



Wickham Skeith Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held **MONDAY, 9 JULY 2012** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: N Merriam (Chairman), M Appleby, K Knights, B Kemp, B Bloor, H Bowes, T Goodacre (Clerk)
A Stringer (MSDC and SCC) and 5 members of the public

Apologies: Accepted from D Erett, noted from Suffolk Police

1. Chairman's Welcome: The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming everyone in attendance.
2. Declaration of Interest: None received.
3. Minutes of Meeting held 14 May 2012: The Minutes were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chairman.
4. Village Forum
 - The Entry: A West mentioned that the hedges on either side of The Entry were becoming very overgrown and queried whose responsibility this was. The Chair advised that residents of The Entry were responsible for their own hedges.
 - Road Signs: The Chair mentioned that some road signs are very dirty. Cllr Stringer confirmed that there was a team responsible for cleaning road signs.
 - Pot Holes: J Harvey mentioned the amount of pot holes on Thornham Road. Cllr Stringer to advise SCC. (For information pot holes can be reported at http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/homeandcommunity/whereyoulive/roadsandstreets/dg_10026187).
 - Website: Cllr Bowes queried the issue of photographs being published on the village website. It was agreed that photographs do enhance the website and the Parish Council would like to see more photographs. Submitters of photographs are required to provide confirmation that they have the subject's, or in the case of children, the parent's agreement. Views with no recognisable people will be inserted dependent on quality and suitability. If residents are aware of photographs being taken and do not wish these to be included on the website, please contact the website administrator, Roy Arthey, on 01449 766634 or at raset@gmail.com.
5. Reports:
 - 5.1. SCC: A Stringer
 - Warmer Homes/Local Funding: SCC is working with local companies to provide insulation to ALL residents in Suffolk and can assist groups by raising funds. Schools, sports clubs, charities, community groups etc are invited to take part in Suffolk Greener Homes Community Cash-Back Scheme. More details can be found at <http://www.greensuffolk.org/greener-communities/support/suffolk-greener-homes-insulation-2012/>.
 - Schools Organisation Review: SCC formulating options to move entire education system of Suffolk to 2 Tier, which will form part of public consultation in the autumn.
 - Paint Disposal: Paint is classed as hazardous waste and a collection service, charged at £22.00 per collection, is available at <http://msdc.onesuffolk.net/waste-and-recycling/household-waste-and-recycling/hazardous-waste-collections/>. Empty metal and plastic paint tins can be placed in the recycling bin if they are completely clean. Tins containing small quantities can be solidified using soil/sand/cat litter and, once dry, can be placed in the refuse bin.
 - John Peel Centre: Centre has now begun its final phase of refurbishment, due to be completed in December.
 - 5.2. MSDC: A Stringer
 - Benefits Processing: Due to the Government installing new software there has been some delays in processing housing/benefit claims. Should anyone still be experiencing delays, please contact Cllr Stringer on 07774 199061.
 - Right to Buy Re-launch: MSDC have agreed to implement the Government's re-launching of the Right To Buy policy for council owned housing. Financial incentives will be given to sell off remaining council owned housing with proportion being retained to reinvest in new social housing.
 - Enforcement Review: MSDC currently assessing Planning Enforcement Service and looking at joining up with other agencies to achieve a more prompt and effective service in the future.
 - Planning: The intended integration of MSDC's Planning Service is being worked on with officers to engage with Parish Councils during the summer regarding Planning and Planning Enforcement.

Following the annual Police report at the last meeting, Cllr Stringer queried the incidents quoted within Wickham Skeith with the Police. The 'dangerous dogs' incident did not seem to appear in the report and Cllr Stringer has been advised that the follow up "could have been better".
 - 5.3. Suffolk Police: No report received.

- 5.4. Parish Clerk
- Footpaths FP12, FP31 and FP21: Alastair McVail, SCC's Definitive Map Officer, has now liaised with R Elsdon regarding the footpaths and issued the appropriate signage.
 - Speedwatch: More volunteers are required for training in order to complete a team of campaigners – to be advertised in the next Newsletter.
- 5.5. Parish Councillors
- The Chair advised that Orwell Housing have cleared the ditch at St.Andrews Close.
 - The Chair advised that a large PV panel system has been installed on the grain store at Elm Farm.
6. Correspondence Received:
- 6.1. External Audit: The Audit Commission have advised that BDO LLP have been reappointed as external auditors for 2012/13.
- 6.2. Bus Services: Throughout July, SCC will be revising the bus services. Details are published on www.suffolkonboard.com/timetables_leaflets/passenger_transport_service_changes or are available by contacting 0845 606 6171 or Passenger.Transport@suffolk.gov.uk.
- 6.3. Road Re-surfacing: The Road surface dressing programme has been published and Wickham Skeith's roads are scheduled for 20 July 2012 (C565, U5229, U5214).
- 6.4. All other correspondence dealt with during Agenda or included in Circulation File.
7. Finance:
- 7.1. Financial Position: The accounts as at 30 June 2012 showed a balance of £2,810.99.
- 7.2. Queen's Diamond Jubilee:
- 7.2.1. The Parish Council were approached by the Village Hall Committee to contribute towards the cost of the Jubilee village celebrations (£403.12). It was agreed that a contribution of £100 would be awarded towards the costs.
- 7.2.2. The Record Office would like to receive any photographs/programmes of local events held for historians/generations to come. Further details are available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/sro or on 01473 584541 (Ipswich), 01284 741212 (BSE).
- 7.2.3. Cllr Knights queried whether planning permission was required for the Flag Pole. Cllr Bowes advised that the Village Hall Committee had checked and permission was not required.
8. Planning Matters: Application No 0610/12: Surwood Farm, Grange Road – Permission has been granted for the erection of one wind turbine (14.97m to hub, 5.6m dia blades).
9. Code of Conduct: SALC have encouraged councils to adopt the latest Suffolk Code of Conduct which came into force on 1 July 2012. Full documentation had been circulated to Councillors and it was agreed that the new Code of Conduct would be adopted. New documentation for registering interests to be completed by each Councillor and returned to the Monitoring Officer via Parish Clerk.
10. Emergency Plan: A revised A5 version for insertion into the newsletter was presented by the Clerk for contact details to be finalised. Completed copies to be circulated to all Councillors for approval prior to insertion into Newsletter.
11. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business: Maintenance of The Grimmer and The Knoll were mentioned for future consideration.
12. Next Meeting: 10 September 2012.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: