

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

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Smith, Mrs Cook, Mr Melvin, Mrs Parker, Mr Lomax and 1 member of the public.

Public comment: County Cllr Storey advised that Mark Bee was elected Leader of SCC on 26 May with Cllr Storey as Deputy Leader. There are to be two Disciplinary Appeals Committee meetings in June. The first was to consider an independent report into allegations of the management style of the Chief Executive and Head of Strategic HR. There was no case to answer in relation to Head of Strategic HR but further information has been requested surrounding the Chief Executive. The committee will consider this additional information on 30 June. A special Cabinet Meeting will look at the future provision of Broadband in Suffolk and the reasons why a BDUK bid failed to get funds from central government. The June Cabinet meeting will discuss 2010/11 Outrun for Revenue and Capital Spending, review of charging arrangements for non-residential care services, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, children's social care services annual report.

District Cllr Melvin advised that following recent elections, he remains as Chair of Licensing and Snoasis Committees, Vice Chair of a Planning Committee, a member of MSDC Scrutiny and joint Scrutiny of MSDC and Babergh Committees. The proposed merger of the two councils will not take place as the vote in MSDC was 60-40 in favour of the merger but 61-39 against in Babergh. Services will be integrated where possible. Cllr Melvin attended the meeting on Unity Housing in Woolpit. A paper is to be produced for the appropriate MSDC Committee giving three options and funding will need to be looked into. This will then go to the Executive Committee 1 August. A Steering Group is to be set up after 1 August whatever the decision and it is hoped that WPC will appoint a representative. This will be discussed at the July meeting.

The Clerk read the Police report. There have been 5 crimes reported between 15 May and 18 June; 1 minor wound without intent - suspect arrested and on bail, 1 common assault no injury – suspect identified and matter resolved by Community resolution, 1 criminal damage play park area, 1 arson to bench in play area and 1 burglary of building – Village Hall entered and items stolen. No suspect has been identified for the last 3 crimes. Information was received on recent garden thefts in West Suffolk. The Clerk will advise the SNT regarding the damage to the recycling area fence. WPC will not be entering a team in the Annual Parish Quiz as not enough Cllrs are available on the evening.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr Wiley who is away on holiday.
2. **To receive declarations of interest.** There were none.
3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 16 May 2011.** The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Clerk's Report

Millennium Garden – there appears to have been some confusion with the Gadd Brothers being under the impression that the work was subject to a three year contract whereas WPC believe the work to be ongoing. No work has taken place since September 2010. Gadd Brothers cannot continue the work at the same rate as quoted in 2008 and therefore the Clerk has requested a revised quote and two others which will be put to council for consideration at the July meeting.

Pump Garden – the work has been completed. Councillors inspected the area and are very pleased with the finished result.

Damage to recycling area fence – a car has driven into the fence and caused severe damage and left the fence unsafe. A verbal quote of £100.00ish has been received and the Clerk will sanction the work under her emergency powers.

BT letter of complaint – a two page letter has been sent but no response received to date.

Hedge cutting – the 3 year contract for cutting the hedge between the playing field and Vindis garage and the roadside has expired. The Clerk has asked the Village Hall Committee to arrange for 3 quotes for the next 3 years.

Standing Orders & Financial Regulations – ours have not been updated since 1998. The Clerk will supply Cllrs with the current model copy to see if we need to modify for our needs or can adopt without alteration.

Direct Debits – SALC has confirmed that we can pay the telephone bill in this manner. Two members would need to sign the documentation.

Precept increase – MSDC has advised that County, District and Police show no increase as they would have adjusted the money they receive from taxpayers.

Bollards outside Granmor – the Clerk has contacted SCC Area Manger again and he will take a personal interest in getting the replacement bollards erected.

Parking issues outside the Health Centre – a meeting has been arranged on Friday 24 June at the Health Centre. Mr Melvin, Mrs Parker will attend on behalf of WPC, County Cllr Storey and Miss Gooch Chair of Woolpit School Governors will also attend.

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

O C Jewers advising they do not understand our position in going through MSDC regarding landscaping issues and they have not been contact by MSDC. **Goldstar Transport** would like information on times, types of disturbance and the area the complaints are coming from regarding sleep disturbance. Complainants will be asked to keep a record. **Mid Suffolk CAB** AGM 6 July 2011, Cllrs unable to attend. **Suffolk ACRE** AGM 13 July. Cllrs to advise the Clerk if they wish to attend. **Anglian Water** advising of work to install meters in the parish. **SCC** closure of A1088 Stowlangtoft/Ixworth between A143 and Bull Road for resurfacing 18-20 July. **HMRC** warning not to send paper forms. **SCC** Pension Fund statement of Investment Principals 2011 and annual meeting 20 July. **SCC** advising Suffolk Traded Services to be set up as an arm's length limited company wholly owned by the council commencing trading 1 September 2011. **MSDC** Community Achievement Awards closing date for nominations 22 July. **Rosy Hayward** regarding people interested in working Drinkstone Mill. The Clerk will ask if they would like to put a short piece in the next Diary. A copy of the letter will be passed to Woods for Woolpit. **Woolpit Village Hall Committee** AGM 25 July. Mr Smith will attend. **SALC** copy letter from Leiston PC regarding new guidance for large planning applications. Passed to Cllrs for consideration. **SALC** gates to be installed at the site entrance to Hill View Business Park. **MSDC** countryside activities July.

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

0644/11 Installation of Satellite dish on rear elevation. Co Op, The Street – support.

1147/11 Erection of single storey rear extension and replacement roof. Granmor, The Street – support.

0850/11 Infill 3 sides of recently erected open sided detached double cartlodge style garaging. New house, land adj Guiting House, Borley Green. MSDC decision – permission granted.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £67.60 litter picking May; Mrs O Johnson £9.90 pay adjustment April – June; Suffolk County Council £139.34 May pension payment; MSDC £87.50 uncontested election fee; Equity pc £78.38 printer cartridges; BT Payment Services £22.93 monthly phone bill; Gadd Brother trees and landscapes £3030.94 Pump Garden refurbishment. It was proposed, seconded and carried that all accounts be paid.

It was agreed to add chain and post painting around the Pump Garden to the next agenda.

8. To complete and sign the Statement of Assurance and Annual Return for year ended 31 March 2011.

The form was completed and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

9. To receive updated quotes to extend the Village Hall Car Park from the Village Hall Committee and consider a grant towards the project.

Whilst Cllrs support the project in principal, before any grant amount can be decided further information is required. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk write to WVH Committee and request copies of all quotes received, a copy of the detailed plan used for the quotes and having intimated additional work would be beneficial around the area of the gate, details of this work and additional costs involved. Mr Smith offered to liaise with WVHC and evaluate the quotes prior to the next PC meeting where this matter will be reviewed.

Action: the Clerk/Mr Smith

10. To discuss the co-option of two further councillors to fill current vacancies and take any necessary action.

An item has been put in June/July Diary asking anyone interested in joining WPC to write to the Clerk by 30 June. The Clerk will advise Phil Tallent, MSDC that we are continuing to try to fill the vacancies.

Action: the Clerk

11. To discuss changes to SCC street lighting, to decide if Woolpit PC will take up the invitation to join the scheme to change to intelligent street lighting and take any necessary action.

Cllrs have copies of the letter and enclosures received. The Clerk has requested a paper copy of the plans for Woolpit. Once this has been received the matter will be discussed further.

12. To discuss celebrations to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and take any necessary action.

We are aware that some ladies are interested in organising a street party. It was stated that WPC should actively promote any celebrations, financially underwrite the event and be an active part in assisting the organisation. It was agreed to arrange a public meeting to collect ideas and set up a working party to arrange the event. The Clerk will arrange a meeting for the first half of September, book the upstairs room at the Institute and publish this information in August/September Diary. The possibility of an additional Jubilee seat for the Pump Garden will be discussed at a future meeting.

Action: the Clerk

13. To consider a request from Optua for a grant and take any necessary action.

It was proposed, seconded and carried that no grant would be made.

14. To consider a request for a Bury Road street name sign and take any necessary action.

It was agreed to purchase a sign for installation on the grass area just past the entrance of Briar Hill at a maximum cost of £300.00.

Action: the Clerk

15. To discuss rent increase for the farmed area of allotment ground.

Information on the original agreement is required along with current rates for agricultural land. This will be discussed again at the July meeting. *Action: the Clerk*

16. To consider a replacement for the large litter bin at the entrance of the car park and take any necessary action.

The liner which was being used has received further damage and been removed by MSDC. It was agreed to look at moving one of the bins from the Pump Garden area. Mr Wiley and Mrs Parker will liaise on this issue.

Action: Mr Wiley/Mrs Parker

17. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

Nothing further to report other than the bin in item 16 above.

18. To receive a report from the Footpath Warden.

The footpaths have been walked in June and are in good condition and notices visible. Mr Eburne has carried out what small maintenance required. SCC cut footpaths 4, 6 and 9 in June and a further cut should take place during August.

19. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 18 July 2011. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....