



Wickham Skeith Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held **MONDAY, 13 JULY 2015** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

- Present: Cllrs M Appleby, N Merriam, B Kemp, K Knights, H Bowes, P Wright, T Goodacre (Clerk), and 6 members of the public
- Apologies: Accepted from Cllr Bloor, noted from Cllr Stringer (MSDC and SCC), PC C Wayman (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 11 May 2015: The Minutes were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chairman.
 4. Village Forum: The following matters were raised:
 - 4.1. The lack of visibility at the triangle of Broadway/Wickham Road due to overgrown verges – Clerk to liaise with Cllr Stringer regarding general lack of verge side maintenance from SCC.
 - 4.2. Pothole on corner of Broadway/Homeleigh/Green Farm still not repaired – Clerk to follow up initial report.
 - 4.3. Overgrown hedges/general condition of site at Homeleigh – Clerk to write to new owners.
 - 4.4. Overgrown trees on corner of Broadway/Homeleigh/Green Farm – Cllr Merriam to liaise with BT.
 - 4.5. Overgrown Footpath FP28 (Rose Lane to Knoll Farm) – Clerk to check footpath schedule and liaise with landowners.
 - 4.6. The Chair advised that Stephen McKie would be taking over from Roy Arthey and joining Julie Sore to maintain the Village Website.
 - 4.7. Following closure of Stoke Ash and other Primary schools, Thorndon School now has more children enrolled than it is calculated to provide for. Concern was raised for children moving into Wickham Skeith and not being able to enrol at the nearest catchment school – Clerk to raise with Cllr Stringer.
 - 4.8. Cllr Knights advised that the Guide Movement had now taken over Stoke Ash School, however, the Parish has raised complaints regarding Change of Use and the scheduled open weekend was cancelled.
 5. Reports:
 - 5.1. SCC: Cllr Stringer not in attendance
 - 5.2. MSDC: Cllr Stringer not in attendance
 - 5.3. Suffolk Police: Report received and read by Parish Clerk
 - Reported Crimes: There have been no reported crimes recorded in the parish since last report.
 - SNT priorities: Preventing and detecting burglaries, rural crime (including thefts from outside areas).
 - Area Forum and Priority Setting Meeting: The next meeting is on 27 July 2015 at Eye Police Station, 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm, all welcome.
 - 5.4. Parish Clerk:
 - Register of Interests: Parish Councillors' Register of Interests have now been published online with MSDC.
 - Allocation of Topics: Following the appointment of a new Chair at the AGM, the Allocation of Topics had been reviewed and circulated. All councillors were in agreement with the allocation and a copy will be published on the village website.
 - 5.5. Parish Councillors: No matters raised.
 6. Correspondence Received:
 - Thorndon School: Following receipt of letter requesting for support, a response was sent confirming the Parish Council's position, wishing them well with their expansion plans and advising that we would be pleased to be kept informed of their progress.
 - Rose Lane: For the Parish Council's records, Mr C Charman had forwarded copies of correspondence regarding the recent clearing and drainage works carried out in Rose Lane - Cllr Merriam to enquire about the Lime Tree.
 - All other correspondence included in Agenda items or in Circulation File.
 7. Finance:
 - 7.1. The end of year accounts for 2014/15 had been adjusted to separate the Precept (following the guidelines received) – all councillors were in agreement and the accounts were signed off.
 - 7.2. The accounts as at 30 June 2015 were presented by Cllr Kemp and showed a balance of £3,122.77.
 - 7.3. The following invoices were authorised for payment:

MSDC – Uncontested Election Fees	£87.00
MSDC – Litter Bin Emptying	£90.00

- 7.4. Workplace Pensions: Cllr Kemp has registered as the point of contact, as requested by The Pensions Regulator following a change in legislation. Employers must now enrol eligible employees into a pension scheme and contribute towards this with a staging date of 01/05/17. The Clerk’s salary level falls below the threshold for automatic enrolment; however the Clerk has the right to request to join a scheme, to which the Clerk declined.
- 7.5. Cllr Merriam advised that the Village Hall hiring rates had been reviewed and would now be charged at £12 per meeting all year round.
- 8. Planning Matters:
 - 8.1. No 0775/15: 135 Grange Road – Permission has been granted for the erection of porch, construction of vehicle access and parking area, retention of window in side gable wall and retention of roof light in side roof slope.
 - 8.2. No 1541/15: Tudor Cottage, 136 Grange Road: Application received for the erection of detached 2-bay cartlodge. No comments had been received.
- 9. Village Green – Tree Maintenance: It was agreed that Cllrs Appleby, Merriam and Knights would meet and assess priority of work required around the Grimmer/Village Green.
- 10. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business: Village Green/Grimmer Working Party, Footpaths
- 11. Next Meeting: 14 September 2015

Meeting closed at 8.43 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