

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16th
November 2023 AT 7.30PM IN WISSETT VILLAGE HALL

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

APOLOGIES: Camilla Prior, Cllr Annette Dunning, Cllr Geoffrey Wakeling

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Beth Keys-Holloway Bill Simpson (Parish Clerk), 2 Members of the
public.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 21st September 2023:

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

REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS.

None received

REPORTS:

- a) VAS (Vehicle Activated Speed) nothing to report
- b) Grays Lane proposed solar farm - DC/22/3313/FUL. FB has met with Highways regarding the vehicle passing places which had resulted in a second holding objection being raised. Further objections from the PC regarding this have been posted on the public planning portal.
- c) Cost of living crisis scheme. No requests for support have been received.
- d) The Beck – The further collapse was reported on 21/12/22 on ref. No. 00381699. There is still no response from either Highways or the Environmental Agency. FB is still chasing the EA. B K-H made aware and will try for a response.
- e) Local Community Partnership. BM reported that at the October meeting they identified the main concerns to be addressed. At a more local level, social isolation and wellbeing was considered the main concern. Green tourism is also a possibility with the area around The Saints being identified as a walking / cycling destination which will be approached from Halesworth via Wissett.
- f) Coronation Mugs. There is still a limited quantity available.
- g) Neighbourhood Plan. Initial responses from Parishioners have been encouraging. An informal meeting will be arranged with those interested in joining the committee to discuss in more detail with a view to a subsequent Public Meeting.
- h) Local Biodiversity Plan. EF has spoken to several people wishing to become involved. He has started a management plan by mapping the village and, once complete, will produce a report. Possible Public meeting in early 2024 to show and discuss the proposals. Volunteers will be required to carry out the plan.
- i) Playing Field – Grass cutting. East Suffolk Services have provided a quote. GK will try to obtain alternative quotes. Ian Harris, who sadly died recently, had cut the grass for many years. The Parish Council sent their deepest condolences to Ian's family.
- j) Playing Field goal posts. These are in a poor condition and the decision was made to have them removed for safety reasons. Quotes for replacements will be sought for future consideration.

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- k) A possible planning breach had been alleged to one of the Parish Councillors. It was decided that, without any evidence, the PC could take no action and felt that the complainant could make a direct report of their concerns to Planning.

BK-H & GW sent in their report, which was emailed to Parish Councillors.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS:

None for consideration at this meeting

RESOLUTIONS

It was resolved to support the proposed WW1 memorial trail. The originator presented their work thus far, including the support of Halesworth Museum. More work is to be completed, after which the originator will provide more information to the PC with a view to a public meeting to present to the Parishioners. Cllr. B K-H suggested some funds might be available from the locality budget.

It was resolved that work on the hedges around the field and car park would be done as part of the Local Biodiversity plan.

It was resolved to defer a decision on the future of the "allotment" land pending ESC's recent email regarding renewing the lease.

It was resolved to thank Colin Flaxman for the work carried out to the ditches at the bottom on Lodge Lane. This had been reported to SCC on 30/10/23, ref 00428001 and had replied they had inspected but would do nothing.

It was resolved to set the precept for 2024/2025 at £4,327.59, which is slightly less than previous year, and should result in a 0% change to Parishioners.

FINANCE:

The Village Asset Register was reviewed.

The budget for the year 2023-2024 was reviewed.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

SES Business Water	Water charge September	£2.88
Mr Matthew Wetmore	Local Plan print etc. costs	£151.42
IRD & PM Harris	Cutting field grass	£336.00
SES Business Water	Water charge October	£2.88
EON Next	1/8 to 31/10 Electricity	£54.76
Mr W Simpson	Agreed mileage expenses	£20.88
Mr W Simpson	Salary 6 months	£790.80
Community Action Suffolk	One Suffolk hosting	£60.00
East Suffolk Services	Grass cutting 2023	£396.00

All were approved for payments to be made.

INCOME RECEIVED: None since last meeting

Account balances at 10th November – Current £2,214.13 - Deposit £11,104.31

CORRESPONDENCE/CIRCULARS:

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

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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.

Community Action Suffolk (CAS) recently suggested we change to more secure email, using a .gov domain or similar. This is costly and therefore we do not plan to change at this time. There is no real confidential or sensitive information exchanged by the Parish Council.

It is proposed to light up the village Christmas Tree on Friday 1st December at 7:00 pm. Mince pies and mulled wine to be available.

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL:

Flooding was reported to the Environment Agency’s Hotline on 20/10/23. Spoke to Alex who passed information onto the Duty Officer. Also reported on the SCC reporting website reference 00425472.

Flooding at bottom of Lodge Lane reported on the SCC site on 30/10/23 reference 00428001.

The Annual Christmas Carol Service will be held on 17th December at 6:30pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 11th January 2024

Meeting closed at 9.50pm