

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

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

Public comment: PC Brown advised there were no crimes reported between 17 June and 14 July. 22 calls were made to the Police ranging from abandoned bikes and parking problems at the school. Further speed checks have been carried out along Borley Green, mainly Wood Lane. Out of 35 vehicles only 1 was speeding and issued with a fixed penalty notice. Speed checks along Heath Road checked 51 cars and none were found to be speeding. A warrant carried out in Badley resulted in the recovery of a large amount of stolen property. Thanks were extended to all parish councils that sent teams to the quiz. Parking is the SNT priority for the next month. County Cllr Storey advised that the Cabinet meeting 9 July considered the Children and Young Peoples social Care Annual Report, primary school places in the south, 2012-13 overrun for revenue budget and capital spending – an additional £3.5m has been saved in addition to the £26.19m planned savings. This will be put aside in an earmarked reserve, Raising the Bar final report, SCC's response to St Edmundsbury's vision 2031 for the Bury and Haverhill area, compulsory purchase of land to facilitate provision of a cycle bridge in Lowestoft, A14 improvement - £1m contribution to the £1.5m scheme, review of Homecare and Community Meals procurement, arrangements for discharging the requirements of national government in relation to a national framework that refers to a new, annual publication of a Fire Authority Statement of Assurance, future back office requirements as the CSD contract ends in May 2014 and transport arrangements for children in Rattlesden and Woolpit area in view of the Thurston catchment area change from September 2014. The decision for the school transport arrangements has been called in to the Scrutiny Committee which will consider the matter on 22 July. The Council meeting 18 July will be looking at the Suffolk Economic Growth Strategy and how it can be implemented by SCC and the Annual Report on Equalities and Inclusion. Cllr Storey has submitted a Locality Budget request to help fund the police bike. On 4 July Cllr Storey attended a school careers fare at Beyton Middle School offering the pupils a chance to find out about careers in politics. District Cllr Melvin has contacted the person who sent out the letter to local business reported last meeting and to the Leader of the Council who is taking up the matter. The Costcutter sign has no consent and an Enforcement Officer has been appointed to look into this issue. It was noted that 3 mini buses are parked on part of the site. Orbit Housing is using the turning circle in Abbots Meadow for parking. The Clerk was asked to send a letter asking them to refrain from doing so. *Action: the Clerk* The road name sign in Mitre Close has been knocked down. The Clerk will advise SCC. *Action: the Clerk*

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

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

Mrs Parker declared a prejudicial interest in item 11 and duly signed the interest book.

3. **To approve minutes of the meetings 17 June 2013.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

4. **Clerk's Report**

Good Neighbour Scheme update – The Clerk has spoken with Robert Horn, Community Action Suffolk. He would like to come and talk with us and members of other groups who might like to be involved to take the scheme forward. This will be arranged for an evening in September/October. The Clerk has spoken with the two

people who are interested in the scheme and will update them of progress in due course.

Action: the Clerk

Church Street/The Street road name signs - MSDC has ordered the signs for the junction with Heath Road and have suggested one sign opposite Rectory Lane with both street names and arrows pointing to the correct section of the road. This was agreed by Cllrs.

Street lights Steeles Road – these have now been dealt with by Flagship but some will be on all night until adopted by SCC when the last 2 phases of Steeles Road redevelopment are complete.

Street light outside 19 Briar Hill – Carillion were carrying out routine maintenance when it was noticed the concrete column was cracked all round. It was removed immediately for safety and we will receive a quote for replacement shortly.

Parking on pavements in Steeles Road – the Police have issued several advisory notices and will continue to monitor the problem.

Quiz – Mrs Parker, Mr Smith and Mr Lomax represented WPC at the recent quiz organised by the SNT. An enjoyable evening but no trophy.

Activities Day – Mrs Parker advised that arrangements have been made with MSDC who will be bringing the mobile skate park and kanga boots on 23 August and the Cricket Club will be holding taster sessions. They will provide youth workers and all participants, who must be over 7 years old, will need to complete a form which must be signed by their parents before participating.

Road closure Elmswell Road – this has been changed to 10/11 August and SCC have drafted an item for the next Diary to advise residents of the parking restrictions in The Street during the overnight work. Households in the area of The Street have received individual letters.

Children's Play area – the area has become overgrown but the Playing Field Committee is taking steps to rectify.

Drain in Cow Fair – a resident had advised that one surface water drain is blocked. As it is in an area other than the road it is the landowner's responsibility not SCC Highways. The resident will contact the Housing Association concerned.

Footpath 7 – SCC is taking remedial action so that residents don't have to divert around the part that floods.

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

Mr Wild has heard that the triangle junction at Woolpit Green is being altered and asked for confirmation. The Clerk will contact John Simpson, SCC. **Simon**

Hazelgrove on behalf of East of England Co-op has asked WPC to suggest three sites for a defibrillator as MSDC Planning has refused a request to site it on the Co-op building. Cllrs feel he should have discussions with MSDC Planning Officers to advise where they would allow the defibrillator to be sited before we comment.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust community action conference 21 September. **The following items were circulated to Cllrs:** Clerks and Councils Direct July 2013. SALC Local Transport Body long list consultation, LAISU2D and forthcoming courses. SCC Community Resilience newsletter July, Endeavour Card for discount travel on buses for 16-19 year old and Heat Health advice. MSDC Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2012/13. Thurston College Community Forum minutes 8 May 2013. NALC Putting Communities first conference. SNT Priority Tasking meeting 2 July. Rural Services Network Rural Vulnerability Services – transport and broadband, Developing rural places – planning and location seminar 16 July, Rural Opportunities bulletin and news digest 24 June, 1, 8 & 15 July. Community Action Suffolk e-newsletter 19 & 27 June + 3 & 11 July. Suffolk Sport Suffolk's most active community 2013. Suffolk Wildlife Trust family event at Gallowfield Wood 7 July.

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

3815/12 Erection of extension to poly tunnel. Woolpit Nurseries, Old Stowmarket Road –support.

1005/13 Change of use of existing premises to Class D1 use (therapy centre). Unit 11, Brickfield Business Park, Old Stowmarket Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £33.50 litter picking June and HMRC £223.12 tax and N/I April –June were unanimously ratified. SALC £30.00 allotment course for Mrs Parker, Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner £100.00 police bike contribution, Mrs P Fuller £151.28 expenses April-June, SCC £192.20 pension payment July, Debbie Brown £47.92 reimbursement for CSW summer jackets and Woolpit Institute £260.00 office rent August-October. All payments were approved and cheques issued.

8. To discuss Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and take any necessary action.

The Police NW Co-ordinator has left the post and nothing seems to be happening. WPC funded new signs and the village co-ordinator was to report at meetings on a regular basis but this has never happened. The Clerk will write to the Chief Constable asking what the current situation is and what they are going to do if they wish for our continued support.

Action: the Clerk

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

The wardens have advised the Clerk of untidy plots for letters to be sent. Mrs Parker has attended an allotment course. The clerk will contact David Rooney to fit non-returnable valves to both taps.

Action: the Clerk

Mrs Parker left the meeting at 8.44 p.m.

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

The building work has not recommenced yet although bricks are now here the bricklayers are on another job. Orbit Housing is aware of our concerns and that the road cannot be adopted until phase 4 & 5 are complete.

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

Phases 4 & 5 of Steeles Road need to be completed to house those being moved out of the unity housing. A meeting has been held between the architects, Orbit Housing, MSDC housing, WPC reps and some residents. The development will be in 2 phases. The first phase plans were available for perusal comprising of 23 units – 3 4 bed, 10 3 bed and 10 2 bed units. There will be separate services to both halves of the development and each dwelling will have 2 parking spaces. WPC reps requested details of landscaping and that at least 4 1 bedroom units are included in the first phase of the development. All affected residents have agreed their accommodation during the redevelopment. The application is likely to be considered by MSDC planning committee in October and work would take 14 months from July 2014. Plans will be available for the public to view at Woolpit Institute 16 July. The meeting was asked for approval of the draft plans on what they have seen however Cllr Melvin and Wiley were not prepared to do so as plans showing elevations have not been seen and 1 bedroom units need to be included in phase 1.

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

The VAS signs should be available again for Woolpit shortly. The teams are now going out regularly and have a good routine in place. As the group experienced problems with the speed gun, the company who provided it has agreed to carry out the first recalibration free of charge as compensation.

13. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

Some of the palings in the children's play area are damaged as are some of the boards in the car park.

14. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 2 September 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed..... Dated.....