



Wickham Skeith Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held **MONDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2012** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: N Merriam (Chairman), K Knights, B Kemp, B Bloor, H Bowes, D Erett, T Goodacre (Clerk)
Cllr Stringer (MSDC and SCC) and 4 members of the public

Apologies: Accepted from M Appleby, 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 9 July 2012: The Minutes were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chairman.
4. Village Forum
 - The Entry: N West mentioned that there has been an increase in dog fouling along The Entry and asked for a reminder of the penalties to be included in the next edition of the Newsletter. It was agreed that Mid Suffolk's "Bag It and Bin It" rule will be included in the next edition of the village newsletter to remind dog owners of their responsibilities.
5. Reports:
 - 5.1. SCC: Cllr Stringer
 - Broadband: A recent House of Lords report suggested that the country would be better off with a universal service to all rather than rush to deliver superfast speeds to only some. SCC has amassed £41,000,000 to deliver a state of the art fibre optic network and now needs to liaise with BT/other private investors regarding network plans. There is much concern and reassurances are awaited before contracts are awarded.
 - Review of County Farms: SCC looking into the future of county farms. Councillor Stringer has been selected as a member of this group looking into the issues surrounding the principles of tenancies and would welcome views of residents.
 - Joint Member Steering Group: Councillor Stringer is also on the Committee looking into developing a Joint Business Case for Collaborative Working between Cambridgeshire and Suffolk Fire and Rescue Services.
 - 5.2. MSDC: Cllr Stringer
 - District Community Engagement: Following the Budget Setting Consultation, Cllr Stringer has been assigned an Officer, Jonathan Free, to assist within the community. To aid this engagement, Cllr Stringer conducted a Community Engagement Toolkit question and answer session, with all those attending the meeting taking part.
 - 5.3. Suffolk Police: No report received (there was knowledge of a recent incident on the corner near Homeleigh, involving two vehicles).
 - 5.4. Parish Clerk
 - Code of Conduct: Following the adoption of the Suffolk Code of Conduct, we have received confirmation from the Monitoring Office of receipt of Councillors' Registers of Interest.
 - Emergency Plan: An A5 version was circulated to residents in September's Newsletter. With regard to publication on the website, Roy Arthey (Website Administrator) queried the inclusion of telephone numbers/addresses. It was agreed that the information included in the Emergency Plan was already in the public domain and could be published on the village website.
 - 5.5. Parish Councillors
 - Councillor Knights advised that a resident has requested for consideration to be given to a new sign to be erected for Kitchen Close as there is no current signage. Clerk to contact SCC.
6. Correspondence Received:
 - 6.1. WWI Memorial: P Davidson, Village Historian, has asked for consideration to be given to the cleaning/restoration of the replica WWI Memorial and for it to then be placed in the Village Hall (liaising also with the Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall Committee). The Parish Council were in all in favour and would support this request, subject to the Parochial Church Council and Village Hall Committee's agreement.
 - 6.2. All other correspondence dealt with during Agenda or included in Circulation File.

7. Finance:

7.1. Financial Position: The accounts as at 31 August 2012 showed a balance of £2,544.43. The following invoices were approved for payment:

Village Hall (hire of for May/July)	£15.00
Suffolk ACRE Insurance	£184.62

7.2. Queen's Diamond Jubilee: Cllr Stringer has kindly agreed with the Locality Director to award £250 towards the costs of Jubilee celebrations. The Parish Council agreed to apply for this grant awarding £190 to the Village Hall Committee against costs of the Jubilee Street Party, with the remaining £60 going towards the cost of an English Oak to be planted on the Village Green in the Autumn (Chair to make enquiries).

8. Planning Matters: No applications received.

9. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business: Parish Precept, Maintenance of The Grimmer and The Knoll.

10. Next Meeting: 12 November 2012.

Meeting closed at 8.52 pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: