

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
15 JUNE 2015 AT 7.30 P.N. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE.

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Hardiman, Mrs Parker, Mr Melvin, Mr Howard, Mr Wheatley and 3 members of the public.

Public comment: Mr Hardiman advised that footpath 7 is impassable due to the nettles. The Clerk will report to SCC *Action: the Clerk.*

Mrs Parker advised that a metal framed table has been erected on the verge near to Warren Lane selling plants. This is causing visibility issues for those exiting Warren Lane. This will be monitored as could be a temporary issue.

Mr Melvin advised that the vegetation on the triangle at The Green is so high it is dangerous. The Clerk will report to SCC. *Action: the Clerk*

County Cllr Storey advised she was voted in as the new Chairman and is looking forward to a year of representing the council at many events. There is a Cabinet meeting tomorrow morning and there are only two items on the public papers - a report on increasing foster carers allowances and fees, and a report on the next phase of Raising the Bar, in response to the recent Ofsted inspection of the School Improvement Service.

District Cllr Storey advised that Derek Osbourne is Chairman with Roy Barker as Vice-Chairman of MSDC.

Police report. There were 6 crimes recorded between 18 May and 11 June including burglary, theft, criminal damage, harassment and malicious communication. There were 22 calls during the same period of which 9 were road related. P.C. Brown advised that there have been changes within the MS South SNT team. PC Miles has become a dog handler and will leave the team mid-July and will not be replaced. This will leave only one P.C. at Elmswell. Information on Horsewatch was received.

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

2. **To receive declarations of interest.** There were none.

3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 18 May 2015.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

4. **Clerk's Report**

Footpaths 1 & 2 – various issues have been reported to SCC.

Post box at The Green– is still missing. The Clerk had a long conversation with Royal Mail Customer Services who are aware of the issue and the importance that the box is reinstated.

Noticeboard – is in situ and being used.

Housing Needs Survey – several requests have been received for addition forms.

Land between The Room Cemetery, White Elm Road and the bridge over A14 – MSDC will arrange for the area to be cleaned up.

Bottle bank – is overflowing. When ringing the number to contact, people have been told they no longer have the contract and to contact SCC. Cllr Storey is finding out what is going on.

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

Sir Robert Gardiner's Almshouse Trust invitation to Celebratory Service and tea to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Elmswell and Woolpit almshouses 28 June. Mr Howard and Mr Melvin hope to attend. **Resident** regarding trees on playingfield passed to the Playing Filed Committee. **Orbit Housing** would like to use green area in front of 30-40 Steeles road on an afternoon in August to promote the unity housing redevelopment. Referred to MSDC as they own the area. The Pension Regulator regarding staging date and new legal duties. This will be an agenda item for the July meeting. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs:** Rural Services Network rural vulnerability service – rural broadband May and fuel poverty June, rural

conference 2015, news digest 26 May, 1, 8, & 15 June, spotlight on older people, rural crimes survey, rural opportunities bulletin. MSDC announcement of leader and portfolio holders, getting your project funded flyer, Town and Parish newsletter June. SCC Pension Board Employer representative, Smarter Choices newsletter June, emergency roadworks Wrights Way 18 June. Wetherden PC update on a14 noise. Royal Town Planners Institute East of England conference for Councillors 19 June. UK Power Networks stakeholder newsletter spring/summer 2015. Community Action Suffolk newsletter 20 May & 2 June. Suffolk Constabulary Mid Suffolk South and Stowmarket Neighbourhood Watch newsletters 6 May-20 May and 20 May-3 June, distraction thefts. SALC Mid Suffolk South area meeting 4 June, CEO report for area meetings.

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

1802 + 1803/15 Erection of single storey rear extension (following removal of existing canopy roof). Dale House, Warren Lane - support.

1534 +1711/15 Remove existing signage and replace with new to incorporate new company logo. First Floor part, Co-op, The Street - support.

0874/15 Variation of conditions 7 & 12 of planning permission 2981/11 to permit conversion of church to dwelling in accordance with revised drawings and details. Woolpit Methodist Chapel, Heath Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

1196/15 Amendment to previously approved detached garage (ref 0260/15) to increase size from 2 bay to 3 bay. Bracken Lodge, Wood Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

1174/15 Replacement of existing riding arena. Onamarsh, Warren Lane. MSDC decision - permission granted.

1314/15 Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) 3 (external materials) and 10 (windows in east and west elevations) of application 3645/14 (demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement single storey dwelling). Dolphins (formerly known as Rosebank), Rags Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £50.40 litter picking May, Mrs S Eburne £25.00 internal audit of accounts to 31/3/15, Mr T Moss £740.40 repairs to village lock-up, Equity pc £108.00 edit June/July Diary, Gipping Press £246.12 June/July Diary, Woolpit Institute £390.00 office rent April-July, Woolpit Institute £96.00 hire of room for meetings January-June, Material Change Ltd £622.56 bark for children's play area, David Rooney £67.00 repair of allotment tap, Suffolk County Council June pension contribution. All accounts were approved and cheques issued. Payments by standing order Mrs O Johnson £186.27 May salary and Mrs P Fuller £653.80 May salary.

8. To complete and sign the Statement of Assurance and Annual Return for year ended 31 March 2015.

The form was duly completed and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

9. To consider a budget to replace the Parish Council computer and take any necessary action.

The computer battery is no longer holding charge and as it is four and half years old it is not worth replacing the battery. A budget of £750.00 + VAT was approved. Mr Handshaw will be asked to recommend 3 machines with prices for Cllrs to make a final decision.

Action: the Clerk

10. To consider installing roof tie rods in the Village Lock-up and take any necessary action.

It was agreed that this would be a sensible action. The Clerk will ask Mr Moss if he can provide a specification for the materials required so that quotes can be obtained.

Action: the Clerk

11. To consider a quote for replacement lanterns for streetlights 16 Steeles Road and 24 Green Road and take any necessary action.

It was decided to look into the cost of replacement columns and resiting before taking this matter further. The Clerk will contact SCC for a quote. *Action: the Clerk*

12. To consider quotes for removing stumps and grassing area beside the Millennium Garden and take any necessary action.

Quotes received so far are not for the full job required. The Clerk will request further quotes. *Action: the Clerk*

13. To consider quotes for replacement fencing beside Ladyswell and take any necessary action.

Only one quote has been received to date. Further quotes will be requested from other sources. *Action: the Clerk*

14. To consider a request by Woolpit Twinning Association to close the road outside Woolpit Institute on afternoon of 11 July 2015 for the welcome event and to put up bunting in the Pump area and take any necessary action.

A subsequent email has been received that WTA no longer wishes the road to be closed as they have changed venues. It was agreed that bunting can be put up in the pump area. *Action: the Clerk*

15. To consider a request that the Parish Council covers the expenses of moving the small goal and safety netting from the recreation ground to the playing field and take any necessary action.

Cllrs agreed to consider the request if they have a plan of where the goal is to be situated on the playing field. Funds from the Youth Initiative reserve could be used for this purpose. The Clerk will contact the Playing Field committee for information as to where the goal will be sited. *Action: the Clerk*

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

Several plots are in an untidy condition with weeds about to seed. The Clerk will write to the tenants involved asking them to take immediate action to clear and cultivate. *Action: the Clerk*

17. To receive an update of the garden area included in the original redevelopment of Steeles Road.

Some work to the garden has taken place but the gates and benches are still awaited. MSDC will not take over responsibility for maintain the area until these issues are resolved.

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

The first residents are likely to move in during August.

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.

The quiz night has been rescheduled for 12 February 2016. Quotes have been received for the installation of a stairlift. The next meeting will be held on 21 July.

21. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 20 July 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.27 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....