

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held **MONDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2017** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs P Wright (Chair), N Merriam, B Kemp, K Knights, H Bowes, M Blair, T Goodacre (Clerk), Cllr Stringer (MSDC and SCC), and 19 members of public

Apologies: Accepted from Cllr Thorogood

1. Chair's Welcome: The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming everyone in attendance.
2. Declaration of Interest: None received.
3. Minutes of Meetings: Minutes of the following meetings were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chair.

Parish Council Meeting held 11 September 2017

Working Party held 25 September 2017

Parish Meeting held 9 October 2017

Working Party held 23 October 2017

Extraordinary Meeting held 30 October 2017

4. Village Forum:
 - 4.1. Sand box requested for Village Green opposite Ayton.
 - 4.2. Development at Homeleigh raised again due to concerns of residents residing in Cartlodge. Cllr Stringer to investigate if planning conditions are being breached.

5. Reports:

5.1. Cllr Stringer (SCC)

- Early Years Funding: LDGI Group supported Labour motion to lobby for more funding in Suffolk and for full amount of funding to be received by childcare providers (currently receiving £3.87/hour with many struggling to run businesses profitably). Conservative majority refused to support this motion.
- Home to School Transport: LDGI Group successfully "called-in" Cabinet's decision for consultation on changes to Home to School Transport Policy, arguing more research required. SCC announced two workshops taking place to discuss challenges/develop proposals for Cabinet's consideration.
- School Admissions Consultation: SCC seeking views on proposed Admissions Policy for 2019/20 school year.
- Suffolk Fostering Service: SCC's Fostering Service to launch series of campaigns to encourage more Suffolk residents to become foster carers.
- Signage: Cllr Stringer has again complained to Interim Portfolio Holder regarding delay in replacement signage in Wickham Skeith.
- Speed Indicator Device: Cllr Stringer submitted Parish Council's application and waiting for posts to be installed (advised that budget overspent, however, requested for Highways Budget to be used to progress).

5.2. Cllr Stringer (MSDC)

- Move to Endeavour House, Ipswich: Move of Babergh/Mid Suffolk Councils to be finalised by 13.11.17.
- Joint Local Plan: Consultation ended 10.11.17 with next stage taking account of comments and publishing "Regulation 19 Draft", which will be some time in New Year.
- Merger: Babergh re-considering "endorsement" of proposal to merge Mid Suffolk and Babergh Councils. Until this happens, work on consultation is on hold.
- Boundary Review: Consultation open until 11.12.17 with recommendations to reduce number of Councillors in Mid Suffolk from 40 to 32, with boundaries for Mendlesham Ward being split into 3 – Wickham Skeith now proposed to split away from Mendlesham and Cotton, being placed with Thorndon and Yaxley.

5.3. Suffolk Police (via Parish Clerk): No crimes were reported within Wickham Skeith on website.

5.4. Parish Clerk:

- Village Signs: Still awaiting new sign on junction of Wickham Road/Broadway (originally logged in March 2017). Cllr Stringer still chasing – See Item 5.1.

- Broadband Funding: Thanks were given to Cllr Stringer for arranging funds of £500, which have now been received towards costs of providing broadband.
 - Locality Funding: Application for funding towards Projector Equipment for Village Hall submitted on 12.09.17.
 - Joint Local Plan (JLP): Thanks were given to all who contributed to consultation of Babergh and Mid Suffolk new JLP. Following Extraordinary Meeting on 30.10.17, Parish Council's submission sent on 09.11.17.
- 5.5. Parish Councillors:
- Cllr Blair advised that, following concerns regarding overhead cables along Grange Road, he had met with UK Power Networks who confirmed that all was in order and would be checked again in 5 years.
 - Cllr Knights added to Cllr Stringer's comment in Item 5.1 that he was aware of early learning childcare facilities operating at a loss due to lack of funds received per child.
6. Correspondence Received:
- 6.1. Daisy Green Lane: Following approach from developer regarding plot of land on Daisy Green Lane, Joint Local Plan consultation with residents confirmed large developments were not favoured and this was highlighted in the Parish Council's submission on the JLP Consultation Document.
- 6.2. Potential merger of Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils – see Item 5.2. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not comment at this time.
- 6.3. The White House, Grange Road: Proposals for land at The White House received past deadline for Parish Council's submission to JLP Consultation (although submitted direct to JLP Consultation). Parish Clerk advised that Parish Council cannot comment on proposals; formal planning application would need to be submitted.
- 6.4. All correspondence which has not been circulated via email included within Agenda Items or in Circulation File.
7. Finance: Accounts as at 31 October 2017 presented by Cllr Kemp (Treasurer), showing a balance of £2,612.90.
- 7.1. Parish Precept: Cllr Kemp proposed an increase of £400 to cover additional costs (including minimum of £280 for GDPR – see Item 10). Precept to be agreed at January meeting.
- 7.2. 2018/19 Budget: Cllr Kemp presented proposed Budget allowing for costs raised in Item 7.1.
- 7.3. The following invoices were agreed for payment:
- Community Action Suffolk Insurance @ £153.31 inc VAT
 - SALC – Data Protection Briefing attended by Cllr Kemp and Parish Clerk on 12.10.17 @ £52.80
 - Village Hall Hire (Aug/Sep/Oct meetings) @ £48.00
8. Planning Matters:
- 8.1. DC/17/04640: 1-3 Abbey Farmhouse, Cotton Lane – Notification of discharge of conditions for Application 4161/16 – Condition 3 now received.
- 8.2. DC/17/04772: Heads Nook, Grange Road – MSDC raised no objections to proposed tree works.
9. Parish Councillor Topics: Following resignation of Cllr Bloor and addition of Cllr Thorogood, Parish Councillor Topics revised (copy to be included on village website).
10. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): Cllr Kemp and Parish Clerk attended Briefing on 12.10.17 as new regulations commencing May 2018. Many concerns being raised by Councils regarding costs involved/ implications, with possible option of shared access to Data Protection Officers being made available. It was agreed for Parish Clerk to confirm interest in services currently being offered by SALC. The effects of GDPR regarding village newsletter/website was also raised.
11. Working Party Update

- 11.1. Community Speed Watch: Following submission of Site Suitability Checklists to Cllr Stringer, now waiting for installation of posts - see Item 5.1.
 - 11.2. Defibrillator: It was agreed to continue with Item on Agenda for 2018, with discussions favouring promotion of First Aid Responders – see <http://maws.responders.org.uk/what>.
12. Village Green Working Parties: Cllr Merriam proposed 9.12.17 at 10 am for first working party, followed by a date in February (TBA).
13. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business:
 - GDPR, Community Speed Watch, Defibrillator, Parish Precept, 2018/19 Budget, Village Green Working Parties, Community Orchard
 - The condition/importance of road signs was raised under AOB. Cllr Stringer advised that this was responsibility of SCC and requested for photographic evidence to be forwarded direct to himself.