



# Wickham Skeith Parish Council

## MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held **MONDAY, 11 MARCH 2019** at **WICKHAM SKEITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs T Thorogood (Chair), H Bowes (Vice-Chair), B Kemp (Treasurer), M Wade, M Blair, R Palmer, T Goodacre (Clerk), Cllr Stringer (MSDC and SCC) and 5 members of public

Apologies: Accepted from Cllr Knights

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 14 January 2019 were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chair.
  - Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting held 11 February 2019 were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chair.
4. Village Forum: Condition of road around The Grimmer/Village Green was raised. Clerk to report on Suffolk Highways Reporting Tool.
5. Reports:
  - 5.1. Cllr Stringer (SCC):
    - 2019/20 Budget: SCC's 2019/20 budget agreed, with increase in Council Tax of 3.99% and savings across directorates totalling £10.1m.
    - Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB): Following SCC's funding cut, CCGs have stepped in, providing funding of £184,000 (CCGs funding only available for 2019/20).
    - Reduction in 2018/19 Predicted Overspend: SCC's latest monitoring reports suggests budget will be overspent by £5.9m (a reduction since Quarter 2's report).
    - Housing Costs: Last year, SCC commissioned Respublica to undertake Housing Growth Study at cost of £66,000, with final report published February 2019 failing to report on issues.
    - School Travel: Changes to Travel Policy effective from September 2019, with eligible families having to now "Opt-in" to receive free school transport. Application window for this year open until 31.05.19. Further information available at [www.suffolkonboard.com/optin](http://www.suffolkonboard.com/optin).
    - Mental Health Strategies: Suffolk & Norfolk Clinical Groups developing new mental health strategies for Suffolk, with next phase focusing on designing delivery.
    - SEND Service: Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspection conclude SCC SEND Service inadequate, with powers of intervention being considered.
    - Litter Pick: Wickham Skeith's village Litter Pick scheduled for 23.03.19 at 10.00 am – all welcome.
  - 5.2. Cllr Stringer (MSDC):
    - Budget Proposals: MSDC have set out draft budget for 2019/20 with Ruling Conservative Group agreeing to borrow further £25m to invest in commercial property. This year has seen another underspend on budget with agreed 2% increase in Council Tax.
    - PCSO's: MSDC agreed to fund two Police Community Support Officers, who can only be requested to attend in Mid Suffolk by District Councillors completing request form.
    - New Joint Local Plan: MSDC has set up panel of Councillors to oversee delivery of emerging JLP as further delays feared.
    - District Boundary Change: After May elections, Wickham Skeith will no longer be part of Mendlesham Ward, resulting in Cllr Stringer no longer our District Councillor (remaining as County Councillor until 2021 elections). Thanks were given to Cllr Stringer for all his support during term as District Councillor.
  - 5.3. Suffolk Police (via Parish Clerk):
    - Crime Prevention: "Meet up Monday" meeting at Walsham-le-Willows at The Blue Boar to discuss rogue traders, scams and fraud – all welcome. No further crimes reported on website.
  - 5.4. Parish Clerk:
    - Bus Services: Contact numbers now posted on Noticeboard/website (should residents encounter problems booking services, please advise Cllr Stringer direct on 07545 423842).
    - Footpaths: Following maintenance work on footpaths within Wickham Skeith, Parish Council wrote to Suffolk Highways thanking them for their efforts, especially FP26 (Thwaite).
    - Election Nomination Forms: Parish Clerk accepted appointment on 15.03.19 to submit completed forms received from Councillors.

5.5. Parish Councillors:

- 5.5.1. Community Speed Watch: Radarlux SID now purchased, with thanks to Cllr Stringer. Cllr Blair kindly agreed to charge unit and arrange initial erection on Grange Road post. SID action plan to be instigated. Cllr Stringer confirmed receipt of request for speed limit signs to be painted on roads.
- 5.5.2. GDPR: Parish Clerk had advised sub-committee of current position regarding SALC Toolkit and draft Data Register circulated. It was agreed for remaining templates to be drafted/reviewed as required.
- 5.5.3. Community Emergency Plan: Cllr Palmer kindly submitted suggested revisions for Parish Clerk to update.
- 5.5.4. Defibrillator: Awaiting outcome of Tesco Bags of Help Grant Scheme following February's vote. Cllr Wade has also applied to National Lottery Awards. With thanks to the Masons and fellow organisers, defibrillator fundraising coffee morning raised £262.71. Other fundraising events and locality funding options to follow.

6. Correspondence Received:

- Ash Dieback (Chalara): Tree Warden wishes to support SCC in promoting Tree Policy by leading survey to record trees within Wickham Skeith. Cllr Stringer/Chair to liaise further with Tree Warden.
- All other correspondence which has not been circulated via email included within Agenda or in Circulation File.

7. Finance

- 7.1. Accounts as at 28.02.19 presented by Cllr Kemp (Treasurer), showing balance of £3,080.82.
- 7.2. Internal Accounts and Audit Review: Presented by Treasurer with updated 2018/19 Review agreed for adoption by all Councillors. Treasurer and Parish Clerk signed off completed Review documentation.
- 7.3. Instruction Letters: All Councillors approved circulated instruction letters regarding Parish Clerk's pay increase (effective from 01.04.19).
- 7.4. Vacancy: Councillor/Treasurer Vacancy still to be filled.

8. Planning Matters: DC/19/00158 (formerly DC/18/02665) - Homeleigh, The Broadway – BMSDC have granted permission for erection of replacement two storey dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling.

9. Village Green:

- 9.1. Working Parties: No update available in absence of Cllr Knights.
- 9.2. Grimmer Fishing: No action to be taken until Season commences.

10. Matters for next Agenda and Any Other Business: Cllr Blair advised of Scam Phone Call received.

11. Next Meeting: 13 May 2019 (Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council AGM).

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: .....  
Chair

Date: .....

**Wickham Skeith Parish Council**

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