

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th March 2024 AT 7.30PM IN WISSETT VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Frank Burton, Paul Parry, Edward Flaxman, Beryl Matthews, Geoffrey Kiddy, APOLOGIES: Cllr Beth Keys-Holloway, Camilla Prior, Matthew Wetmore

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Annette Dunning, Cllr Geoffrey Wakeling, Bill Simpson (Parish Clerk), 0 Members of the public.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 11th January 2024:

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. On 21/2 Highways lifted their holding objection, with conditions, as had no reasons to maintain. FB written again asking for the Planning Committee meeting timetable.
- c) The Beck – The further collapse was reported on 21/12/22 on ref. No. 00381699. The Environment Agency has now responded stating they will not take any action and forwarded to AD and GW. PC has received informal expert opinion on the state of The Beck with the opinion that it might be worth considering reinstating an old pond which previously may have helped hold excessive water. May be able to apply for some monies to assist from the Locality Budgets of the county and district councillors.
- d) Coronation Mugs. There is still a limited quantity available for sale.
- e) Neighbourhood Plan. An informal meeting took place with 8 parishioners who expressed an interest. A Public Meeting is now planned for 9th April.
- f) Local Biodiversity Plan. EF arranged a workshop where volunteers were instructed to lay hedges, with the one by the car park now started. EF is setting up a website for information and recording Wissett biodiversity.
- g) Playing Field – Grass cutting. Edward Kiddy will do an initial cut, at his discretion subject to weather, to assess time needed to do the cutting and to fix a firm price.
- h) Playing Field goal posts. The new posts have been bought with a generous donation from The Wissett Community Council and have now been installed. Special thanks to Michael Newbon for his time and hard work in putting them both up.

BK-H and AD sent in their reports, which were emailed to Parish Councillors and discussed.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS:

DC/24/0292/FUL Willow Grange, Grays Lane, "Change of use from land within curtilage of residential dwelling to private camping use with charitable community group.

No objections raised

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RESOLUTIONS

It was resolved to accept the quotation from East Suffolk Services to continue grass contract

It was resolved to honour the Wissett Community Council request that the £109.00 overpayment of donation for the new goal posts be held by the Parish Council for future use

FINANCE:

The Village Asset Register was reviewed.

The budget for the year 2023-2024 was reviewed.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

Hettys Little Copy Shop ltd	Printing for Biodiversity plan	£45.75
East Suffolk Council	Allotment rent 24/25	£30.00
SES Business Water	Water charge January	£2.88
EON Next	Elec 1/11 to 31/1/2024	£57.75
Mr W Simpson	Agreed mileage expenses	£20.88
MH Goals Ltd	Goalposts for field £	1,347.60
SES Business Water	Water charge February	£2.88

All were approved for payments to be made.

INCOME RECEIVED:

Wissett Community Council	Donation for new goalposts	£1,232.00
Barclays	Interest on deposit account	£41.67

Account balances at 9th March from internet – Current £737.85 - Deposit £11,184.65

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. Will wait now.

A Parishioner wrote and asked about possible Defibrillator and CPR training. As this is potentially costly, Clerk to email Parishioners asking for interest to be made to establish if enough people to make viable. Certain aspects of training are available online.

An open letter from various bodies to Secretaries of State regarding the Uyghurs forced labour in production of solar panels and lithium batteries was discussed and forwarded to AD and GW.

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL:

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

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The Defibrillator installed outside the Plough was accessed twice in February. In both cases, it was not needed and returned. PP to take over from BM the regular checks.

The “Plug in Suffolk” grant for EV charging point was applied for, but we do not have a suitable power supply in the car park and therefore unsuccessful.

The E-On electricity supply contract has been renewed for 24/25

Allotments invoice received as normal, no new lease, so continues the same.

GK raised the “Quiet Lanes” scheme. This has been previously considered but felt there was no real benefit to the village. GK will look further and report back next meeting.

No one has yet come forward to replace Bill Simpson in the role of Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer. 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. Should no one come forward, the position will be advertised wider afield.

The Annual meeting of the Parish due in May is planned to take place immediately prior to the next Parish Council meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 16th May 2024 at RUMBURGH VILLAGE HALL
Meeting closed at 9.25pm