

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
3 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE.

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Hardiman, Mrs Parker, Mr Howard and 8 members of the public. Mr Lomax joined the meeting at 7.50 p.m.

Public comment: Mr Cross spoke about the recently announced consultation on the relocation of the post office to the Co-operative store. As sub-postmaster he believes that the days of a standalone post office are gone due to lack of revenue and the number of hours required to work. He urges residents to welcome that the post office will be at the Co-op as other options could be much worse. The Parish Council will discuss its response at the December meeting.

Mrs Hale and other residents spoke of their concerns regarding parking outside their properties by parents taking children to the school. The problems have been much worse since the start of the term and they have received abuse from some parents when asked not to park across driveways.

County Cllr Storey advised that the Cabinet will be discussing the quarterly budget report, papers concerning the adoption of the Suffolk Advisory Parking Guidance and parking provision in Ipswich, and asked to approve arrangements for managing the Better Care Fund pool for Suffolk. A further item is the response to Ipswich Borough Council regarding the proposal for a 'garden city' on the northern fringe of Ipswich. We have a new Highways Engineer covering our area and a meeting will be arranged with him and representative of parishes to discuss highways structure from SCC officer prospective and priorities from a parish prospective. Fast broadband is now available in many villages and it is worth checking with your ISP.

Mr Guyler attended the Institute Committee meeting which approved new charges for use of rooms at £24 for a 4 hour session upstairs and £12 downstairs.

PCSO Pendergast advised that there were 3 recorded crimes between 2 and 29 October; a common assault, a message/letter/email of an indecent/threatening/false nature and enquiries are ongoing for both. There was also a theft of an honesty box which is undetected. There were 27 event calls during the same period dealing with various issues. There was an incident in Briar Hill last week when paint was thrown over 12 cars. As this was emulsion paint there is no permanent damage but enquiries are being made.

Police Direct is changing to deliver an improved free police messaging service called Police Connect. This will allow you to know what is going on in your local area. To receive this service you will need to register via the Suffolk Constabulary website.

It was agreed to bring forward item 11 to after item 3 of the agenda.

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

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

Mrs Parker declared a prejudicial interest in item 18 and signed the interest book.

3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 6 October 2014.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

11. **To discuss issues caused by parking outside Woolpit Primary School and take any necessary action.**

Cllrs listened to the comments from residents and agree something has to be done. This is an issue that affects most schools not just Woolpit. All the years involved in the SOR are now at the school and there are 175 pupils on the role. The school encourages years 5 & 6 to walk now that there is a crossing patrol. It was agreed to set up a meeting of all interested parties including representatives of WPC,

residents, the Police, the school including parent governors and SCC. It was agreed that Mr Guyler, Mr Lomax and Mr Howard would represent the Parish Council.

Action: Mr Guyler/ the Clerk

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4. Clerk's Report

Car park light – MSDC checking with their legal department regarding liability if the light is turned off at 2000 hours.

Revised standing orders – the Clerk is attending a filming and social media course on 5 November and thinks she will be provided with amended model standing orders so that wording is standardised across councils.

Allotment renewals – letters have been sent to tenants.

Footpath 4 – the work to widen the path by cutting back vegetation that has grown over the tarmacked path did not take place at the second cut. The Clerk has contact contacted SCC to get this work done.

Street lights Steeles Road redevelopment – have not yet been adopted by SCC. The Clerk has asked Orbit for an update on the situation.

Garden area Steeles Road redevelopment – the fencing has now been erected and the landscaping should take place shortly.

Abbotts Meadow – branches fell from a tree near the access road to the garages. MSDC has removed the debris, pruned the tree and arranged for the tree to be inspected.

Abbotts Meadow/Cow Fair path – Orbit Housing has been contacted to arrange for the shrubs to be cut back.

Mitre Close grass area – SCC has been contacted and has cleared the area of weeds where they planted three oak trees.

Shrubs The Street outside the church – MSDC has advised that the shrubs will be cut back and kept in good order. The area is owned by SCC.

Wood Road – the Clerk has been contacted by a concerned resident regarding lorries speeding towards the junction. The Clerk has contact SCC to look into the matter and the Police regarding a speed check.

Grass area at the junction of Church Street outside Costcutter – the Clerk has visited the garage and asked them not to park on the amenity area.

Burger Van in Old Stowmarket Road – the Clerk has contacted Environmental Health regarding a complaint of noise nuisance from the generator and also the flashing light. The complainant has been asked to contact EH direct so they can arrange a visit to monitor the noise level.

Street light – the Clerk has been contacted by the developer regarding moving the column at the new development at the junction of Heath Road and Church Street as it is now in the middle of the path. The Clerk has requested a new metal column with an LED unit.

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

SALC Planning Essentials course 3 December the Clerk will attend if the content is more pertinent than the planning briefing course previously attended. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs:** Clerks and Council Direct November. SALC AGM information and annual report 2013/14, Powering up Suffolk – SCC community energy workshop, LAIS1368.1 Transparency Code update, LAIS1369 PPG Housing Assessment, LAIS1370 development benefits pilot, LAIS up to date, election briefings 2015, forthcoming courses. Community Action Suffolk newsletters 8 & 23 October, Chartoppers details of Lonnie Donegan Jnr band for concerts passed to the Festival Society, Right Driver Highway Code training. Dept for Transport draft order E/1569 – proposed stopping up of highway at 46-48 Steeles Road. Rural Services Network news digest 7, 13, 20, & 27 October + 3 November, rural opportunities bulletin 8 October, rural housing spotlight, rural vulnerability service – fuel poverty October. Suffolk Preservation Society Suffolk View autumn 2014. SCC weather

warning and winter gritting workshop, most active county town and village competition 2014, temporary closure of Rags Lane 18&19 November, Copy of Highways Agency response to Penny Otton regarding A14 noise. Thurston College Community Forum meeting 25 November. UK Power Networks preparation for

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possible severe weather event 21 October and update. Suffolk Constabulary Police Connect to replace Police Direct, warning of bogus officer scams. MSDC Community Achievement Awards, grants and funding newsletter issue 1, Town & Parish Councils newsletter October, CIL additional workshops, call for sites 2014.

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

2870/14 & 2871/14 Erection of single storey rear extension and detached two storey cartlodge/store. Dale House, Warren Lane – support.

3104/14 Erection of single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling including additional paving and landscaping. Carvalho House, Borley Green – support.

3154/14 Installation of guttering on front elevation. Weaver House, The Street – support.

2178/14 the demolition of 30-40 & 50-64 Steeles Road and the erection of 31 dwellings including associated external works and alterations to the highway. Land at Steeles Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2768/14 Tree work. White House, The Street. MSDC no objection.

3094/14 Cherry tree standing in southern corner of rear garden - fell to ground level and treat stump with herbicide plugs - reason for proposed work is that the tree's roots have damaged the adjacent fence and footpath. Heather Cottage, Mill Lane – support and MSDC no objection.

3373/13 Variation to conditions. Rattlesden Gliding Club to go before committee 5 November.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £44.80 litter picking October, SALC £36.00 filming and social media seminar, Suffolk County Council £201.13 pension payment November. All accounts were approved and cheques issued. Payments by standing order Mrs P Fuller £653.80 salary October and Mrs O Johnson £186.27 salary October.

8. To discuss May 2015 elections and ways to encourage residents to stand for office.

SALC is holding Clerk Briefings in January to cover encouraging candidates, election process, purdah and polling day which the Clerk will attend.

9. To discuss funding requirements for an Emergency Plan for Woolpit and take any necessary action.

The template of the letter and questionnaire was unanimously approved. Mrs Parker will talk to Woolpit Diary distribution co-ordinator to see if both can be delivered with the next issue of the Diary and will also ask if a box can be placed in the Post Office to collect responses. A room at the institute has been provisionally booked for 14 January at 7.30 p.m. for a public meeting. Mrs Parker attended the winter gritting workshop and this matter can be filtered into the Emergency Plan for future years. 4 emergency boxes will need to be kept in various locations. It was proposed, seconded and carried to allow a budget of £400.00 to get the Emergency Plan up and running by 1 June 2015. Mrs Parker will publicise the details of the public meeting in the next Diary.

Action: Mrs Parker

10. To discuss quotes for printing Woolpit Diary and the recent competition for a cover design and take any necessary action

Three quotes have been received, £226.06, £360.39 and £385.00 for 1000 copies. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously carried to accept the quote of £226.06 from Gipping Press which includes delivery.

Action: the Clerk

There have not been any entries for the competition to design the front cover. As we received an objection from a member of the public regarding this as the present designer is currently ill, the matter will not be taken further at this time.

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12. To discuss repairs to the flint wall at Meadowlands including requesting that MSDC provide sufficient funding to complete repairs.

Part of the wall has been repaired but there is still much more that needs doing to bring the wall into reasonable condition. It was agreed to ask MSDC to allocate an additional £4,000 for further repairs.

Action: the Clerk

13. To discuss a request for a footway to Ladyswell and take any necessary action.

The Clerk will contact SCC and get confirmation that the verge is in their ownership before getting quotes for getting the verge cut and tidied.

Action: the Clerk

14. To discuss possible plans for land to the rear of the Health Centre and take any necessary action.

Mr Melvin and Mr Guyler attended a meeting with Haverbury Housing, the landowner and MSDC. It was generally agreed that, if possible, permission would be obtained for some development which could incorporate a car park for the Health Centre. The landowner was quite enthusiastic and suggested housing with a care home for the development. MSDC advises that there is a need to conduct a housing needs survey in order for any development on the site to progress and Community Action Suffolk can help with this. It was agreed to invite a representative from CAS to attend the meeting 1 December at 7.00 p.m. to outline what is involved.

Action: Mr Guyler/the Clerk.

15. To discuss the condition of the lock up following removal of vegetation and take any necessary action.

The brickwork needs to be inspected for any maintenance requirements. It was agreed to ask Mr T Moss what his fee would be to look at it and provide a report.

Action: the Clerk

16. To consider requests for grants.

Deferred to the December meeting.

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

Renewal letters have been sent out asking for ideas of how to use the spare area at the end of plots 23. So far bee hives, sheep and hazel coppicing have been suggested. One tenant has asked if they can set up an allotment association. The Clerk will investigate this matter.

Action: the Clerk

18. To receive an update on the redevelopment of unity housing in Steeles Road.

MSDC has advised that 82 & 84 Steeles Road will be demolished and redeveloped.

19. To receive a report from the Litter Picker. Nothing to report.

20. To receive a report from the Village Hall and Playing Field Committee.

There is a meeting next week. New sound panels have been installed in the Village Hall. Woolpit Cricket Club has a 99 year lease for the cricket pitch and pavilion and will be looking to expand facilities.

21. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 1 December 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....