



Wickham Skeith Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held **MONDAY, 14 JANUARY 2019** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs T Thorogood (Chair), H Bowes (Vice-Chair), B Kemp (Treasurer), K Knights, M Blair, R Palmer, T Goodacre (Clerk), Cllr Stringer (MSDC and SCC) and 4 members of public

Apologies: Accepted from Cllr Wade

1. Chair's Welcome: The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming those in attendance.
2. Declaration of Interest: None received.
3. Minutes of Meeting: Minutes of Meeting held 12 November 2018 were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chair.
4. Village Forum: It was noted that a suspicious Dark Blue, Vauxhall Saloon driving around Church Lane/The Broadway had been reported to the Police.
5. Reports:
 - 5.1. Cllr Stringer (SCC):
 - Single-Use Plastic: SCC motioned to do more to tackle single-use plastic waste.
 - Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB): SCC announced intention to cut funding for Suffolk's CAB as part of budget savings, causing great concern. SCC now launched consultation on proposed funding cuts. Cllr Stringer encourages residents to complete via www.suffolk.gov.uk/cabconsultation.
 - Carbon Emissions: SCC refuse to tackle carbon emissions following motion from Councillors.
 - Modern Slavery Statement: Motion on Modern Slavery unanimously agreed, committing SCC to comply/act on eradicating Slavery/Human Trafficking in Suffolk.
 - Waste: SCC entered into PFI-backed Contract with Suez for Suffolk energy from waste facility.
 - 5.2. Cllr Stringer (MSDC):
 - Budget Proposals: MSDC have set out draft budget for 2019/20 with move to further borrow to invest in commercial property. This year saw another underspend on budget, which is proposed to go into reserve, however, Council tax may rise by 2%.
 - Tree for Life: Policy where residents can apply for free fruit tree for any child born or adopted. This year saw 170 successful applications by parents.
 - Homelessness Prevention Fund: MSDC allocated funds for Homelessness Prevention Policy where residents can apply for loan to avoid/prevent becoming homeless (max available £3,000).
 - New Joint Local Plan: MSDC announced again of plan delay.
 - 5.3. Suffolk Police (via Parish Clerk):
 - Crimes: Various crimes have been reported locally but none within Wickham Skeith (residents advised that there had been a recent break-in at Willow House, The Street).
 - Council Tax: Suffolk Police currently proposing £2/month increase (based on Band D property).
 - 5.4. Parish Clerk:
 - Bus Services: Contact number to be posted on Noticeboard (should residents encounter problems booking services, please advise Cllr Stringer direct on 07545 423842).
 - Kissing Gate: Thanks were given to S Goodacre for kindly completing restoration.
 - River Dove: Waveney Valley currently dredging river running adjacent to The Street.
 - The Street: Thanks were given to N Merriam for liaising/clearing overgrowth along The Street. Residents are asked to maintain Spring overgrowth which may affect roadside visibility/safety.
 - 5.5. Parish Councillors: Cllrs Wade and Palmer attended Voice of The Councillor workshop in December.
 - 5.5.1. Allocation of Councillor Topics: Completed list circulated and being posted on Website.
 - 5.5.2. Community Speed Watch: Thanks were given to Cllr Stringer for kindly providing funding of £2,000 towards cost of SID. It was agreed to proceed with purchase of Radarlux Model to identify/monitor speeding issues.
 - 5.5.3. GDPR: Sub-Committee reviewing SALC Toolkit/remaining templates and creating register of data collected/ processed.
 - 5.5.4. Community Emergency Plan: Sub-committee to review SALC model plan.
 - 5.5.5. Defibrillator: The Parish Council were successful in their application to Tesco Bags of Help Grant Scheme, helping towards funding provision of defibrillator. Voting has already commenced at local Tesco stores and will end on 28.02.19.

6. Correspondence Received:

- 6.1. Clerk Election Briefings: SALC promoting Jan/Feb briefings regarding May Elections.
 6.2. Funding Events: Babergh/MSDC holding funding events for Parish Councils, Community and Voluntary Organisations advising on funding opportunities. Bildeston: 06.02.19, Elmswell 07.02.19, 10 am - 3 pm. Please contact Parish Clerk for further information.

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

7. Finance

- 7.1. Accounts as at 31.12.18 presented by Cllr Kemp (Treasurer), showing balance of £5,548.64.
 7.2. 2019/20 Budget: Budget presented by Treasurer - as part of review, it was agreed to examine provision costings of Village Hall Broadband. It was agreed to change from BT to Plusnet, with site visit scheduled for 18.01.19.
 7.3. Parish Precept: With percentage increases demonstrated by Treasurer, it was proposed to increase Precept by £200 to £3,000. All Councillors in agreement to accept proposal. Clerk to submit to MSDC.
 7.4. Invoices: The following invoices were agreed for payment:
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| Village Hall Hire (Nov meeting) | £12.00 |
| Clerk's Expenses | £40.00 |
| Reimbursement of Plusnet Initial Set Up Cost (T Goodacre) | £46.20 |
- 7.5. Bank Mandate: Bank Mandate now approved for new signatories.
 7.6. Vacancy: Councillor/Treasurer Vacancy still to be filled. To be re-advertised in village Newsletter.

8. Planning Matters: DC/18/04942 – Hillside, The Broadway: Erection of stable building and formation of menage. Change of use for keeping of horses. Councillors raised no objections and MSDC have now granted permission (subject to conditions).

9. Standing Orders:

- 9.1. Complete version issued to Councillors with copy to be posted on Website.
 9.2. Complaints Procedure: Cllr Palmer's drafted Complaints Procedure circulated for consideration. Discussion held regarding GDPR/Consent regarding circulation/publication of Village Newsletter.

10. Village Green: Thanks were given to generosity of contractor for maintaining Village Green, with token of appreciation gifted at Christmas.

- 10.1. Working Parties: Cllr Knights thanked those in attendance on 15.12.18. Next Working Party to be held on 02.02.19. .
 10.2. Grimmer Fishing: No action to be taken until Season commences.

11. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business: Village Green Working Parties, Internal Accounts and Audit Control Review, Action Plan for SID.

12. Next Meeting: 11 March 2019

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed:
 Chair

Date:

Wickham Skeith Parish Council

Chair:	T Thorogood	01449 766757	Parish Councillors:	Kevin Knights	01449 767708
Vice Chair:	Harriet Bowes	01449 766708		Michael Blair	01449 766640
Treasurer:	Barry Kemp	01449 766813		Margarita Wade	01449 767009
Parish Clerk:	Tara Goodacre	01449 768696		Richard Palmer	07376 142447