



# Wickham Skeith Parish Council

## MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (AGM) held **MONDAY, 9 MAY 2016** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs M Appleby, N Merriam, B Kemp, P Wright, B Bloor, H Bowes, T Goodacre (Clerk), Cllr Stringer (MSDC and SCC), and 8 members of the public

Apologies: Accepted from Cllr Knights

1. Election of Chairman: The Clerk opened the meeting by thanking M Appleby on behalf of the Parish Council for her term of office as Chair and as a Parish Councillor. Thanks were also given to M Appleby for her agreement to continue the role as Tree Warden. Nominations were then invited from Councillors for the position of Chairman. Cllr Merriam proposed Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Kemp. Cllr Wright accepted the position of Chair and signed the Acceptance of Office before commencing his position.
2. Election of Officers: The Clerk invited nominations for the position of Vice-Chair. Cllr Kemp proposed Cllr Merriam, seconded by Cllr Bowes. Cllr Merriam accepted the position of Vice-Chair. For the position of Treasurer, Cllr Merriam proposed Cllr Kemp, seconded by Cllr Bowes. Cllr Kemp agreed to continue in role of Treasurer.

Following the resignation of Cllr Appleby, interest was invited for the vacancy of Parish Councillor. Cllr Merriam proposed M Blair, seconded by Cllr Kemp. M Blair accepted the position of Parish Councillor and agreed to sign the Acceptance of Office at the close of meeting.

3. Chairman's Welcome: As newly elected Chairman, Cllr Wright opened the AGM, which followed on from the Annual Parish Meeting.
4. Declaration of Interest: None Received.
5. Minutes of Meeting held 14 March 2016: The Minutes were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chairman.
6. Reports:

6.1. Treasurer's Report: Cllr Kemp presented the Treasurer's Annual Report, together with the end of year Accounts and Accounts as at 31 March 2016, which showed a balance of £4,341.73..

6.1.1 2015/16 Annual Return: All Councillors were in agreement to approve the end of year Accounts for adoption. The Annual Return will be passed to R Bassett who has kindly agreed to carry out the Internal Audit.

6.1.2 Annual Governance Statement: All Councillors were in agreement to adopt the proposed Statement.

6.1.3 The following invoices were approved for payment:

SALC: Subscriptions	£180.00
Village Hall (March Meeting)	£12.00
Faraday Electrical Solutions Ltd (Range/Cooker)	£1859.00

6.1.4 The Treasurer advised that the Locality Budget received for the replacement range/cooker was £2000 and, with the reclamation of VAT, there will still be funds available for the induction cooker pans required.

6.1.5 Bank Mandate Forms: Following the change of Chairman, these will need to be updated to include Cllr Wright.

6.2. SCC: Cllr Stringer

- SCC's Ofsted: Following a poor Ofsted report, SCC's latest Education Service report did show an improvement and is now regarded as "Good".
- Suffolk Devolution: SCC recognises potential of joining services together and has lobbied for the devolution of funding and powers from Westminster to County Hall, with Mayoral administration between Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- Highways Tool: 2016 saw introduction of new reporting tool for highway issues (potholes, missing signs etc) and the backlog of outstanding highways work is reducing, which can be demonstrated on the system.
- Bacton Middle School Site: SCC agreed to dispose of site through Cornerstone, who will plan the redevelopment. Early plans show 80-130 houses on the site, including the former playing fields, which has caused much controversy.

6.3. MSDC: Cllr Stringer

- Locality Budget: Following the one-off Locality Budget launched by MSDC, Wickham Skeith secured £2,000 towards a new range/cooker and kitchen equipment.
- Housing Policy: During the year, MSDC announced they no longer held a 5 year land supply, which led to an increase in housing applications now falling under National Planning Policy Framework.
- Neighbourhood Plan: MSDC have given advice/support to Mendlesham, who are now one of the first villages in Mid Suffolk to attain a Neighbourhood Plan.

### **Wickham Skeith Parish Council**

<b>Chair:</b>	Paul Wright	07921 292233	<b>Parish Councillors:</b>	Kevin Knights	01449 767708
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Barry Kemp	01449 766813		Brian Bloor	01449 766633
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Nigel Merriam	01449 766222		Harriet Bowes	01449 766708
<b>Parish Clerk:</b>	Tara Goodacre	01449 768696		Michael Blair	01449 766640

Cllr Stringer concluded his annual reports by setting a challenge to install internet connection at the Village Hall! Thanks were given to M Appleby for her work as Chair and the newly appointed Chairman thanked Cllr Stringer for all his help during the past year.

- 6.4 Suffolk Police: The Clerk advised that there have been 45 crimes reported in the Mid Suffolk Central Area, however, none have been within Wickham Skeith.
- 6.5. Parish Clerk: MH Queen Elizabeth II 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Commemorative Medal: Presentations will take place 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 (or to purchase a medal at a cost of £2.00 per medal), please email the Parish Clerk on [clerk.wspc@btconnect.com](mailto:clerk.wspc@btconnect.com).
- 6.6. Parish Councillors: Cllr Bowes raised the ivy which was growing up one of the Willow Trees on the Village Green. M Appleby spoke about the Willow opposite Jack's Barn and it was agreed that she would assess both trees and report back for a working party following the nesting season.

7. Correspondence Received:

- Brome Community Recycling Centre: As from 2 May 2016, the centre has re-opened, details of which have been posted on the Notice Board. For further information contact [khkreycling@gmail.com](mailto:khkreycling@gmail.com) or 07857 662528.
- All other correspondence included in Agenda items or in Circulation File.

8. Planning Matters: Application No 0579/16 – The Bungalow, Mill Hill Farm, Thwaite Road – Permission has been granted for the removal of Condition 2 of Planning Permission 0336/93 (agricultural occupancy condition).

9. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business: Parking Review

10. Next Meeting: 11 July 2016

Meeting closed at 9.22 pm

Signed: .....  
Chairman

Date: .....

**Wickham Skeith Parish Council**

<b>Chair:</b>	Paul Wright	07921 292233	<b>Parish Councillors:</b>	Kevin Knights	01449 767708
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Barry Kemp	01449 766813		Brian Bloor	01449 766633
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Nigel Merriam	01449 766222		Harriet Bowes	01449 766708
<b>Parish Clerk:</b>	Tara Goodacre	01449 768696		Michael Blair	01449 766640