

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

**Present:** Mr Wiley (Chairman), Mr Smith, Mrs Parker, Mr Hardiman and Mr Lomax.

**County Councillor's report:** The full council meeting 14 February will debate budget proposals. The proposal is for a third year of 0% increase in Council Tax. The Cabinet meet on 26 February and the agenda includes the SOR in the Stowmarket & Stowupland pyramid, budget control report 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2012/13, charges for non-residential care services, review of 2012 achievement outcomes in Suffolk schools, Ipswich policy area, East Anglian Windfarm and transmission line. Other issues are Suffolk Growth Strategy Customer Services post 2014, future back office review, Ipswich Northern Fringe Consultation and procurement of highways services.

**Police report:** There was one crime reported between 8 & 30 January; theft of a motor vehicle from The Heath later found close by with no damage. Information on a new initiative aimed at tackling rural crime and figures on the Suffolk/Norfolk Christmas Drink Drive campaign were received.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr Melvin, Mrs Cook, Mr Guyler and Mr Jones.

2. **To receive declarations of interest.**

Mr Smith declared a prejudicial interest in planning appl 3809/12 and signed the interest book.

3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 7 January 2013.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

4. **Clerk's Report**

**Green area, Steeles Road** - damaged by cars driving along the front of the properties. MSDC has repaired the fence and installed single bollards in the path to stop this.

**Water next to Bell Meadow cycle path** – reported to John Simpson SCC again, he will review the problem.

**Hedge Mill Lane** – has been cut but Suffolk Housing Society says it is not their responsibility. Cllrs say that SHS planted the hedge along with other landscaping when the properties were built. The Clerk will send a letter reminding them of this.

**Royal Garden Party** – Mr J Wiley will be nominated for a place via SALC.

**Early termination of car park lease** – Chris Fry, MSDC is disappointed that we do not wish to proceed.

**Pension payments** – have to be sent to SCC within 5 working days of the end of the month. Therefore payments need to be authorised at the meeting before and held to send in good time.

**Community led plan** – Annette Gray, Suffolk ACRE has asked if a decision has been made. This will be discussed at the March meeting.

**Jubilee bench unveiling** – EADT should cover the event on 16 February, BFP has not responded to our email.

**Icicles** – the Clerk was contacted by concerned residents of the dangers of large icicles hanging from a roof. SCC has advised that the responsibility is with the property owner who should ideally remove them. However, this may not be feasible and that it would be likely seen as an act of nature.

**Retirement of Jim Peek and Brenda Horn from the Post Office** – collection boxes for a gift from residents will be placed in Tea Cups and the Bread Bin. Mrs C Moss will be asked to organise. Mrs Parker volunteered to arrange refreshments at a

retirement event. It was unanimously agreed that WPC would pay for these refreshments and hire Woolpit Institute.

**Internal audit** – Mrs Cook conducted an internal audit; all is in order.

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**Fidelity Guarantee insurance** – cover has been increased to £110,000.00 with no additional premium.

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

**Woolpit Institute** deep clean of the building and cleaning of inside windows. It was agreed that the Clerk will continue to be responsible for cleaning the office. **MSDC** renaming part of Old Stowmarket Road to Church Street. The Clerk will send a letter confirming WPC agreement to the change from the junction of Heath Road/Old Stowmarket Road to Rectory Lane. **TLF Contracting** grass cutting and grounds maintenance information. **Barclays Bank** Financial Service Compensation Scheme form completed. **Suffolk ageuk** poster and leaflets. **The following items were circulated to Cllrs:** MSDC Core Strategy Focus Review adoption; organising community events 2013; Fit Villages roundup February 2013; Under One Roof issue 12 January; Strategic Tenancy Policy consultation; Healthwatch Suffolk information. SCC weather updates from Emergency Planning and Community Resilience workshop. SALC The Honours system, LAIS 1339 Red diesel; LAIS 1347 Community Infrastructure levy and LAIS 1348 Planning Applications. Suffolk ACRE Local Foods Suffolk project newsletter January and Members Update January. Rural Services Network weekly digest 14 & 28 January + 4 February and MPs rally for fairer rural funding. Thurston College Community Forum agenda and minutes 23 January 2013. Suffolk Police SNT Priority Tasking meeting 23 January. Suffolk Wildlife Trust help bring back the barn owl to Suffolk campaign.

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

**3809/12** Erection of industrial building (Class B1 & B2 & B8) with hard standing, car parking and new access. Land to the rear of Corern, Rattlesden Road – support.

**3830/12** Erection of a single storey side extension to dwelling. 4 Mitre Close – support.

**1820/12** Retention and completion of development under construction without compliance with conditions and removal of conditions 21 (Opening Hours of Community Room) and 22 (Use/s of Community Room) of planning permission 2515/07 - Demolition of 34 existing dwellings. Erection of 46 affordable residential units and 5 free market residential units and on site provision of open space. Associated car parking, external works and extinguishing public footpath 4. Land adjacent to, Steeles Road, Woolpit. MSDC decision – permission granted.

**3378/12** Erection of single storey building as a base for meals on wheels service and creation of parking area. Woolpit Business Park, Windmill Avenue. MSDC decision – permission granted.

**3547/12** Erection of single storey extension to rear and first floor extension over existing adjoining garage. 56 Briar Hill. MSDC decision – permission granted.

#### **7. To approve accounts for payment.**

To ratify payment to Road Runner TCA Ltd of £1159.20 for Community Speedwatch camera was unanimously agreed. Mr K Harknett £32.45 litter picking January; Suffolk ACRE Services £8.80 insurance additional premium to cover CSW camera and signs all risks; Suffolk County Council £2991.37 street lighting April 2012-March 2013; The Parking Shop (cheque payable to Close Invoice Finance Ltd) £288.00 CSW signs; Woolpit Institute Committee £260.00 PC room rent February-April 2013; Suffolk County Council £186.65 pension payment January; Eastern Facilities Management Solutions £1739.37 grass cutting recreation ground and sports field; Equity pc £160.74 editing February/March Woolpit Diary and printer cartridges;

Suffolk County Council £186.65 pension payment February. All accounts were approved and cheques issued.

It was agreed to continue to use Eastern Facilities Management Solutions for grass cutting 2013/14.

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**8. To consider providing refreshments after the unveiling ceremony of the additional bench for the Pump Garden to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 16 February 2013 and take any necessary action.**

It was unanimously agreed that Tea Cups provide cups of tea/coffee and cake for £3.00 a head.

**9. To discuss Section 106 funding and take any necessary action.**

SCC education funds – Mr Wiley has spoken to Mrs Rees, Headteacher Woolpit CP and this will be discussed at the March meeting.

MSDC funds currently stand at £12,785.01 for open space/play in the parish; £14,663.12 for community buildings in the Ward; £5,229.40 for outdoor sports in the ward and £25,014.15 for sports pitches in the sub district. An item will included in the next issue of Woolpit Diary to make village groups aware of the funds available and that they can apply to MSDC with a comprehensive proposal of any projects for consideration. Mr Wiley will meet with the Village Hall and Woolpit Institute Committees regarding the community building fund. *Action: the Clerk/Mr Wiley*

**10. To discuss a request from St Mary's Church Building Trust for a Parish Council representative and take any necessary action.**

Mr Eburne has been our representative in the past but it was agreed that to have a Cllr as our representative would be beneficial. Mr Guyler has advised he would consider taking on the role and Cllrs present felt he would be the ideal candidate. It was also discussed that as we have representatives on the Woolpit Charity Lands, an annual report should be received. The Clerk will request this from Mrs Eburne, the Secretary. *Action: the Clerk*

**11. To consider a Community Beat Officer for Woolpit and take any necessary action.**

This was debated at the meeting 20 July 2009 and agreed not to pursue further. At that time the cost to the parish would have been £14,000 and if shared with another parish transport would have to be provided. Cllrs agreed that crime in the village has decreased since 2009 and do not wish to pursue the matter.

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

Orbit has now taken over the site and the central area soakaway has been completed. Services still have to be disconnected before the remaining properties are demolished. Some elderly residents are having difficulty getting snagging issues put right in the Flagship properties and Andrew Long from Flagship has been asked to look into this.

Mrs Parker suggested WPC write to the Woolpit Charity Lands to see if they are prepared to take on the Duty of Care for the elderly tenants. Cllrs felt that this should be pursued and the Clerk will write to the Secretary. *Action: the Clerk*

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

Mr Melvin and Dr West have written to David Ruffley MP to ask him to get involved in this matter. He is willing to chair a meeting of all interested parties.

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

The Locality funding of £750.00 has still not been received from SCC. The camera and signs have been paid for and will be received shortly; both have been added to WPC insurance policy all risks. David Rooney has decided to withdraw from the scheme. A meeting of all the volunteers has been arranged for 12 February. Debbie Brown is receiving her training this week and has agreed to be the speaker at the APM.

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

One tenant has advised he wishes to give up half his plot from 1 March and the Clerk will reallocate this. Another tenant has his house for sale and the Clerk has confirmed that if he moves from the village he will be allowed to continue on his allotment until the end of the season for his crops.

**16. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.**

Unable to carry out duties some days due to the snow.

**17. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 4 March 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.**

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....