

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20th
May 2021 AT 7.30PM IN WISSETT VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Hannah Pretty, Geoffrey Kiddy, Frank Burton, Beryl Matthews, Paul Parry,
Camilla Prior, Matthew Wetmore,

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Tony Goldson

NOT PRESENT:

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

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

The outgoing Chair, Hannah Pretty, read out the report for the past year 20/21, copy attached. There were no questions arising.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

Frank Burton was elected Chair and Mathew Wetmore was elected as Vice Chair. Both members duly signed the acceptance of office. Thanks were made to Hannah Pretty for her time as Chair.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Camilla Prior declared an interest in the planning application for Hill House and took no part in the discussions in this matter.

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 18th March 2021:

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

REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS.

None received

REPORTS:

- a) VAS will be in use during June. Agreed new padlocks could be purchased.
- b) Village Hall Repairs are almost complete and the Parish Council commended the Trustees and the Committee for the high standard of works done. They are considering improvements to lighting. The insurance is due in June.
- c) The road that floods outside Valley Vineyards. TG previously advised that works are expected within the 21/22 budget year. Recent rain produced flooding still. Clerk asked to chase SCC for progress.
- d) Trees on the village field. Some Parish Councillors and family have planted some new whips and strimmed and raked the hedge areas. Review in September.
- e) Community Partnership and Wissett Buddy Scheme. No further requests made, review in September.
- f) Reports of a possible unauthorised fibreglass factory/workshop are still with planning to investigate. Clerk asked to progress. AC asked for details to be sent.
- g) The Beck supports collapsing. Already reported several times by the Clerk on the reporting website. Pictures of further deterioration sent to Highways recently. Clerk to continue to progress. AC asked for details to be sent.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS:

- a. DC/21/1502/FUL Hill House The Street Wissett Rebuilding of outbuilding for use as additional accommodation. No objections
- b. DC/21/1503/LBC Hill House The Street Wissett Listed Building Consent - Rebuilding of outbuilding for use as additional accommodation associated with Hill House. No objections.
- c. DC/20/4968/OUT Camelot, Mill Road 4 No. dwellings with new access following demolition of the existing dwelling Refused by ESC
- d. DC/21/0813/VOC Valley Farm Vineyards Variation of Condition No.2 on application DC/18/0211/FUL Approved by ESC
- e. DC/21/0911/LBC Millcroft Mill Road Wissett LBC - Replacement of existing first floor Crittall Windows Approved by ESC

FINANCE:

It was resolved to approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2020/2021 and was duly signed by the Chair and Clerk.

The Village Asset Register was reviewed.

The budget for the year 2021-2022 was reviewed.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

EON	Field electric	£33.39
SES Business Water	Water charges March	£5.45
Suffolk Assn of Local Councils	Subscription	£143.90
Mr W Simpson	6 months' salary	£602.40
Wissett Web	Grant	£100.00
Wissett Parochial Church Council	Churchyard Grant	£980.00
SES Business Water	Water charges April	£5.50

All were approved for payments to be made.

INCOME RECEIVED:

HMRC	VAT refund 20/21	£903.66
ESC	Precept 21/22 in full for year	£4,162.00

Account balances at 10th May – Current £5,983.18 - Deposit £10,966.48

CORRESPONDENCE/CIRCULARS:

General circulars shown with no action required.

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL:

2 Parishioners had brought up the cutting of the verge by the Village Hall. As this is adjacent to the road and used as a refuge by walkers from passing traffic, and there is a steep slope into The Beck, it was decided to continue with the cutting of this small area for safety reasons. It was also noted that the Churchyard is now being cut less often in order to encourage insects etc. Many of the local fields also have wide borders left uncut for insects. Clerk to obtain some "Bee" signs.

The question of Sizewell was also brought up by one Parishioner. The Parish Council restated that they are in support of the actions of SCC. It is the understanding of the Parish Council that all lorries supplying the site will be subject to strict rules regarding which roads can be used and that they will be fitted with trackers to ensure they comply. This was confirmed by AC. AC also advised that there would be a new port/dock built at Sizewell to

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bring goods in via sea. There is little that can be done about private vehicles driving through Wissett.

A further question from one Parishioner was regarding farm vehicles driving on The Street. As The Street is the only road through the village, and Wissett is surrounded by farmland, it was decided that, as there is no alternative, that no action can be taken to effect this.

BM has spoken to the Emergency Planning Officer for Suffolk and has asked that this is put as an agenda item for July. BM will draft an outline for the Parish Councillors to consider.

MW mentioned that the mobile library is calling again, but appears to have no customers. Clerk asked to advise Parishioners that it is available again.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING –Thursday 15th July 2021 at 7:30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

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Annual Parish Meeting 20th May 2021

Chairman's Report 2020/2021

Finance:

I can report that the Council's finances remain good with a yearend closing balance of £961.81 in the current account and £10,966.78 in the saver account.

The Council's expenditure was £11,320.82 with income of £10,528.78. The deficit of £792.04 was mainly due to the maintained increased grant for the upkeep of the Churchyard, contributions to the Village Hall refurbishment and the new village sign. The increase in income was due to VAT reclaim for 2019/2020 of £2,655.90, donations for the new commemorative bench from a Parishioner of £1,033.00, and from ESC totalling £2,100.00 towards the bench installation and the village hall refurbishment.

This is in line with the budget plans.

The precept for 2021/2022 increases 4.17% from £3,978.00 to £4,144.00.

Developments over the year:

We continue to use the community benefit monies to make contributions towards various Village projects. These include the grant towards the Village Hall refurbishment, the increased contribution to the upkeep of the Churchyard, and the refurbishment of the Village Sign in April/May 2019.

Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) signs continue to be used in the village every 3 months at present.

The village website continues to be a source of Parish Council information, as well as the Parish Email list comprising of residents who have signed up under the GDPR rules.

Grants:

The Parish Council made grants of £200.00 to HTC towards the Halesworth food bank, £980.00 for churchyard maintenance, £100.00 for the Wissett Web, £468.64 to the Village Hall Committee to pay for the annual insurance, and £3,363.60 towards the village hall refurbishment works.

Chairman's thanks:

I should like to thank all members of the Council and the Clerk for their help, support and time over the last year.

I would also like to thank Melita Rouse-Skeet and Michael Skeet for their generous donation to purchase the commemorative bench and County Councillor Tony Goldson for his donations to the village hall refurbishment and costs of installing the new commemorative bench.

I would also like to thank County Councillor Tony Goldson and District Councillor Alison Cackett for their continued support for the village over the last year.