

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19th MAY 2022 AT 7.30PM IN WISSETT VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Frank Burton, Paul Parry, Geoffrey Kiddy, Camilla Prior, Beryl Matthews

APOLOGIES: Cllr Annette Dunning, Cllr. Alison Cackett, Matthew Wetmore

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO, PRESENT: Cllr. Tony Goldson, Bill Simpson (Parish Clerk), 3 Members of the public.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish commenced at 7:30 pm where the Chairs Annual Report was read out, with no questions raised by the public. The Parish Council Meeting started immediately afterwards.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR FOR 2022/2023

Frank Burton and Matthew Wetmore were unanimously re-elected by the meeting.

Frank Burton duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Matthew Wetmore was unable to attend the meeting but had advised his willingness to stand and will sign the Declaration no later than the next Parish Council Meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None declared

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 17th March 2022:

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

REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS.

None received

The Parish Council agreed to readopt the existing Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, the new Code of Conduct (NEW LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020) and to continue to accept the Summons to attend meetings and PC communications via email.

Clerk was asked to check on the new Declarations of Interest contained in the new CofC.

REPORTS:

- a) VAS were in use for March. The trial of the ANPR system took place w/c 21/3/22 for a week. A total of 1358 photos were taken over the course of the week. Of these:
Vehicles recorded travelling at 27-30mph = 433, 31-34mph = 531, 35mph+ = 394
Fastest recorded speed = 60mph. It is hoped this will become regular from July.
- b) The road that floods outside Valley Vineyards. Letter posted to SCC 31/1/22 and chased 31/1, 21/3 & 10/5 with no clear response to date.
- c) Trees on the village field. Work completed and invoice recieved.
- d) Festival of Suffolk 2022. FB, & CP reported, 28/5 Opera Le-Le tickets nearly all sold & prior access has been obtained to set up, 2/6 bonfire beacon will have food and drink available by The Plough mobile unit and will ask if they can add music to their license application and 11/6 village picnic is trying to book music for the event. GK advised there will be a Jubilee Service at 10am on Sunday 12th June in the Church.

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- e) Lodge Lane bridge railings have been repainted and paid for.
- f) Bridge at Mill Lane still not repaired, is on Highway's list for works & still pending.
- g) Wash Lane verge and grips were reported to SCC for repair and tidy on 20/11/21. Still not done, and unlikely to be until any other necessary works are required.
- h) The Jubilee Oak Tree has been planted on field.
- i) Save The Rain. Nothing further to report. FB to make contact to discuss.
- j) Greys Lane proposed solar farm. PACE presented to Rumburgh Parish Council who also objected to the project and there is a further presentation to Spexhall Parish Council on 23/5. The size of the site seems to have been reduced. No planning request has yet been made. Clerk to arrange a meeting for FB with planners. The Barrister appointed by the group objecting has advised that expert opinions will be needed for any legal challenge. A "Crowd Funding" page has been set up by the group to raise money towards these costs.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS:

None received.

RESOLUTIONS

It was resolved to further consider the 3 applications to rent the land near Rumburgh that proposed to continue grazing in one form or another. Clerk to agree a communication with the Councillors to these 3 with a draft agreement and request that they supply a more detailed proposal of use and an offer of rent to enable the Councillors to discuss further before final decision. It was felt the other applications proposals for use were not in the best long-term benefit to either the land or the Parish.

It was resolved to cover any potential losses made by the Wissett Jubilee Events up to the sum of £500 from reserves. District Councillor Tony Goldson offered to offset this with a potential donation of £500. Clerk to make application for funds from him.

It was resolved to agree the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022 Form 2 and Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2021/2022 Form 2 and was duly signed off by the Chair and Clerk as Responsible Finance Officer.

FINANCE:

The Village Asset Register was reviewed.

The budget for the year 2022-2023 was reviewed.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

Mrs Julie Wing	Painting Railings Lodge Lane	£315.00
Suffolk Assn. of Local Councils	SALC membership subs 22/23	£144.66
Mr W Simpson	Agreed mileage expenses	£41.76
Mr W Simpson	6 months' salary	£685.60
Simon Bonnett	Cutting hedge on village field	£360.00
SES Business Water	Water charge March	£4.37
SES Business Water	Water charge April	£4.58
Wissett Web	Grant	£100.00
Wissett Parochial Church Council	Churchyard Grant	£980.00
EON Next	Field Electric	£52.78

All were approved for payments to be made.

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INCOME RECEIVED:

East Suffolk Council – whole precept payment for 22/23 £4,254.32
Account balances at 10th May – Current £6,050.95 - Deposit £10,967.87

CORRESPONDENCE/CIRCULARS:

General circulars shown with no action required.

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor Annette Dunning has provided an Annual Report for 21/22 which had been circulated to the Parish Councillors. Clerk to send copy out to mailing list and post on the website.

A member of the public had raised concern over the recent severe grass cutting of the bank between the village hall and the road. The Parish Council have not changed any instruction to the contractors in this matter and advised that some care must be given due to the steep slope into The Beck and the potential for this to be a walker's hazard. Clerk to contact the contractors and ask why cut so severely and to instruct not to cut in May next year.

A member of the public enquired if there was any update on the planning appeal for Camelot in Mill Road. This is still in process with SCC and the Clerk will send a link to the website for the enquirer's information and reference.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) reports for 20/21 & 21/22 have been signed by the Chair and Clerk for submission to SCC.

There have been 2 applicants for the vacant seat on Wissett Parish Council which can now be filled by co-opting. In order to be transparent in the decision process, both will be invited to a meeting to present their case and answer questions. Clerk to seek guidance from SALC on best practice for this.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING –Thursday 21st July 2022 at 7:30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

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Annual Parish Meeting 19th May 2022

Chairman's Report 2021/2022

Finance:

I can report that the Council's finances remain good with a yearend closing balance of £2,124.95 in the current account and £10,967.87 in the saver account.

The Council's expenditure was £4,471.81 with income of £5780.33. The £1,308.52 difference was due to the VAT reclaim for 2020/2021 of £903.66, mainly from village hall works costs in 20/21, and the refund of £200 from Halesworth Town Council.

This is in line with the budget plans.

The precept for 2022/2023 increases 2.22% from £4,144.00 to £4,254.32.

Developments over the year:

We continue to hold the community benefit monies in the saver account to consider contributions towards various Village projects and maintain a reserve for potential future needs. No money was taken from this account during 21/22 with all costs being met from the normal account.

Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) signs continue to be used in the village every 3 months at present and are expecting the occasional use of ANPR equipment from July 2022.

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 a grant of £200.00 to HTC towards the Halesworth food bank in the previous year, but was refunded in the current due to no requests from Wissett residents for support. Grants were made for £980.00 for churchyard maintenance, £100.00 for the Wissett Web, and £545.03 to the Village Hall Committee to pay for the annual insurance.

Queens Platinum Jubilee:

In conjunction with the Wissett Community Council and others, events have been arranged for 28th May Opera Le-Le, 2nd June, bonfire beacon and 11th June village picnic, all part of the Festival of Suffolk initiative to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

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. In particular, Parish Councillor Hannah Pretty who, after many long years of loyal service, has decided to resign from the Parish Council due to work commitments. The Parish Council would like to thank her for her hard work, good judgment and enthusiasm both as a councillor and Chair over the years from which all of us in Wissett have benefited.

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