

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPITP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE INSTITUE

Present: Mr Wiley (Chairman), Rev Farrell, Mr Melvin, Mrs Parker, Mrs Cook, Mr Guyler, Mr Lomax, County Cllr Storey and 1 member of the public.

Public comment: District Cllr Melvin advised that the impact on unity housing due to financial cut backs is unknown. He also advised that parking problems for tenants in Steeles Road continue but they are not allowed by MSDC to park on land beside houses unless they have a dropped kerb. This cost is down to the tenants. As MSDC is not prepared to change policy he has asked that SCC be asked to approve increasing the number of companies allowed to do drop kerb work so there are more competitive costs.

The Clerk read the Police report. There have been 6 crimes reported between 18 July and 3 September. Theft of underground cabling; criminal damage to a dwelling; criminal damage to window and shed roof at the Village Hall; dangerous dog out of control; burglary of an outbuilding and criminal damage to a vehicle. Problems at the Village Hall area will continue to get attention.

County Cllr Storey advised that a Cabinet meeting will take place 7 September and full council 23 September. Topics to be discussed are Local Enterprise Partnerships, Police reform, proposal for a local referendum in the event of council tax increases, amendments to the council's constitution, appointment of independent members of the Standards Committee and the implementation of the New Strategic Direction.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr George and Mr Howard.

2. **To receive declarations of interest** Mrs Cook and Mr Guyler declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 2203/10 and signed the interest book.

3 **To approve minutes of the meetings 19 July 2010.** The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Clerk's Report

Lorries using Heath Road – Mrs Sutherland has advised of her concerns of large lorries using Heath Road outside her property. The Clerk has contacted SCC and is awaiting their response.

Borley Green and Wood Road – Mr Barthorpe has contacted the Clerk regarding the condition of the road surface. The Clerk has been in contact with SCC and they advise that patching will take place in February 2011. Cllrs feel this is unsatisfactory and will refer the matter to County Cllr Storey. *Action: the Clerk*

School Governor representative – Mrs Parker is no longer a school governor at Woolpit Primary school. She is happy to be the link between the governors and WPC. The Clerk will contact Rachel Gooch, Chair of Governors. *Action: the Clerk*

G39 street lighting issues – A meeting took place without PC representation and individual units looked at for remedial action. We await a pricing list before taking any further action. It was agreed that a meeting regarding the concept of G39 still needs to take place with Jane Storey. Mr Guyler, Mr Wiley and Mrs Fuller, Clerk will represent WPC.

Persistent absence – it is with regret that Mr Howard has now missed 6 consecutive month's meetings and under the LGA 1972 s85 automatically ceases to be a councillor. The Clerk will contact Mr Howard and advise MSDC of the casual vacancy. *Action: the Clerk*

Flint wall, Bury Road – Terry Willington, MSDC has advised he will inspect the wall again to see if he thinks it requires repair.

Wooden fence, Steeles Road play area – will be inspected and small amount of repairs arranged by MSDC.

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

Active @60 project meeting 20 September. Rev Farrell will attend. **Suffolk ACRE** can provide public liability for village group's events. **SALC** Survey on public services. **SCC** revised bus services. Mr Wiley will respond that the changes mean that buses arrive in Bury 5 minutes after the Cambridge connection has left. **Mrs P Baker** is unable to be involved in emergency planning revision. **SALC** information on AGM motions, NALC Topic Notes, Standing Orders and Law and Procedure for Local Councils publication and newsletter of the year. **SCC** Woolpit Green Bridge works to take place for 3 weeks from 29 November. **Mrs Clarke** on behalf of Mrs Barker, Wades Wood regarding trees behind her property. The Clerk will write to Mr Baker asking him to contact Mrs Barker. **MSDC** information on the Keep Britain Tidy dog fouling campaign 20 September- 17 October. **SCC** information on street lighting maintenance and energy costs 2010-11 and MBFU lamps. **MSDC** Thornham walks and countryside activities September & October. **The following items were passed to Cllrs for circulation:** Clerks and Councils Direct September 2010; Suffolk ACRE annual review 2009/10; Age concern information; Suffolk View Summer 2010; no need for nuclear information sheet; art trail September 2010; The Local Councillor issue 3 2010; MSDC The Licensing Act: Tri-ennial review of Mid Suffolk's Statement of Licensing Policy consultation.

6 Planning – to consider current applications and receive MSDC decisions.

2190/10 Erection of single storey rear extension connecting main house to annex building. Lime Tree House, 13 White Elm Road – object. The proposal is overdevelopment of the site and not in keeping with the existing and surrounding properties. There would be a lack of off road parking space for the size of the property.

Mr Guyler and Mrs Cook left the meeting at 9.23 p.m.

2203/10 Change of use and extension of former commercial property to form two dwellings. Demolition of existing garage and creation of parking area. Woolpit Interiors, The Street – object. Proposed parking is almost inaccessible and inadequate. Parking provision within the village is chronically short. The design of bedrooms is poor however the external treatment of the building is acceptable.

Mr Guyler and Mrs Cook rejoined the meeting at 9.33 p.m.

0876/10 Regularise demolition of walk; remove tie beams; replace part of roof structure; replace missing wall bricks; repair and repoint brick wall cracks; remove brick and concrete floor and install new floor; replace internal door, inject chemical DPC; insert 5 new rooflights and 3 new window openings; clad part of external walls; install kitchen and WC. Lawn Farm, Warren Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £54.08 litter picking July and Suffolk County Council £135.07 pension payment July 2010 were unanimously ratified.

Mr K Harknett £67.60 litter picking August; Suffolk County Council £135.07 pension payment August 2010; Gadd Brothers £350.00 hedge between road and playing field reduced in height; Suffolk County Council £1504.34 street lighting April – September 2010; SPL Print £180.00 Woolpit Diary August/September; Woolpit Institute £126.00 room hire January-June 2010; Anglian Water £51.27 allotments 19 February-17 August 2010; Suffolk ACRE Services £1098.83 insurance renewal October 2010-September 2011; SALC £2.50 Being a Good Employer - A Guide for Parish and Town Councils. All accounts were unanimously approved and cheques raised.

8. To consider quotes for repairs to the Tennis Club car park and take any necessary action.

Having considered three quotes it was proposed, seconded and carried that Woolpit PC would give £450.00 to the project but leave the decision of which contractor to use to the Playing Field Committee.

Action: the Clerk

9. To consider a drawing from Suffolk County Council for the reinforcement of the one way system around the pump area and take any necessary action.

Councillors felt it was only necessary to have a build out at the point of the triangle outside the fish and chip shop. It should be smaller than that on the drawing with an illuminated No Entry sign. The Clerk will advise Susan Room, SCC. *Action: the Clerk*

10. To discuss a request from Woolpit Action Group for a donation to their fighting fund and take any necessary action. This item was deferred until the October meeting.

11 To discuss the consultation on Council Tax Referendums and take any necessary action.

Cllrs will respond that parish councils need the flexibility to raise the precept to cover work and projects required in the parish. If individual parishes do not have control over the precept then things will not be provided. The proposal is contrary to the government's Big Society and will take power away from the grass roots.

Action: the Clerk

12. To receive an update on Steeles Road redevelopment

The first phase is complete and an opening ceremony was held in August which Mr Guyler, Mrs Cook and Mr Lomax attended. The second phase has commenced.

13. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

There has been a lot of broken glass in the play area and the Millennium Garden. The police have been informed.

14. To receive a report from the footpath warden.

All footpaths were walked and inspected in early August. All were in good order and the notices visible. SCC has scheduled second cuts for category one paths in mid August.

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

There were 185 complaints in June and 255 in July. Matters are in abeyance as 10 September is the date to respond to the enforcement notices on the refusal of Certificate of Lawfulness application.

16. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 4 October 2010. Noted

The meeting closed to the public at 10.00 p.m

17. IN CAMERA. To discuss a request from our insurance company for information regarding The Firs, Broomhill Lane and take any necessary action.

The Chairman and Clerk will draft the response letter.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....