



Wickham Skeith Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held **MONDAY, 14 MARCH 2016** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs M Appleby (Chair), B Kemp, B Bloor, K Knights, P Wright, T Goodacre (Clerk), Cllr Stringer (MSDC and SCC) and 3 members of the public

Apologies: Accepted from Cllrs Merriam and Bowes

1. Chair's Welcome: The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming everyone in attendance.
2. Declaration of Interest: None received.
3. Minutes of Meeting held 11 January 2016: The Minutes were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chair.
4. Village Forum:
 - Broadway: The layby along Broadway, opposite Kitchen Close was queried as to whether this was for public use or solely residents of bungalows along Broadway. It was confirmed that the layby was public and available to all residents.
 - The condition of the road at the rear of the Grimmer was raised. Cllr Stringer to advise classification/responsibilities of SCC.
 - Pothole: Clerk to report pothole on Wickham Road towards Finningham.
5. Reports:
 - 5.1. SCC: Cllr Stringer
 - Devolution: Cambridge, Norfolk, Peterborough and Suffolk to develop collective "big and ambitious asks" of Government for devolution deal which may result in a Mayor being elected for East Anglia.
 - Broadband: Subject to public consultation ending 08.04.16, resolution now reached between DCMS and the EU which will enable public funding of £30m to be spent, as well as monies clawed back from first contract, totalling £33.9m.
 - More Bad News: SCC and Energy from Waste Partner, Suez, in discussions with Sterling Suffolk regarding possible supply of heat to proposed tomato growing greenhouse venture at Little Blakenham. Sterling Suffolk identifying alternative sources of heat to make greenhouse project a reality and as environmentally friendly as possible.
 - 5.2. MSDC: Cllr Stringer
 - Strategic Plan: Mid Suffolk's 2014-2019 Strategic Plan is being refreshed to keep in line with current government changes. These changes raise concern regarding delivery of initial plan – a priority based model is now run which directly influences deployment of resource, including reserves of £8m and borrowing undertaken of £25m.
 - Budget: This year's budget has been debated with cuts agreed to Community Grants/the Arts and increases in brown bin emptying charges. Housing Revenue difficult to calculate as government introduced cuts in rent for council tenants (District has to pay for out of budget for repairs/maintenance of housing stock). Revenue Budget again underspent with unspent monies being returned to Transformation Budget which now stands at over £8m to fund projects to generate income for the Council (this is on top of £25m borrowing sanctioned for such projects).
 - Litter pick: To be held on 16/04/16 – all welcome – please meet at Village Hall at 10.00 am – equipment kindly being provided by Cllr Stringer.
 - 5.3. Suffolk Police (via Parish Clerk):
 - Reported Crimes: There has been one reported crime in the village since last meeting; theft/interference from vehicle in Grange Road during January 2016.
 - Local Policing: New model for policing in Suffolk to be launched on 04/04/16. County to be divided into 9 localities, each led with an Locality Inspector who will oversee work of Safer Neighbourhood Teams and Emergency Response Officers. Chris Galley, Inspector for this area will hold Local Event on 21/03/16 at Cedars Primary School, Stowmarket at 6.30 pm to promote new model – all welcome.
 - CAT Marking: Free CAT marking being provided by Mid Suffolk Central Team at Evergreen Garage, Crowfield on 19/03/16 between 9 am – 12 noon.
 - 5.4. Parish Clerk:
 - Locality Grant: Thanks were given to Cllr Stringer for his generous support with locality grant funding. £2,000 has been allocated to replacement range/cooker and associated items in the kitchen of Village Hall.
 - Highways: Re-occurring pothole on corner of Broadway, opposite No 1 Kitchen Close, has been filled. Pothole opposite 117 The Green has also been reported and drainage issues outside Brookside on The Street have been dealt with by SCC.
 - First Aid Training: The Clerk and Mrs S Merriam attended course on 14/01/16 – copy of First Aid Manual posted on Notice Board in Village Hall.
 - 5.5. Parish Councillors: No items raised.

6. Correspondence Received:

- HM Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday Commemorative Medal: Sample medal was shown and it was agreed that these should be presented at the Village Fete on 18/06/16 to children under the age of 11 years living in the village. To register your child for this presentation, please email Parish Clerk on clerk.wspc@btconnect.com.
- Section 137 (4) (a): SALC have advised that the expenditure limit for Parish Councils during 2016/17 will be £7.42.
- Suffolk Year of Walking – May 2016-April 2017: Strategy being encouraged and MSDC looking for a Walk to be organised (and assistants provided) for Mendlesham Ward (Mendlesham, Wickham Skeith and Cotton). Those interested, please contact Parish Clerk (applications close on 31/03/16).
- Suffolk Highways Information Sheet on roadworks/responsibilities included in Circulation File.
- Good Councillor's Guide 2016 – full copy included in Circulation File.
- Warm Homes, Healthy People: Fully funded first time heating installation available – for further details/criteria to apply visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/warmhomes, call 08456 037686 or contact Parish Clerk.

All other correspondence which has not been circulated via email is included within Agenda Items or in Circulation File.

7. Finance:

- 7.1. The accounts as at 29 February 2016 were presented by Cllr Kemp and showed a balance of £2,435.81.
- 7.2. Internal Accounts and Audit Control Review: Cllr Kemp had updated and circulated 2015/16 review, which was agreed by all Councillors.

8. Planning Matters:

- 8.1. Application No: 0200/16 - Summerseat, The Street – Permission has been granted for opening up of historic fireplace and reinstatement of oak bressumer (partly retrospective application).
- 8.2. Application No 0579/16 – The Bungalow, Mill Hill Farm, Thwaite Road – Application to remove Condition 2 of Planning Permission 0336/93 (agricultural occupancy condition). Parish Council submitted support for application.

9. Village Green/Working Party: Working party held in January to clear bramble etc near The Old Post Office.

10. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business: Village Green/Grimmer Working Party, HM Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday Commemorative Medal Presentation.

11. Next Meeting: 9 May 2016 (to include Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council AGM)

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Signed:
Chair

Date:

Wickham Skeith Parish Council

Chair:	Melinda Appleby	01449 766879	Parish Councillors:	Kevin Knights	01449 767708
Treasurer:	Barry Kemp	01449 766813		Brian Bloor	01449 766633
Vice Chair:	Nigel Merriam	01449 766222		Harriet Bowes	01449 766708
Parish Clerk:	Tara Goodacre	01449 768696		Paul Wright	07921 292233