

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE

**Present:** Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Hardiman, Mrs Ewans, Mr Aldis, Mr Howard, Dr Geake and 1 member of the public.

**County Councillor's report** - A new and improved recycling centre will open in Fornham Road, Bury St Edmunds at the end of November. A charity Reuse shop, which will take materials suitable for reuse from our recycling centres, will also be opening on site towards the end of the year. It was announced that Suffolk Highways will begin work on reconstructing the bridleway at Rougham Road in Bury St Edmunds, utilising recycled materials in the construction. On 15 October, Councillor Matthew Hicks, the Leader of Suffolk County Council, announced changes to the councillors in his Cabinet. The reshuffle creates closer links between key policy areas such as the environment and Sizewell C and brings new ideas into the Council's Cabinet. There will be a cross party review of the changes to Home to School transport. Suffolk Highways has announced its newly named gritting fleet; all names were chosen by way of a competition. The Suffolk Roadsafe board is working with 16 and 17-year-old students to encourage young people to stay safe on Suffolk's roads. The Suffolk Roadsafe board is a partnership between Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Suffolk Constabulary, Highways England, and the East of England Ambulance Service.

**District Councillors' report** - The Joint Strategic Plan (2016 – 20200) has been refreshed by the Cabinet members of both Councils. The new corporate plan includes both a vision and a mission statement and is summarised with a graphic representation. A cross party group of councillors from both Councils has now formed and agreed a programme of meetings to address the Climate Emergency and hopefully come up with some strategies for the Council to adopt in due course. Mid Suffolk are delivering two completely affordable housing developments on the middle school sites in both Needham Market and Stowmarket. Both of these developments will include homes for affordable rent, social rent and shared ownership. Over the last 4 years Mid Suffolk has just about kept pace with the loss of properties to the Right to Buy Scheme. Both Thurston and Haughley Neighbourhood Plans have now been adopted by Mid Suffolk and form part of the planning policy. The work of the West Suffolk Community Safety Partnership is to be discussed at Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> November. The WSCSP is a statutory body of organisations who work together to reduce crime and disorder. Members of the group include representative from the district councils, county council, police, fire and rescue service, clinical commissioning groups. The priorities of the group are Hate Crime, County Lines, Domestic Abuse and Homicide. District Cllr Mansel advised that the Hopkins Homes development in Bury Road goes before the Planning Committee in the next couple of months. A meeting is to be arranged to discuss the car park for the Health Centre within the Old Stowmarket Road development.

Cars are still parking on pavements; a further item will be published in Woolpit Diary.

**1. Apologies for absence**

These were received from Mr Wheatley, Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Moore.

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

**3. To approve minutes of the meetings 7 October 2019**

The minutes were approved and signed.

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

**19/04885** Application under Section 73 of the Town & Country Planning Act for removal or variation of a condition following grant of 4782/16 and subsequent appl 18/03820 to remove Conditions 2 (approved plans & drawings) and Condition 8 (surface water drainage), Energy House, Unit 23 Windmill Avenue. Object - The revised plan has removed from the scheme the pedestrian access from the site into Broomhill Lane. This footpath is an important feature which encourages local employees to walk to work and adds to the sustainability of the project.

**19/04828** Application under Section 73 of the Town & Country Planning Act for the variation of condition 1 ii of 0049/90 (previously varied under condition 3 ii (b) of 3373/13 for information) to allow an increase in aerotow launch operations from 1000hrs to 1800hrs 5 days a week from 1 May – 30 September, Rattlesden Gliding Club, High Town Green, Rattlesden – support.

**19/03438** Installation of guttering and rainwater pipes to eaves and the nave South clerestory. St Mary's Church, Rectory Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

**19/04267** Erection of garden shed/bicycle store. Spring Lodge, Church Street. MSDC decision – permission granted.

**19/04312** Replacement of existing flat roof to garage with pitched roof. Hawthorns, Warren Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

#### 5. Clerk's Report

**Mill Lane One-way** – Dr Geake has referred the matter of vehicles travelling in the wrong direction to MSDC PCSOs.

**Neighbourhood Plan** – has been submitted to MSDC. An acknowledgement has been received.

**New website** – Mrs Ewans, Dr Geake and the Clerk are working on this and a further meeting with Suffolk cloud has been arranged for 12 November.

**Allotment Committee** – it is not necessary to have a committee. Responsibility can be delegated to the Clerk under s.101 of LGA 1972.

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

Resident concerns regarding HGV's along Heath Road. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Rural Services Network** rural bulletin 8, 15, 22, 29 October. **SALC** AGM 26 November, ebulletin 11 & 31 October, Suffolk Electoral Review briefing pack for Town & Parish Councils, annual conference Shaping Suffolk 18 November, forthcoming courses. **SCC** Suffolk Pension Fund Triennial Results 2019. **MSDC** CIL Payment October 2019, free swims at Leisure Centres October half term, formal adoption of Haughley NP 24 October. **Mid Suffolk CAB** invitation to AGM 15 November. **NALC** CEO Bulletin 11 October. **Suffolk Preservation Society** Suffolk View Autumn 2019. **The Local Government Boundary Commission for England** have your say on council ward boundaries in Suffolk consultation closes 21 January 2020.

#### 7. To approve accounts for payment.

HM Revenue & Customs £311.39 Tax and N/I July-September was unanimously ratified. Mr K Harknett £55.79 litter picking October, Gadd Brothers Trees and Landscapes £780.00 tree work Ladys Well, Mid Suffolk District Council £187.20 additional payment for litter and dog bin emptying, Suffolk County Council £278.14 pension payment. All accounts were approved and cheques issued. Payments by Standing Order Mr R Balk £88.13 October salary, Mrs P Fuller £835.45 October salary.

#### 8. To receive a monthly financial report.

The balance of the Community Account at the end of September was £149,940.44.

**9. To consider items for the 2020/21 budget.**

Allotment fencing, LED lanterns for street lighting were items put forward for consideration. The latest CIL payment of £18,900.91 can be used for infrastructure.

**10. To consider the purchase of litter bins for Steeles Road garden area and take any necessary action.**

It was agreed to purchase one bin on a post costing up to £100.00. The Clerk will submit an application for a Locality Grant to our District Cllrs. *Action: the Clerk*

**11. To consider a quote for turf for the new play area and take any necessary action.** The contractors have advised that this is no longer required.

**12. To consider the new insurance policy through Business Services at CAS Ltd at a cost of £718.20 per annum and take any necessary action.**

The Clerk advised that the new play equipment can be added to the policy when necessary without an increase in premium due to the changes in all risks banding to the policy. It was agreed to accept the policy on a three year long term commitment for £718.20 per annum. *Action: the Clerk*

**13. To consider policies that Woolpit Parish Council should have in place and take any necessary action.**

A Safeguarding Policy is a condition of the grant from MSDC towards the play equipment. A draft policy will be circulated to Cllrs for a decision at the December meeting. Further policies will be investigated. *Action: the Clerk*

**14. To consider quotes for coppicing trees in the Millennium Garden and take any necessary action.**

It was agreed to accept the quote from Wayne Jarvis for £250.00 + VAT. *Action: the Clerk*

**15. To reconsider CCTV for the Millennium Garden following coppicing of trees and take any necessary action.**

It was agreed to install an additional camera + replace one original camera at a cost of £810.79 + VAT once the coppicing has taken place. A Locality grant application will be submitted to District Cllrs Mansel and Geake. *Action: the Clerk*

**16. To consider the condition of the telephone box by Rectory Lane and take any necessary action.**

The condition of the box is poor. We have received an offer from the Moss family to maintain the box. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Clerk will contact BT as the owners and ask them to put in good order and then the village will maintain it. It is noted that the box is Listed. *Action: the Clerk*

**17. To receive a report on the allotments, including considering quotes for rabbit proof fencing and take any necessary action.**

Tenancy renewal letters have been sent out and those from plots 17 onwards have been allocated plots within the original site. Two quotes have been received for rabbit proof fencing. After discussion it was agreed to go for half round rails as this would extend the life of the netting and provide stronger fencing. Mr Howard proposed using Ken Jenkins of Landmark Rabbit Control at a cost of £6952 + VAT. This was seconded by Mr Hardiman. 5 members voted in favour of the proposal with 1 abstention. It was agreed that an increase in tenancy rents needs to be considered.

*Action: the Clerk*

It was agreed that the day to day responsibilities of the allotments be delegated to the Clerk.

**18. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.**

There has been some broken glass in the car park recently which Mr Harknett will monitor.

**19. To receive a report from the Footpath and Tree Warden.**

Paths are clear to walk. Mr Baker and Landex have cleared their respective areas of the path from Steeles Road to the Grange. Vegetation along Old Stowmarket Road has been cleared. Peter Garnett MSDC Public Realm is looking into the hedges along Mill Lane and by the Plough. MSDC have delegated a contractor to repair the flint wall by Meadowlands. Jamie Wiley has serviced/repared one strimmer and is happy to have the second strimmer in lieu of labour costs. This was agreed by Cllrs.

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

The next meeting is in December.

**21. Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – Monday 2 December 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.**

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....