

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

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Wheatley, Mr Hardiman, Mrs Cook, Mrs Parker, Mr Lomax and 2 members of the public.

Public comment: Mr Hardiman advised that Costcutter litter picker finished on Friday and he has reminded Costcutter of their obligations for clearing litter from areas of the playing field. Bins on the fence are full and the Clerk was ask to contact MSDC to see if we replaced with larger ones they would be emptied. *Action: the Clerk*
Mr Wheatley advised that a lot of footpaths were overgrown, particularly Bury Road. The Clerk will contact SCC. *Action: the Clerk*

Mrs Parker advised that trees are causing visibility issues at the junction of Church Street and Elmswell Road. The Clerk will contact SCC. *Action: the Clerk*

District Cllr Storey advised that MSDC planning website has been updated and is up and running again. It has been agreed that pre-planning advice will no longer be free from 1st July. The charges and new arrangements are on the council website.

An additional meeting has been arranged for 8th August to discuss the warding patterns for Mid Suffolk in advance of the Boundary Committee deadline.

The new Vice Chairman of MSDC is a resident of Woolpit, John Levantis.

County Cllr Storey advised the Annual Meeting of SCC took place on 25th May. The results of the election were such that the Conservatives have 52 councillors, Labour have 11 and an alliance of Green, Lib Dems and Independents have formed another 'group' of 12. The Leader of the Council is once again Colin Noble and he has chosen Cllr Storey to be his Deputy. She is also the Cabinet member with responsibility for Broadband and Rural issues. The Constitution Working Party have looked at different ways for all councillors to be involved with the decision making process. Under the current 'Cabinet' model the Cabinet decide most things without needing to involve other councillors. The Constitution Working Party has been looking at a 'hybrid' system between the existing Cabinet model and going back to a committee system. They have agreement now to come back to the July council meeting with their proposals.

The Cabinet Meeting 13th June will include the outturn for the budget as at the end of the financial year 2016-17 (there will be explanations of over and under spending and a final position for reserves and virements) and a paper regarding the policy regarding staff volunteering and what they can expect in support if they do.

The Councillor Locality Budget has been an invaluable way to provide small sums to local organisations, and this will continue but with a reduced amount. Last year councillors had a budget of £10,000 per year but this year that figure has been reduced.

1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr Howard and Mr Melvin.

2. To receive declarations of interest.

Mr Guyler and Mr Hardiman declared a prejudicial interest in accounts for payment and signed the interest book.

3. To approve minutes of the meetings 20 March, 19 April and 15 May 2017.

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

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

DC/17/02275 Prior approval application under Part 3 Class Q (a) & (b) of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 – change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house. Barn at Grassy Lane Farm, Warren Lane – support.

1852/17 Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act Construction of roof over courtyard and conversion of space to form treatment room and administrative space. Erection of single storey extension to house WC facilities

(following demolition of existing generator building) without compliance with Condition 2 (Approved plans) to enable roof alteration for improvement of natural ventilation of the building. Woolpit Health Centre Heath Road - support **1155/17** Application for outline planning permission with access included for the erection of a detached dwelling and garage. Appearance, landscaping, layout and scale to be dealt with in a later Reserved Matters application. Green Farm, Green Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

4782/16 Erection of a three storey extension to existing office block, additional parking and landscaping. 23 Windmill Avenue. MSDC decision – permission granted. It is noted that the footpath access to Broomhill Lane and car park lighting schedule we requested are part of the conditions.

0095/17 Erection of two B1 units and extension to Unit 11 (D1 & B1) with associated car parking. Brickfield Business Park, Old Stowmarket Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

4996/16 Change of use of agricultural land and building to siting, storage, service, maintenance and repair of vehicles. Farm Buildings, Eastern End of Sharpes Row. MSDC decision – 3 year temporary permission granted.

It is understood that 4 district councils, including MSDC have together commissioned a report on housing required and this has advised that 1600 houses are needed over the 4 districts each year. This will be used within MSDC new local plan in due course.

5. Clerk's Report

Oak tree, Abbots Meadow – MSDC tree officer has inspected and the tree is not causing damage to property but will be monitored.

Village Lock Up sign – Mr Walker has made and installed new sign.

Concrete bollard, Bury Road – SCC is aware of the damage and repairs are in hand. Photos of the event have been passed to SCC so they can reclaim costs from the owners of the lorry which hit the bollard.

Steps footpath 7 – have now been repaired.

Costcutter litter picker – Current litter picker has left and we are assured that a new litter picker has been appointed.

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

We have been advised of urgent tree surgery in Rectory Lane that does not require planning permission. **Suffolk AGE UK** befriending letter, part will be published in the next Woolpit Diary. **Royal British Legion** Remembrance survey. The Clerk will respond that Remembrance Service is included in our normal service. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Suffolk View** spring 2017. **Community Action Suffolk** news 17, 31 May, 5, 14, 19 June, CAS awards 2017, networking events in Ipswich and Hadleigh June/July, do you know how to respond to an emergency first aid situation? **Rural Services Network** Rural spotlight on young people, news digest 22, 30 May, 5, 12, 19 June, invitation to Rural Conference 2017, Rural Vulnerability Service – rural broadband and fuel poverty May, rural opportunities bulletin, rural economy spotlight, rural residents views requested. **SALC** information bulletin 8, 22 May 5 June, LAIS1400 precept data 2017/18, changes to Data Protection Legislation, Mid Suffolk South area meeting 22 June, forthcoming courses. **MSDC** Phase 2 boundary review session 13 June + slides of briefing, Haughley Park position statement. **SCC** Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – U4942 Masons Lane closure 12-16 June to facilitate new gas connection. **Local Government Boundary Commission England** Electoral Review of Mid Suffolk Warding arrangements. **Anglian Water** can you help us find private pumping stations in your parish? **Merchant Navy Day** fly the red ensign 3 September.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £62.90 litter picking May, Viking £103.84 stationery and stamps, Mr M Hardiman £8.99 reimbursement for weed killer for footpath, Laura Bayly £60.00 Millennium Garden May, Mid Suffolk District Council £1020.00 dog & litter bin emptying 2017/18, Mr F J Guyler £21.00 reimbursement for wine as payment to E Walker new village lockup sign, Mrs S Eburne £25.00 internal audit of accounts 2016/17, Mr R Mawhood £648.00 reimbursement for online survey Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire, Suffolk County Council £240.66 pension payment, Kalkkwik £960.00 printing Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire and envelopes, Anglia Water Business Ltd £24.27 allotments water 14/2/17-7/6/17. Payments made by standing order Ms V Mayhew £111.06 May salary, Mrs P Fuller £776.78 May salary.

8. To complete and sign the Statement of Assurance and Annual Return for year ended 31 March 2017.

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

9. To receive recommendations from the Clerk regarding Health & Safety issues and take any necessary action.

The Clerk has listed recommendations and it was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would take these further and then bring back to full council for approval.

Action: Mr Guyler/the Clerk

10. To consider the arrangements for co-option of a councillor to fill the casual vacancy and take any necessary action.

3 applications have been received to date with the cut off being 30 June 2017. It was agreed a sub-committee of Mr Guyler, Mr Lomax and Mrs Cook would meet all applicants and then make recommendation to full council.

11. To discuss the recent damage to the youth shelter and take any necessary action.

2 seats and a back have been damaged by burning items and then melting into the plastic back and seat. Insurers and the police have been contacted. Mr Hardiman will arrange for Quality Equipment to quote for repairs.

Action: Mr Hardiman

12. To consider a request from the Playing Field Committee for a grant for emergency replacement of some of the children's play equipment and take any necessary action.

Some of the equipment is in a poor state and in need of urgent replacement. It was proposed, seconded and carried to make a grant of £2077.19 to carry out this work. The Playing Field Committee will be asked for a plan of what equipment they want for the future and how they are looking to fund it so WPC can work with them to achieve this.

Action: the Clerk

13. To consider the appointment of an editor for Woolpit Diary following the resignation of Mr Handshaw and take any necessary action.

An advert will be placed on the noticeboard, 'In Touch' magazine, next issue of Woolpit Diary and on the website.

Action: the Clerk

14. To consider the Community Energy Feasibility Report and take any necessary action.

The report has suggested a biomass boiler fuelled by straw pellets as a heat and power scheme for the Health Centre. This will be discussed at the next Neighbourhood Plan SG meeting and the reaction of the Health Centre will be sought.

15. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

A grant was applied for and received for the production of the questionnaire which is currently being distributed. There is also an online version. The questionnaires

will be collected between 9-15 July although forms will be accepted up to 1 September.

The Landscape Sensitivity Study is out for tender and 3 quotes have been received. The cost of this is approx. £5,000 and a grant will be applied for to cover this cost. WNPSG is to put together a group to draft policies for the Neighbourhood Plan.

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

Thistle heads on one plot need to be removed urgently. The fencing needs to be moved as plot 23 is no longer being rented out and maintenance of that area needs to be resolved. The Clerk has received a letter to advise that an allotment will be given up at renewal. *Action: Mrs Parker/the Clerk*

17. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

Mr Harknett will monitor the situation of litter on the playing field and clear pro-tem until Costcutter replace their litter picker.

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

The committee are disappointed that only 31 people have joined the 100 club. Several fundraising events are being planned. Objections to the one-way system have been sent to SCC. Three regular lets have been lost recently but one gained.

19. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 17 July 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....