

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

Present: Mr Wiley (Chairman), Mr Guyler, Mr Melvin, Mrs Parker, Mr Hardiman, Mrs Cook, Mr Smith and PC Brown.

Public comment – PC Brown advised there were 2 crimes reported between 3 September and 6 October; criminal damage to a motor vehicle and possession of cannabis found in a vehicle following a speeding offence. There were 28 calls to the police during the same period including 3 crime related, 2 ASB, 5 concerns for welfare, 2 alarms, 3 suspicious persons and 4 traffic related matters. Speed checks have been carried out - Old Stowmarket Road/Heath Road 28 checked none speeding, Heath Road 10 checked, 2 speed awareness courses and 4 speed tickets issued at The Heath. The police bike is being used to good purpose, a check in the car park found some teenagers drinking but all were over 18.

District Cllr Melvin is unavailable for a few weeks and Rachel Eburne is aware of planning issues. Jane Storey has agreed to take calls.

Mrs Cook advised that the hedge in Plough Lane at the junction with Green Road needs cutting back for clear visibility. The Clerk will write to Mr Meadows.

Mrs Parker raised concerns regarding the closeness of trees to the flats being built along Green Road, it was agreed to check the plans to ensure the properties have not been built too far forward.

It was agreed to bring forward item 11 to discuss with PC Brown.

11. To consider issues at the car park and take any necessary action.

A letter regarding the current problems at the car park during the evenings was read. The Police have attended on several occasions and no offences are taking place whilst they are there. Residents are urged to call 101 if they witness a problem as all calls are logged under specific categories e.g. ASB. Gating of the car park was discussed but this causes other issues. It was agreed to erect S59 notices at the car park opposite the church and offer the same at the Village Hall and Tennis Club car park as this is also being damaged. Cllrs agreed to look at lighting in the vicinity of the main car park. The next Police priority setting meeting is 16 October.

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

2. **To receive declarations of interest.** Mrs Parker declared a prejudicial interest in item 17 and duly signed the interest book.

3. **To approve minutes of the meetings 2 September 2013.** The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Clerk's Report

Mill Lane hedge – has now been cut.

Steeles Road unity housing – MSDC has confirmed that all tenants moved out for tranche 1 who have expressed a wish to, are able to come back to Woolpit into the phase 4/5 of the original redevelopment in Steeles Road when they are complete. They continue to monitor the needs of residents in tranche 2.

Old allotment site hedge – Mr Scott has arranged for the hedge to be cut back.

Planning workshop – the Clerk attended on 9 September.

Woolpit Green junction – a further meeting has taken place and SCC has to repair the road and will make it the width for 2 vehicles.

1914 commemoration – as the Drinkstone branch secretary has died, the Clerk will contact RBL headquarters to find out if there are any local commemorations to mark the commencement of World War 1.

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

Mrs Beer hedge cutting in Heath Road left thorns on the cycle path. The farmer cleared as soon as practicable. **SCC** winter gritting and temporary closure of part of Heath Road near Sharpes Row 17 October for BT cabling work. **Mr Howard** issues at the car park. **SNT** Halloween Posters. The Clerk will check that the police are asking local shops to refrain from selling eggs and flour to youths. **Mrs Golding** requesting our opinion regarding opening a cattery in Steeles Road. Cllrs expressed concern regarding a disturbance and noise nuisance in a residential area and increased traffic. The Clerk was asked to respond and advise her to talk with neighbours and meet with MSDC planning officers. **A resident of White Elm Road** has reported being woken by the smell of smoke from bonfires in the early hours of the morning. Cllrs have not been made aware by anyone else of this issue but an item will be placed in the next issue of Woolpit Diary. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs:** SCC training and workshops for Community Emergency Plans. SALC Mid Suffolk South area meeting 19 September, forthcoming courses, e-bulletin 13 September, Local Councils Explained new publication, precepts, SALC AGM 15 November 2013 invitation, RSPB event 8 October and council of the year and website of the year. Thurston Community College Community Forum agenda and minutes of the meeting 18 September. Rural Services Network Rural Opportunities bulletin, Rural Vulnerability Service fuel poverty and transport September, spotlight on small business, residents urged to sign rural funding petition press release, weekly email digest 10, 16, 23 & 30 September. Community Action Suffolk newsletter 6, 11, 18, 25 September and 2 October. Fit Villages September round up. Suffolk View autumn 2013. Clerks & Councils Direct September. Ixworth Free School consultation.

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

2614/13 Erection of a two storey extension with accommodation in the roofspace incorporating a dormer window over existing garage. Copperfield House, Old Stowmarket Road – support.

2679/13 Erection of porch extension. 7 Cornmill Green – support.

2228/13 Demolition 66-80 Steeles Road and erection of 25 affordable houses. Steeles Road going before MSDC Planning Committee 9 October.

2241/13 Erection of safety fencing 8m high x 70m in length between the Cricket Club and Tennis Club. Woolpit Cricket Club, Rectory Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2302/13 Erection of two storey extension. 10 Horsefair. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2280/13 Change of use of land to create 20m x 40m outdoor riding area. Woolpit Nurseries, Old Stowmarket Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2270/13 Work to Crab Apple and Norway Spruce. Old Crown, The Street. MSDC does not wish to object.

2236/13 Various tree and hedge work. Pera, Masons Lane. MSDC does not wish to object.

2070/13 Erection of single storey detached dwelling and creation of new vehicular access. 17 Mill Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

0930/11 Change of use of land at Elmswell Road, Woolpit for parking of HGV vehicles and trailers only, for a temporary period of three years. Land between Leggetts and O C Jewers, Elmswell Road, Woolpit. The appeal has been dismissed.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £56.00 litter picking September; Suffolk County Council £361.50 to remove street light unit 23 The Green; SALC £30.00 planning workshop 9

September; Woolpit Institute £260.00 parish council room rent November-January; HM Revenue & Customs tax and N/I July-September; Mrs P Fuller £90.00 expenses July-September; SPL Print £269.00 October/November Woolpit Diary and Suffolk County Council £192.20 October pension payment.

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The meeting adjourned at 8.50 p.m.

Cllr Storey advised that the Cabinet meeting 8 October will discuss the Suffolk Safeguarding Adult Board annual report, Suffolk Local Safeguarding Children Board annual report, OFSTED report, SCC's response to the Marine Management Organisations consultation on the Draft East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans and SCC response to the RSA Inquiry report linked to the Raising of the Bar in education priority. Cllr Storey agreed to a grant towards the Millennium Garden project from her Locality Budget.

The meeting reconvened at 9.04 p.m.

8. To approve the quote for the replacement of street light unit 38 Briar Hill and take any necessary action.

Cllrs agreed to have an LED white light lantern bringing the quote to £1211.89 which was approved. *Action: the Clerk*

9. To discuss A14 road surface noise and take any necessary action.

Wetherden PC would like to set up a meeting with David Ruffley MP and representatives of parishes affected by the noise of the concrete surface. Cllrs were happy to support the initiative. *Action: the Clerk*

10. To consider a request from the Playing Field Committee for financial assistance to re-bark to children's play area and take any necessary action.

The work has already been carried out without waiting for a response from the PC. The Clerk was asked to write and advise that incorrect procedures were followed and that as the bill has already been issued to them WPC is unable to pay for the bark on this occasion. A copy of the recent ROSPA report on the play equipment has been passed to WPC and the Clerk will ask the PFC what action it intends to take. *Action: the Clerk*

12. To consider quotes received for work to the Millennium Garden and take any necessary action.

2 quotes were received for £910.00 grassing 2 areas and £1940.00 for all the other work required making a total of £2850.00. The second quote for £2515.00 was for grassing and clearing the other areas but not providing membrane, bark and plants but a guide price of £998.28 including VAT for the bark was given. Cllrs agreed to accept the quote of £2850.00 for all the work from SJH Landscapes subject to confirmation that they have sufficient Public Liability insurance cover. *Action: the Clerk*

13. To consider property details for insurance cover and take any necessary action.

The invoice for annual premium for insurance cover October 2013-September 2014 has been received from Suffolk ACRE Services for £1160.74. The Clerk advised that the value for some items to be covered all risks need to be amended and the mower can be deleted. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would review the amounts and as the amended premium will be less than £1160.74 it could be paid and ratified at the next meeting. *Action: Mr Wiley/the Clerk.*

14. To receive an update on parking issues around the Health Centre.

MSDC has advised that land to the rear of the Health Centre appears to comply for exemption for planning for affordable housing which will allow the land to be released for additional car parking.

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

2 tenants need to be written to discuss taking back part of their allotments. Rent renewal letters will be sent out this month. There are 3 people on the waiting list.

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Plot 24 will no longer be rented and Mr Smith will look at the site for the practicalities of bringing the fence in to plot 23.

Action: the Clerk/Mr Smith

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

The work should be completed by December 2013. The plans will be checked to ensure that the flats have not been built too far forward.

Action: Mr Wiley

Mrs Parker left the meeting at 9.48 p.m.

17. To discuss the redevelopment of the unity housing in Steeles Road and take any necessary action.

The application for tranche 1 goes before MSDC Planning Committee. Our request for the ditch beside the footpath to be piped cannot be accommodated as the land is not in Orbit’s ownership; however the hammerhead requested has been put into the plans.

There have been changes to tranche 2 as MSDC has advised the committee that they would not proceed along any route that involved compulsory purchase orders. MSDC is in discussions with potential housing associations to partner with for tranche 2. MSDC is visiting people during October who live in tranche 2 to discuss their circumstances.

Mrs Parker rejoined the meeting at 10.02 p.m.

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

One member is considering taking over the role of co-ordinator. The teams are going out regularly and the VAS signs are coming round to the village more often. One car was recorded speeding past the school at 55mph. The Clerk has agreed to keep the calibration certificate for the camera.

19. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

The Litter Picker is away for part of October.

20. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 4 November 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

District Cllr Melvin updated Cllrs on planning enforcement issues. No valid application has been received for Lawn Farm. MSDC has written to the owners of the house in wood between Woolpit and Shelland but has not received a reply. No applications for the change of use at Costcutter, the illuminated sign and other businesses being run from the site have been received. The refrigeration units have been referred to Environmental Health but no response received.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....