

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11th
January 2024 AT 7.30PM IN WISSETT VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Frank Burton, Paul Parry, Matthew Wetmore, Edward Flaxman, Beryl
Matthews, Geoffrey Kiddy, Camilla Prior

APOLOGIES: Cllr Geoffrey Wakeling, Cllr Beth Keys-Holloway

NOT PRESENT: Cllr Annette Dunning

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Simpson (Parish Clerk), 1 Member of the public.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 16th November 2023:

Minutes of the meeting agreed and were signed as true copies.

REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS.

None received

REPORTS:

- a) VAS (Vehicle Activated Speed) in use this month.
- b) Grays Lane proposed solar farm - DC/22/3313/FUL. The Suffolk Preservation Society has endorsed the Parish Councils objections on the grounds of Heritage and Landscape. Their detailed objection letter has been published on the Planning Portal. FB reported that PACE seem to have been quiet recently, but expects something from them soon. No date yet set for the Planning Committee meeting.
- c) The Beck – The further collapse was reported on 21/12/22 on ref. No. 00381699. The Environment Agency continues to ignore all communication from the Chair who has now requested details of more senior managers in order to register a complaint. Peter Aldous is aware of the situation. PC intention is to try and seek expert opinion on the state of The Beck in order to try and apply some pressure on the EA. Suggestions of dredging The Beck were discounted for now, as was the idea of making a stock of sandbags. Both to be reviewed after expert opinion gained.
- d) Coronation Mugs. There is still a limited quantity available for sale.
- e) Neighbourhood Plan. Initial responses from Parishioners have been encouraging with a further 3 people expressing interest. An informal meeting is still to be arranged to discuss in more detail with a view to a subsequent Public Meeting.
- f) Local Biodiversity Plan. EF has arranged a public meeting on Saturday 27th January.
- g) Playing Field – Grass cutting. Edward Kiddy has provided the most competitive price and it was agreed he would do an initial cut to properly assess time needed to do the cutting and to fix a firm ongoing price.
- h) Playing Field goal posts. The damaged post has been removed by Julian Harris. The Wissett Community Council have kindly decided to donate the cost of 2 new goal posts, which will be purchased and installed as soon as possible.

BK-H sent in a report, which was emailed to Parish Councillors.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS:

DC/23/2399/LBC Halcyon Barn Mill Road Listed Building Consent - Convert Outbuilding to Holiday Cottage

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DC/23/2398/FUL Halcyon Barn Mill Road Wissett Convert Outbuilding to Holiday Cottage
The Parish Council continue to object to these applications, despite them having been revised and submitted for further comment. It is still felt it is over-development in the curtilage of the listed building and there is still insufficient detail and lacks some clarity as to the proposal. The PC will follow any decision made by the Design and Conservation Officer.

RESOLUTIONS

It was resolved, in the absence of any further contact from ESC regarding renewing the lease of the land by the old school, to re-offer the rental for a further year from April to the existing tenant. This may have to be reviewed if ESC does make any changes before April. It has also been suggested the land may be considered for inclusion in the Wissett Biodiversity Plan in the future.

It was resolved to renew the electricity supply to the car park kiosk with e-on for a further year,

It was resolved to apply for a possible grant from "Plug in Suffolk" for an EV charging point in the car park.

FINANCE:

The Village Asset Register was reviewed.

The budget for the year 2023-2024 was reviewed.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

Mr Frank Burton	Xmas tree lights	£35.98
SES Business Water	Water charge November	£2.88
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Mr W Simpson	Agreed mileage expenses	£20.88

All were approved for payments to be made.

INCOME RECEIVED:

Camilla Prior	For 2 x Coronation mugs sold	£12.00
Oscar Mayhew	2 nd payment of rent for land near Rumburgh	£100.00
Barclays	Interest on deposit account	£38.67

Account balances at 8th January from internet – Current £1,062.69 - Deposit £11,142.98

CORRESPONDENCE/CIRCULARS:

General circulars previously emailed, and letters received shown, with no action required.

Barclays Bank have still not actioned the new account required as a result of a change in rules. Our account had been listed under "clubs and associations" but legislation now requires it to be as a "Parish Council" under "Local Authorities". Clerk completed and returned forms 15th September and has chased by 'phone several times.

A Parishioner wrote and also attended the meeting to express concerns over possible increase in Sizewell workers traffic coming through Wissett. Further added that individuals have no voice in objecting to the Sizewell project, and that only organisations, including Parish Councils, will be heard. The PC will examine current VAS data against historic

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information to see if any major difference is identifiable. The PC further assured the Parishioner that they would continue to monitor the situation in relation to any possible effects to Wissett.

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL:

Wissett Village Hall will not be available for the March and May meetings. Rumburgh Village Hall has been booked as alternative venue.

A Parishioner had asked how often the Defibrillator installed outside the Plough is checked. The responsible PC does a full check once a month and the Clerk updates "The Circuit" website as and when requested. Another PC does a visual inspection a couple of times a week to ensure the red power supply lights are lit. To investigate the possibility of making sure the equipment has an external light illuminating it.

Bill Simpson has told the PC of his intention to step down from the role of Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer. 2024 is his 10th year in the role. He will continue for the rest of this year, or until a replacement is in place. Any Parishioners interested in the role should contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 21st March 2024 at RUMBURGH VILLAGE HALL
Meeting closed at 9.15pm