

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
7 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE.

Present: Mr Wiley (Chairman), Mr Guyler, Mr Melvin, Mrs Parker, Mr George, Rev Farrell, Mr Lomax and 2 members of the public.

Public comment: PCSO Pendergast advised that there were 2 reported crimes between 15 January and 5 February, taking and driving a motor vehicle with excess alcohol. Both crimes relate to the same person who has been arrested and bailed. The Clerk read the report from County Cllr Storey. The main topic at the Cabinet meeting 1 February was the proposal for the revenue budget 2011/12 and the capital programme 2011-2015. Also discussed were changes to admissions in reception classes, the report on the revised national policy statements in regard to energy infrastructure and a paper on a vision for adult social care. There will be a meeting of full council on 17 February to discuss the budget. Details of all expenditure over £500 and staff earning over £58,000 are published on SCC website.

The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Storey regarding a date for the meeting to discuss G39 issues with Mr Wiley and Mr Guyler.

Action: the Clerk

District Cllr Melvin advised that a local poll on the proposed merger with Babergh DC is likely to take place on 26 April but the result would not be known until after the District and PC elections 5 May. There has been a large response to SCC possible closure of household waste sites.

Mr Guyler advised that the streetlight outside the village hall car park appears to have been replaced with a sodium light and it is thought this is outside SCC policy.

The Clerk will contact Richard Webster.

Action: the Clerk

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mrs Cook and County Cllr Storey.
2. **To receive declarations of interest.** Mr Wiley declared a prejudicial interest in a payment to himself for work carried out in the PC room at the Institute and duly signed the interest book.
3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 17 January 2011.** The minutes were approved and signed.

Mr Guyler proposed that item 10 be brought forward. This was unanimously agreed.

10. To review the current rules for the allotment tenancy and renewal letter and take any necessary action.

Cllrs familiarised themselves with the current rules. After discussion it was agreed to continue the current tenancy for the rest of the season allowing Mrs Scotford to use half the allotment until this time. The Clerk is to attend an allotment seminar at SALC and using any information received from the seminar, a working party will be set up to review and consider all options before bringing forward to full council for decision.

4. Clerk's Report

Pump garden – The Gadd brothers will advise commencement date on their return after 16 March from a show in New Zealand.

Woolpit Diary printing costs – SPL Print has confirmed the revised price will be held for at least 6 months.

Bank accounts – the Clerk advised that the best interest rate with Barclays is 1.1% for money new to Barclays. She will consult SALC to see if they can advise further.

Anonymous letter – the editor of Woolpit Diary has received an anonymous letter for publication. The Clerk has advised him that all anonymous letters will be ignored.

Wooden bollard out Granmore – has been knocked down and this has been reported to SCC for replacement.

Wooden fence around car park – several panels are missing or damaged. The Clerk will report to MSDC.

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Congestion in the village – the Clerk is meeting Karen Smith SCC to discuss our letter for further white advisory lines.

Parish Council noticeboard – following the closure of Addisons & Son the PC noticeboard needs to be removed as they will now need to use their front door. Mr Wiley will deal with this. A new site will be needed and the Clerk will contact the Institute Committee to see if the board can be erected outside the Institute. Mr Melvin will enquire at MSDC to see if planning permission is required.

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

MSDC spring clean 26 March-10 April. Mrs Parker will arrange and advertise suitable date. **SALC** New services for members: Delegated Services Email Group. **SALC** allotments and the law seminar 18 February. The Clerk will attend. **Mr Moore** advising a group is organising events on 29 April to celebrate the marriage of Prince William and Kate Middleton and requesting financial support from the Parish Council. Cllrs are supportive of the idea in principal but need more details and costs before a decision on a grant amount can be made. This issue will be debated further at the March meeting. **Mrs Merritt** requesting the PC to lower the hedge along Bury Road. The Clerk will advise that this belongs to Derek Prior and she should contact him directly. **Ashton Graham** confirming they hold the Freehold acquisition deeds and some leasehold documentation in relation to The Playing Field, Old Stowmarket Road and asking if we wish them to register this property with the Land Registry. Cllrs declined this offer at this time. **MSDC** closure of the Eye and Stowmarket Service Bureaux and posters regarding the census. **SCC** Pension Fund: Employer contributions from April 2011. **Suffolk Accident Rescue Service** thanks for donation. Copies of correspondence between the **Police and Mrs Reynolds** regarding parking outside the Health Centre. **MSDC** Thornham Walks activities March and events at Thornham 2011. **Brochures** Sovereign play equipment.

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

3437/10 Retention of outbuilding. Fen Cottage, The Heath – object. The proposal will have a detrimental affect on the character of the area and sets a dangerous precedent for further backland development. WPC has no knowledge of consent being given for existing use as detailed on plans and suggest enforcement action should be taken. It would appear that there is clear intention to create a separate dwelling.

0072/11 Erection of single bay garage and store. Tolmers, Borley Green. Cllrs cannot consider the application as insufficient information as to siting and access has been received.

936/04 The Clerk has advised of concerns regarding the landscaping at Jewers and asked what enforcement action has been taken. No reply from MSDC has been received to date.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £99.15 litter picking December & January; Suffolk County Council £135.07 pension payment January; SPL Print £215.00 Woolpit Diary Feb/March; Suffolk County Council £1489.17 grass cutting sports and playing fields 2010; Viking Direct £316.71 office desk and chair and Mr J Wiley £77.44 lock and blind for office + fitting. All accounts were unanimously approved and cheques issued.

8. To consider quotes received from Suffolk County Council for grass cutting of the playing field and sports field and take any necessary action.

It was proposed, seconded and carried to accept the quotes for 2011 of £813.83 for the playing field and £604.45 for the sports field.

9. To receive further information from Woolpit ARC to support their request for a grant and take any necessary action.

After consideration a proposal for a grant of £100.00 was made. This was not seconded. A further proposal for £250.00 grant was seconded and carried. The Clerk

will contact Mrs Grimsey to see if there is a specific item we can purchase for this amount.

Action: the Clerk

11. To review the condition of the youth shelter and take any necessary action.

This was carried forward to the March meeting.

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

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

All is progressing as hoped and the site is no longer able to function as a rendering unit.

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 7 March 2011. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.38 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....