

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

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mrs Moore, Mr Wheatley, Mrs Ewans, Dr Geake, Mrs Jenkins, Mr Hardiman and 15 members of the public.

Public comment: several residents voiced their concerns regarding the pinch point in Green Road and matters they would like raised with representatives of MSDC Planning Department at a public meeting on 17 July. Concerns were expressed regarding housing numbers for Woolpit included in the Draft Joint Local Plan and now was the time to fight this expansion before the draft is approved.

Mr Hardiman advised that there has been further vandalism and damage to the named bricks in the Millennium Garden and this will be discussed at the Playing Field Committee meeting on Tuesday.

Cars are parking half on and off the pavements. WPC was asked to put something in the next Dairy also about residents cutting hedges that are overhanging footways. Dr Geake was asked to find out if the PCSOs employed by MSDC could follow up on the vehicles on pavements. *Action: Dr Geake/the Clerk*

Several Highways matters were raised and the Clerk was asked to report the following to SCC: condition of the grass triangle in Masons Lane/Rectory Lane; the hole in Rectory Lane caused by BT manhole cover which has been outstanding for some time; drain blocked in Bury Road; vegetation overhanging Bury Road footway.

Action: the Clerk

Streetlight not working near Wrights Way. This is a G39 lamp and Mr Guyler advised that WPC has agreed a quote for the replacement of several G39 lamps for easier maintenance. The Clerk was asked to contact Richard Webster SCC to find out when the work is likely to be carried out. *Action: the Clerk*

District Cllrs Geake and Mansel have advised that the Draft Joint Local Plan has been published and will go out for a 10 week public consultation from 22 July. Each member has been allocated a Locality Budget of £7,350 and applications need to be received by 31 January 2020. In order to optimise bin collection routes there will be some changes to bin collection days from July. As part of the Government's housing reform a Housing Delivery Test has been introduced to monitor housing within local areas. The Council has to publish a Housing Delivery Test Action Plan because it was only meeting 81% of the target figure. Some of the recommended actions include better engagements with developers of stalled sites. Some of the conditions attached to the planning application for 49 dwelling on Green Road were discharged. Unfortunately, MSDC planning officers agreed to discharge the condition relating to the highway works at the pinchpoint in Green Road before allowing the parish council to comment. They have admitted their mistake and are trying to arrange to meet with the parish council to discuss. Cllr Mansel attended a community housing briefing last week about Community Led Housing and Assets of Community Value. Hastoe housing are keen to work with Community Land Trusts to develop community housing, which is not part of the Right to Buy scheme so is a good way to provide affordable housing for local people for perpetuity. The planning application DC19/02688 for 5 dwellings in Rags Lane has been called into committee, but the date is not yet known.

County Cllr Storey's report advised that SCC has met with representatives from Suffolk's bus operators to see whether they can run a number of bus services without public subsidy. This follows a reduction in the amount of public money available. Of the 211 bus routes currently operating throughout Suffolk, 61 are subsidised by public money. 23 of these will have their public funding removed. This does not mean that these services will necessarily end; just that public funding is no longer affordable. A trial scheme to tackle potholes swiftly has been so successful it

is being rolled out across Suffolk. The Suffolk Highways scheme, which started in Ipswich in October 2018, changes how potholes are categorised. The new system allows engineers to repair potholes close to each other during the same visit, tackling smaller potholes before they can expand. Previously, they fixed larger holes first and smaller ones at a later date. Suffolk's firefighters are now kitted out in new state-of-the-art uniforms, making them safer than ever before. Suffolk County Council is responsible for more than 800 children in care in Suffolk. The Suffolk Fostering & Adoption service is part of Suffolk County Council, and their goal is to secure families for Suffolk children, either on a short-term or permanent basis. The service has been rated Outstanding by Ofsted.

Mr Guyler welcomed Mrs Lynda Moore to her first meeting following co-option last month.

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

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

3. **To approve minutes of the meetings 17 June 2019.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

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

19/02883 Erection of one and a half storey extension to include loft conversion, erection of garage extension following demolition of detached garage and erection of rear conservatory. Longfield, The Green – support.

19/02970 Erection of single storey extension to existing garage to house swimming pool. Carvalho House, Borley Green – object due to proximity to trees protected by TPO and the need for an up to date tree survey/arboricultural impact study.

19/03121 Erection of 1 dwelling and garage. Land to East of Titchfield, Green Road – Object. Does not resolve issues from the refused application and the effect on the listed building, not appropriate to the scale and character of existing housing stock and sparse nature of common-edged settlement of Woolpit Green will be compromised.

19/03120 Application under Section 73 of the Town & Country Planning Act Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) of planning permission 18/05357 Change of use and extension to redundant storage and holiday accommodation to 3 open market houses. The Swan Inn, The Street and

19/03198 Listed Building Appl Internal and external works to facilitate extension and residential conversion of curtilage of Listed Buildings. The Swan, The Street - Leave to Planning Officer for a decision.

19/03197 Erection of two storey and single storey rear extensions following demolition of single storey rear element. 9 Heath Road – support.

19/02372 Erection of two storey rear extension. 9 Heath Road. MSDC decision – permission refused. Excessive size, bulk and position to attached dwelling would result in unacceptable visual over-dominance, out of character to host, neighbour and wider locality due to size.

19/02110 Erection of double garage. Conversion of existing garage to additional living accommodation. New access; Erection of rear conservatory (following demolition of existing conservatory). (Resubmission of DC/19/00035). 21 Briar Hill. MSDC decision – permission granted.

19/02127 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/19/00681 (LBC) - Condition 3 (External Cladding) Condition 4 (Fenestration), Condition 5 (Insulation Details), Condition 6 (Details of Staircase), Condition 7 (Details of Eaves and Verges), Condition 8 (Internal Works to Listed Building) and Condition 9 (Rainwater Goods). Swan Inn. MSDC decision – Conditions 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 satisfied 4, and 7 refused.

19/01548 Erection of one dwelling. Land north of Warren Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

19/01248 Outline Planning Application (access to be considered) - Erection of 1 no. dwelling and associated annexe and outbuildings (following demolition of existing building/retention of workshop approved under 4996/16) utilising existing vehicular access. Land To The East Of Sharpes Row. MSDC decision – permission granted.

19/02081 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/18/05357 - Condition 3 (Archaeological Evaluation), Condition 4 (Archaeological Written Investigation), Condition 6 (Refuse Bins and Collection Areas) and Condition 8 (Landscaping Scheme). Swan Inn The Street. MSDC decision – satisfied.

19/00303 Conversion of outbuilding to one dwelling. Grassy Lane Farm, Warren Lane. MSDC decision – permission granted.

18/04820 Erection of one dwelling, annexe and garaging with access off Green Road. Land East of Titchfield, Green Road has gone to appeal.

5. Clerk's Report

Steeles Road green area – damage to the fence has been reported to MSDC

Old Stowmarket Road – SCC has advised that the broken pole for 30mph sign will be rectified within approx. 20 working days

New play equipment – grant applications have been sent to MSDC.

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

Norton Salvation Army requesting permission to hold an Open Air meeting Steeles Road green area. WPC has no issue with this but they may need to contact MSDC as the landowner. **Community Action Suffolk** has advised changes to our insurance policy from renewal in October. **SCC** has advised they will no longer print bus timetables and asked opinion for the future of 3 options. Cllrs choice option to print ourselves provided we are informed of changes. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Rural Services Network** Rural Bulletin 18, 25, June, 2, 7 July, Rural Funding Digest July. **MSDC** spotlight on rural housing event 3 July, publication of draft Joint Local Plan and consultation with Neighbourhood Plan groups, bin day changes from 15 July, highways mitigation scheme Green Road. **SCC** Ipswich Northern Route consultation, Rest Centre training, parish bus timetable information, copy response to appl 19/02656 land South of Old Stowmarket Road re developer contribution for education provision. **SALC** new course-introduction to project management, post-election co-option clarification, Suffolk Community Awards, ebuletin 28 June, SCC launches consultation on Suffolk's Green Access Strategy, forthcoming courses. **NALC** Chief Executive bulletin 21 June, annual conference earlybird booking offer. **Police Connect** counterfeit £50 notes. **Graham A14 J43-51** works from 15 July. **Tinkers Green Campaign Group** local green space policy in JLP. 2 residents letters to Jo Churchill MP on Green Road pinch point app 19/00647, 3 copy response to MSDC Rags Lane appl 19/02688, 2 copy response to MSDC Old Stowmarket Road Phase 2.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £55.79 litter picking June, Laura Bayly £44.00 Millennium Garden June, Woolpit Institute £416.00 office rent August-October, Equity pc £46.80 work on old Cannon printer, Mr M Hardiman £60.00 reimbursement for addition ground anchors Ian Lomax memorial benches, HM Revenue & Customs £340.14 Tax and N/I April-June, Mrs P Fuller expenses and NP work April-June, Woolpit Institute £264.00 room hire Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan meetings January –June, Suffolk County Council pension payment £278.14. Payments by Standing Order Val Mayhew £175.33 June salary, Mrs P Fuller £835.45 June salary. All accounts were approved and cheques issued.

8. To receive a monthly financial report.

The Community Account balance at the end of June was £139,847.81 including £10,000.00 Awards for All grant towards the new play equipment.

Mrs Ewans advised she is currently working on a spreadsheet to show spending against budget with new headings of office, environment, public space which will give a clearer view of expenditure.

9. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

The NP is still in the pre-consultation stage. The draft Joint Local Plan indicates a large difference of housing numbers to the NP. The NPSG has debated this and have decided to carry on as they are as the NP could be completed before the JLP is approved. The NPSG are looking to finish amending the NP from the responses received at the consultation by the end of July.

10. To consider Babergh/Mid Suffolk Draft Joint Local Plan and take any necessary action.

This shows housing numbers required over the next 18 years with Woolpit being allocated 727. This is much more than expected. We await a request from MSDC for consultation on the JLP and WPC will then call a public meeting. The consultation is likely to commence 22 July for 10 weeks. Cllrs need to consider whether we contact other parishes in along A14 corridor to see if there is any consensus in sending a joint response.

11. To discuss the highways mitigation scheme for Green Road and take any necessary action.

Mr Guyler read the email from John Pateman-Gee MSDC Area Planning Manager advising of their mistake in approving the discharge of Condition 12 of application 2112/16 without consultation with WPC. Although MSDC is within legal rights to do this they had promised to consult with WPC. A public meeting is being held on 17 July with Mr Pateman-Gee to discuss this but it was agreed to send a letter to MSDC CEO after that meeting.

Action: Mr Guyler/the Clerk

12. To agree to the new Street Sweeper and take any necessary action.

Mr Richard Balk has applied to take on the post. It was unanimously agreed to approve his appointment. Mr Guyler and the Clerk will have a meeting with Mr Balk to answer any questions and issue contract.

Action: Mr Guyler/the Clerk

13. To consider what action is required for Woolpit PC website to be compliant with international accessibility standard WCAG 2.0 by 23 September 2020.

Mrs Ewans suggested we have a new Woolpit Parish Council website which can be linked to the Woolpit.org website. This would allow the Clerk to update rather than have to send information to a third party. This would also allow for the accessibility standard to be complied with. JE will produce a document of the changes and how this can be achieved.

Action: Mrs Ewans

14. To consider an event to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the end of WWII in Europe and take any necessary action.

Cllrs were asked to bring ideas for an event to the September meeting.

Action: all Cllrs

15. To discuss the Suffolk County Council Self Help Scheme and take any necessary action.

This was deferred until the October meeting.

16. To consider quote for repairs/replacement of the recycling area fence and take any necessary action.

A quote for materials of £217.69 plus fixings was approved. Mr Hardiman and Mr Wheatley agreed to carry out the work.

Action: Mr Hardiman/Mr

Wheatley.

17. To consider an application for Suffolk Community Awards and take any necessary action.

This has replaced the Village of the Year competition. Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Moore will complete an entry form for Woolpit and submit if they can make the deadline of 21 July.

Action: Mrs Moore/Mrs Jenkins

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

Two will be required, one by each seat. Types of bin and costs will be investigated for the September meeting.

Action: the Clerk

19. To consider the purchase of a replacement dog litter bin in Steeles Road and take any necessary action.

It was agreed to purchase a Retriever 35 replacement from Glasdon at a cost of £194.94 + VAT. The Clerk was asked to contact the District Cllr for funding from Locality Budget.

Action: the Clerk

20. To consider the future of the Woolpit Recreation Ground Charity RCN304959 and take any necessary action.

This charity is administered by WPC and its only asset of £200 was invested in the 1960s and is now worth in the region of £3000. The investment yields £100 per annum in dividends and Charity Commission forms need to be completed each year. Mrs Ewans suggested that WPC requests permission from the Charity Commission to close and transfer funds to the other Woolpit Recreational Field Charity or cash in and use the funds for the new play equipment. Mrs Ewans will produce a note on this for circulation so a decision can be made at the September meeting.

Action: Mrs Ewans

21. To discuss repair/replacement of strimmer and take any necessary action.

We have a brushcutter and a strimmer. It was unanimously agreed to get both serviced.

Action: Mr Hardiman

22. To receive a report on the allotments, including quote for rabbit proof fencing and consider take any necessary action.

Letters will be sent out to two tenants asking them to strim nettles on part of their plots following complaints from neighbouring plot holders.

It was agreed to write to the remaining tenants of plots 17-22 to say that this area will no longer be available from renewal in November and they will be allocated plots within the area 1-16 and run concurrently with current plots until all produce has been harvested. The Clerk was asked to write to the farmer of the neighbouring area to see if he will take back the area to the right of the pathway to farm.

Action: the Clerk

23. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

Mr Harknett has been unwell but has resumed his duties.

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

There is a meeting 16 July.

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

The meeting closed at 9.36 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....