

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
16 JANUARY 2017 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE.

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Melvin, Mr Hardiman, Mrs Parker, Mr Wheatley, Mr Lomax and 1 member of the public.

Public comment: Mrs Parker asked for letters to be sent to householders with hedging and trees overhanging the path in Green Road to cut them back as causing a hazard to pedestrians. *Action: the Clerk*

Mr Hardiman advised that there are still no hinges/latches to the gates in the garden at Steeles Road or benches. The Clerk was asked to contact MSDC & Flagship to try again to get this rectified. *Action: the Clerk*

Mr Melvin advised that the post box at The Green still has not been replaced after 2 years absence. Mrs Parker is to write to Jo Churchill MP. *Action: Mrs Parker*

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

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

3. **To approve minutes of the meetings 5 & 19 December 2016.**

Both sets of minutes were approved and signed.

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

4782/16 Erection of a three storey extension to existing office block, additional parking and landscaping. 23 Windmill Avenue – support with the following comments: Pedestrian access to the site from the village should be improved as part of this scheme so as to encourage walking and cycling to work. Pedestrian access into the application site could be made from Broomhill Lane so that walkers could join the existing public footpath that goes from Broomhill Lane through Wrights Way and Briar Hill to the village centre. A pavement should be provided alongside Bury Road from Windmill Avenue to Broomhill Lane and from Broomhill Lane to Wrights Way using the wide verge available on the SW side of Bury Road. Bus shelters should be provided on both sides of Bury Road at the stops near Windmill Avenue. The car park extension will be next to Broomhill Lane and at the same level as adjacent houses and those on the opposite side of Broomhill Lane. A car park lighting scheme should be agreed with MSDC to prevent light pollution and disturbance to neighbours. The Design and Access Statement gives the number of new parking spaces as 175 whereas the Application Form states 120.

5040/16 T1 & T2 conifer – both trees approx. stand 5m tall. Fell both trees to the ground to enable space for replanting. Jumbana, Masons Lane – support.

4465/16 Erection of two storey extension to side elevation (Following demolition of existing garage), 7 Briar Hill. MSDC decision – permission granted.

2060/16 Erection of replacement detached two storey dwelling and detached garage following demolition of existing two storey dwelling, utilising existing space. Guiting House, Wood Road. MSDC has agreed to the external facing and roof materials.

5. **Clerk's Report.**

PAT testing – had been arranged jointly with Tea Cups Tea Rooms and Woolpit Institute for December but the contractor did not show. This will be rearranged shortly.

Damp in fabric of the office – the office has been checked for damp areas in the internals wall, none found.

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

Letter from resident regarding road safety Green Road. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs:** SCC Avian flu information and update, Community Emergency Plans new December, Employers pensions newsletter December, Suffolk on Board newsletter December, temporary suspension of 7.5T weight restriction Green Road, The Street, Church Street and temporary closure of Heath

Road (Health Centre to school), Steeles Road (Abbotts Meadow to Heath Road) 13-17 February emergency resurfacing and associated work. **MSDC** changes to Parish Councillor Register of Interests, ministerial statement relating to Neighbourhood Plans, walk leader training. **County Cllr Storey** UK Power Networks Priority Service Register, Highways Matters December. **SALC** Police appeal following several burglaries across West Suffolk, LAIS1395 video conferencing, news 15 December, Buckingham Palace Garden Party nominations, Battles Over – A Nations Tribute and WW1 Beacons of Light 11 November 2018. SPS Heritage Planning for Town and Parish Councils. The Clerk & Chairman will attend. **Rural Services Network** Rural Opportunities bulletin, news digest 12, 19 December, 3, 9 & 16 January, Rural Economy spotlight, Rural Health conference 2017, Rural Vulnerability Service – fuel poverty & rural transport December. **Community Action Suffolk** news 14 December. **Public Sector Executive** news 8 December. **Hallwood Associates** arboricultural services. **Suffolk Police** PCC calls for your support to get fairer share for Suffolk. 27 copy responses to the reconsultation on Green Road development. 14 copy responses to the Glebe Land development.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

HM Revenue & Customs £325.26 tax & N/I October-December, Mr K Harknett £57.60 litter picking December, Laura Bayly £40.00 Millennium Garden maintenance December, Vertas £544.40 grass cutting sports field and playing field October-December, Woolpit Nurseries £150.00 village Christmas Tree, Elmswell Community Speedwatch £30.91 half share expenses for VAS sign security, Mrs P Fuller £321.68 expenses + salary for WNPSG October-December, Woolpit Institute £416.00 office rent February-April, Woolpit Institute £164.00 room hire for meetings including WNPSG, St Mary's PCC £54.00 hire for meetings, Suffolk County Council £232.02 pension payment. All accounts were approved and cheques issued.

8. To discuss and set the precept for 2017/18.

Cllrs were presented with actual costs for 2016/17 and current reserves. After discussion it was proposed, seconded and carried to set a precept of £28,000.00 for 2017/2018. Although this is the same as last year, due to the tax base this will be a small reduction to households. The form was duly signed and witnessed by the Clerk. Full details of the precept are shown under folios 649 & 650.

9. To consider quotes for tree work at the Millennium Garden and take any necessary action.

A third quote has still not been received. It was therefore agreed to use W Jarvis Tree Services at a cost of £135.00 but wait until the spring so as not to kill the cherry trees.

Action: the Clerk

10. To consider issues of fires in the car park opposite the church and take any action.

There is evidence of minor drug use and on several occasions small fires in the corners of the car park. The Police have been made aware. The Clerk will inform MSDC as managers of the car park.

Action: the Clerk

11. To receive a report from the Health & Safety for Parish Councils course and take any necessary action.

Further information has been received and therefore this item was carried forward to the next meeting.

12. To consider a request from MSDC for a list of appropriate street names for new developments and take any necessary action.

This will be revisited when each development has been approved in full.

13. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

As Mr Howard is not in attendance there was no report.

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

Tenancy renewals have been received and we now have 3 half plots available for rent. An item will be put in the next Diary.

15. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

The dead end of Old Stowmarket Road is always messy. It was agreed to send a letter to IWJS asking them to clear this area on occasions. *Action: the Clerk*

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

The meeting is tonight. The secretary has been provided with a list of PC meeting dates for 2017.

17. To receive a report from the Footpath/Tree Warden.

Carried forward to the next meeting due to illness.

18. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 20 February 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....