gadd advised there is a dead sycamore tree in the hedge adjacent to the children's play area.

The meeting reconvened at 8.25 p.m.

It was agreed that chemicals could be used for the weeds and the hours were doubled to 16 hours per month March to November inclusive. Mr Gadd was asked to provide a quote for the removal of the sycamore tree.

6. Clerk's Report

Fidelity Guarantee insurance - increased to £70,000.

SNT Quiz - won by Thurston who received the Penny Otton Cup. This enjoyable evening will be an annual event.

Bin and fence Steeles Road – the damaged fence has been reported to MSDC. There is no point in replacing the stolen bin until issues of damage to the fence are dealt with. It is noted that there is a Police presence in the area.

Dog Litter Bins – having reviewed the sites, 3 dog bins will be purchased without poles.

Recycling area – MSDC has confirmed that it will empty a waste bin there on a weekly basis.

Seat opposite the Health Centre – a resident has offered to purchase a seat so that residents can sit whilst waiting for the bus. The Clerk has thanked the person but there is no verge there it is not possible to have a seat on the pavement.

Chestnut tree, Saffrons Close – SCC has responded that they cannot agree to this being planted. Mrs Ure will take up with the MSDC Tree Officer.

Grassy Lane Farm Camp Site Parking Sign – concerned residents have contacted the Clerk regarding the sign. The Clerk visited Warren Lane two days later and the sign had been removed.

Pump Garden – is in need of some care. Mr Eburne has cut the grass but this issue needs to be sorted. It is hoped that the Gadd Brothers could take this on once the Millennium Garden is in good order.

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

Mr Howard concerned that he should stand down as Chairman due to his current work issues and being unable to attend the meetings. Cllrs discussed this issue and were happy that Mr Howard remains as Chairman with Mr Wiley as acting Chairman in his absence as this should be short term until the autumn. **The Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust** consultation document about becoming a Foundation Trust. **Suffolk ACRE** Local Housing Needs survey. **Highways Agency** Summer Getaway 2009 leaflet. **SLCC** 35th National Conference 25 October 2009. **CCLA** annual report will be on their website and will not be sending paper copies. **Papworth Trust** information on West Suffolk Disability Resource Centre in Bury St Edmunds will be published in Woolpit Diary. **SALC** Training information and NALC Topic Notes. **Highways Agency** helping with your journeys June-August 2009. **Vitalise** essential breaks for disabled people. **NALC** 2009 awards for Local Councils. **MSDC** summer holiday sports activities programme. **NHS Suffolk** representations from interested parties in application for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list – Scarlett Healthcare Ltd, Elmswell. **Suffolk Wildlife Trust** How Green is your Parish seminar 12 September passed to New Woods for Woolpit. **SALC** newsletter of the year passed to Mr Sieve. MSDC countryside activities & Thornham Walks August 2009. **Product information:** Littlethorpe of Leicester; SMP Playgrounds. **The following items were passed to Cllrs for circulation:** Mid Suffolk South & Stowmarket Neighbourhood Watch newsletters 19 June, 3 & 17 July 2009; Suffolk Link newsletter; Suffolk Volunteering leaflet; SALC copy letter to Suffolk PCT re Removal of Services from Ipswich Hospital; Clerks & Councils Direct July 2009.

8. Planning – to receive MSDC decisions.

1285/09 Extension over part of existing single storey building to create master bedroom and en-suite and internal alterations. Soundings Green Road – permission granted.

1338/09 Erection of single storey self-contained granny annexe extension for dependant relatives (ancillary to main dwelling) (revised scheme to that refused under 4119/08). The White Elm, White Elm Road – permission granted.

4119/08 Erection of single-storey self-contained granny annexe (ancillary to main dwelling). The White Elm, White Elm Road. An appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate commencing 15 June 2009.

1705/09 Erection of general purpose storage barn. Poplar Farm, The Heath. This is permitted development and for information only. MSDC has requested details of any additional landscaping proposed.

9. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £59.49 litter picking June 2009; Suffolk County Council £125.55 June pension payment; J Gadd £160.00 Millennium Garden maintenance May & June; Mrs P Fuller £94.04 expenses April-June and MSDC £16.00 Dog Fouling of Land Act signs. All payments were unanimously approved and cheques issued.

10. To consider the joint funding of a PCSO and take any necessary action.

After discussion it was unanimously agreed not to pursue this further.

11. To discuss the problems of residents dumping garden waste in ditches beside footpaths and decide on appropriate action.

The Clerk will contact David Abbott, MSDC for advice on this issue. She will also try to establish who owns the ditch.

Action: the Clerk

12. To debate the response from Suffolk County Council following the Street Lighting Meeting on G39/1 issues and take any necessary action.

Mr Guyler feels that Carillion could do the work if their staff were trained. Cllrs feel that it is very important to pursue the follow up meeting and that Mr Guyler attends on our behalf. There are a number of very important issues not covered in this report which need to be addressed.

13. To consider a request for streetlighting in Drinkstone Road.

Cllrs reviewed the current level of streetlighting approximately a year ago and it was agreed no more streetlighting was necessary. Drinkstone Road is a rural road and should remain unlit. Cllrs also felt the cost would be prohibitive.

14. To consider a request from Optua for grant assistance towards equipment at Abbots Meadow.

The worn covers for the conservatory furniture need to be replaced at an approximate cost of £450.00. It was proposed, seconded and carried that WPC give a grant of £100.00 towards the cost subject to confirmation that the balance of the amount required has been secured through other funding.

15. To receive a report from the Litter Picker. Nothing to report.

16. To receive report from the Footpath Warden. Mr Eburne has been on holiday and has been unable to supply a report for this meeting. A full report will be given at the September meeting.

17. To receive an update on Steeles Road redevelopment

Waiting for the utilities to be disconnected. The road will be closed 26 August for Anglia Water to deal with their part. The building work schedule should not be affected by this delay.

18. Rookery Farm, Drinkstone – update on current issues.

IPPC Permit – the application to seek a judicial review of the IPPC permit decision has been turned down and Mr Clarke is entitled to a permit.

Planning Status – MSDC has lodged a challenge to the Planning Inspector’s decision to grant a Certificate of Lawful Existing Use or Development and it is hoped this will be heard in November 2009.

Planning Injunction – this is currently stayed, pending the outcome of the challenge to the CLEUD decision.

Public Nuisance – the undertaking Mr Clarke made to the High Court remains in place.

There were 106 complaints in June 2009. The Clerk will write to Mr Gowrley MSDC and copy to David Ruffley asking what MSDC is doing about this nuisance considering the high number of complaints being received. *Action: the Clerk*

19. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 7 September 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 10.05 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....