

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
4 MARCH 2013 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE

Present: Mr Wiley (Chairman), Mr Guyler, Mrs Cook, Mr Jones, Mr Smith, Mrs Parker, Mr Hardiman, Mr Lomax and County Cllr Storey.

Public comment: Mr Guyler congratulated the organisers of the retirement event for Jim Peek and Brenda Horn.

County Cllr Storey advised that SCC full council has agreed the proposed budget that included a third year of 0% increase in Council Tax. The cabinet meeting in March will include a report on Locality funding after elections 2 May. Currently the amount is based on population figures but the proposal is the increase so all councillors get £12,000.00 each. Currently the Locality budget for Thedwastre North is £10,520 and details of the current position can be seen on the SCC website. The election moratorium period runs from 21 March to 2 May 2013.

The Clerk read the Police report. There were 2 crimes reported between 31 January and 3 March; one of note being the theft of two wheelie bins from the church.

Figures have revealed that there were more than 210 domestic burglaries across Suffolk in January compared with 180 a year earlier. It is likely that some perpetrators come from adjoining counties. The Police are putting resources into catching offenders.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr Melvin.

2. **To receive declarations of interest**

Mrs Parker declared a prejudicial interest in the payment the Woolpit Cricket Club under item 7 and duly signed the interest book.

3. **To approve minutes of the meetings 4 & 18 February 2013.**

Both sets of minutes were approved and signed.

4. **Clerk's Report**

Flagship Housing – a letter of thanks has been sent to Andrew Long for sorting snagging issues. He is now helping to identify who is responsible for the problems with the street lights.

Seat unveiling – The ceremony went well. A letter of gratitude will be sent to Glyn Baker for gifting the new bench to the village and repairing the other bench, also a letter to Mrs Cook for designing the bench. A picture will be sent to Buckingham Palace for their records.

St Mary's Building Trust – Mr Guyler has confirmed he will be WPC representative.

Village Hall Committee – Mr Hardiman will take over as WPC representative with immediate effect.

Post Office retirement do – a letter of thanks will be sent to Mrs Moss and her team.

Information Commissioner – information from SALC has advised that we should be registered with the Information Commissioner. The Clerk will arrange this at a cost of £35.00 per annum.

Section 137 – The figure for 2013/14 is £6.98 per elector.

Wooden bollards outside Granmore and Bridges – have been damaged again. The Clerk has contacted SCC for replacement and asked that they have reflectors attached.

Buckingham Palace Garden Party – our nomination for Mr Wiley was unsuccessful.

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

Woolpit, Elmswell, Norton & Tostock Community First Responders Group five year anniversary open evening 22 March. Mr Wiley, Mr Lomax and Mrs Cook will

attend. **Suffolk ACRE** cheaper energy together information will be published in next issue of Woolpit Diary. **Openreach** has agreed to remove the pole outside 17 Mitre

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Close and the overhead cable going to the pole outside Cowell Lodge and place underground. The pole outside Cowell Lodge will remain. **Suffolk Constabulary & Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service** opening ceremony for the Elmswell Fire and Police Station 11 March. Mr Wiley will attend. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs:** Suffolk ACRE update winter/spring 2013. Clerks & Councils Direct March 2013. Rural Services Network rural opportunities bulletin, news digest 11, 18& 25 February + 4 March, MPs demand fairer funding for rural councils and rural campaign information. MSDC volunteer litter picker event 14 March, proposals for a single fully integrated staffing structure serving both Babergh and MSDC, Town & Parish Councils newsletter February 2013. Suffolk Sport Fit Villages March update and funding for community events 2013. SALC Community Composting Seminar 17 March.

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

Appl 2407/12 Erection of one and a half storey detached dwelling and construction of vehicular access, the willows, Old Stowmarket Road. An appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

To ratify payment to Debbie Brown £159.60 for CSW reflective jackets reimbursement. This was proposed, seconded and carried.

Mr K Harknett £37.86 litter picking February, SALC £24.00 HMRC seminar 12 February for the Clerk, Tea Cups Tea Rooms £60.00 tea and cake for bench unveiling ceremony, Viking £103.59 stationery and stamps, Anglian Water £31.48 allotments 15/8/12-5/2/13, SPL Print £269.00 Feb/March Diary, Woolpit Cricket Club £693.32 grass maintenance 1/10/10-30/9/12, Suffolk County Council pension payment March, Tea Cups Tea Rooms £155.00 refreshments Post Office retirement event and Mrs J Semmens £74.20 wine for toast and flowers for table decorations for Post Office retirement event. All accounts were approved and cheques issued.

8. To discuss Section 106 funding and take any necessary action.

SCC education fund – The headteacher would like to look into funding a walking bus scheme. This is for the school to liaise with SCC regarding this funding.

MSDC community payments fund – Woolpit Institute Committee are looking to access funding of £2358.00 for 80 new chairs and £1528 for new flooring for the upstairs room. Cllrs voted to support the applications to MSDC. *Action: the Clerk*

9. To discuss Community Support schemes and take any necessary action.

Mr Wiley has been in contact with Suffolk ACRE regarding a Good Neighbour Scheme and Suffolk Circle to see what services they can provide for residents. It was agreed to see if volunteers come forward to start up a Good Neighbour scheme by putting an item in April/May issue of Woolpit Diary to register interest with WPC by the end of April 2013. *Action: the Clerk*

10. To set a date for the Millennium Garden working party and take any necessary action.

6 & 7 April with reserve dates of 13 & 14 April will be published in Woolpit Diary commencing at 10.00am. It was agreed to apply for Locality Budget funding for new plants and shrubs. *Action: Mr Wiley*

11. To consider quotes for tree and hedging work at the allotments and pump garden and take any necessary action.

Three quotes have been received for £1,800.00, £780.00 and £360.00. It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote for £360.00.

12. To discuss undertaking a Community Led plan and take any necessary action.

This would either be an update of the Village Appraisal or a Neighbourhood Plan. As the costs are prohibitive and Cllrs feel this is more beneficial for Town Councils, it was proposed, seconded and carried to take no further action.

13. To receive an update on the Steeles Road redevelopment and take any necessary action.

Demolition of the remaining buildings has commenced. There is a meeting planned for the Unity housing redevelopment. Four residents are on the panel.

14. To receive any update on parking around the Health Centre and take any necessary action.

The Health Centre partnership has arranged a meeting for all agencies for 26 April. Mr Wiley and Mr Melvin will be attending.

15. To receive an update on the Community Speedwatch Scheme and take any necessary action.

The volunteers have had a meeting and should have all the necessary equipment. The Co-ordinator has received training and she will be the speaker at the APM. The group will be asked to give WPC a report once checks have commenced.

16. To receive a report on the allotments and take any necessary action.

Mrs Parker and Mrs Cook will set a date for a review of the plots. One half plot has been given up and re-allocated to someone on the waiting list. The waiting list has now reduced to 5. The Clerk will write to the plot holders of 1-5a to advise them of the forthcoming tree work. *Action: the Clerk*

17. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

Some palings in the wooden fence have been broken. The Clerk has informed the Village Hall committee.

18. To receive a report from the Footpath/Tree Warden.

All footpaths were walked 24-27 February and are in reasonable condition. The footpath signs are visible and there is evidence of recent maintenance to the side of the paths.

19. Date of the Annual Parish Council meeting – Monday 20 May 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....