## wslogWickham Skeith Parish Council

**Minutes** of the **Parish Council Meeting**

held **Monday, 8 November 2021** at the Village Hall, Wickham Skeith.

Present: Cllrs T Thorogood (Chair), K Knights, R Palmer, J Keable, T Rowe. Clerk: H Roberts. Also present: District Cllr Warboys, County Cllr Stringer, and three members of the public.

Apologies received and accepted from: Cllr Appleby.

1. 08/11/21: Chairman’s Welcome.
2. 08/11/21: a). To receive members’ Declarations of Interest on Agenda items. None received.

b). To consider requests for dispensations. None received.

1. 08/11/21: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19th October 2021 were **approved**.
2. 08/11/21: Village Forum. No issues raised.
3. 08/11/21: To receive reports from County and District Councillors, Police, Parish Clerk and Parish Councillors:

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* 1. 08/11/21: SCC: Cllr Stringer’s report was received. A copy is available on the Council’s website, along with these minutes. Main points:
* Covid booster vaccines. Cllr Stringer advised it was best if residents book online if they can rather than call the surgery, in order to relieve pressure on the surgery phone line.
* Local Electricity Bill, a proposal to help proportion local energy supplier’s costs, making local electricity cheaper and more reliable.
* SCC Cabinet meeting debrief.
* Suffolk Schools to reintroduce face coverings.
* Sizewell C: Government announce support & new funding strategy.
* Bus Back Better: Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) approved.

Cllr Knights asked for an update on SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilitles), and asked if a child is told to attend a SEND school that is not their nearest school, will they still get support for transport? Cllr Stringer said yes, they would.

Cllr Rowe asked if the proposal for doubling up pylons was accurate. Cllr Stringer said yes, but the plan has not yet been released, but the aim is to transport power from wind turbines from the sea.

Cllr Knights asked about reports that Suffolk holds twice the amount of land for development – that SCC has delivered approx. double its allocation, and that the Local Plan is paused for 6-9 months. Cllr Stringer recommended parishes have a Neighbourhood Plan. Some discussion followed. Cllr Keble said the Local Plan (2017) proposed 10-36 houses be built up to 2036, and that at the current rate this limit will be soon exceeded. Cllr Warboys said he would raise issues regarding recent planning applications at committee in Jan.

* 1. 08/11/21: MSDC: Cllr Warboys’ report was received. A copy is available on the Council’s website, along with these minutes. Main points:
     + MSDC full council meetings debriefs for Sept. and Oct.
     + Reduction in outdoor light pollution.
     + Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022. Cllr Warboys can make grants towards any celebrations.
     + Locality grants available now for 2021/22.
     + Local Energy Showcase event held in Oct. Cllr Warboys mentioned the presentation by Elmswell PC on their ground source heat pump project. Cllr Palmer asked if Elmswell have a local infrastructure plan. Cllr Warboys answered that one should be able to see what infrastructure plans other parishes have on their websites.
     + National Planning Policy Framework.
  2. and 5.4 08/11/21 Parish Clerk’s report (including Police report). The Clerk presented his report, including actions since the last meeting: an update on the village green land registration, the options for electric vehicle charge points, the Automated Number Plate Recognition pilot, and the defibrillator (see agenda item 5.5.4). A copy is available on the Council website.
  3. 08/11/21: Parish Councillors, including:
     1. 08/11/21: Community Speed Watch. The Clerk had circulated the latest data from the Speed Indicator Device (SID). Cllrs concluded they needed to know the times the SID was active in order to make sense of the data, and the Chair said he would ask the SID volunteer for this.
     2. 08/11/21: General Data Protection Regulation. No update – waiting on the Clerk to complete updates to policies.
     3. 08/11/21: Community Emergency Plan. No update – waiting on the Clerk to arrange the plan review.
     4. 08/11/21: Defibrillator. The Clerk reported that the defibrillator has been checked and registered with the NHS database, new light batteries inserted, and that replacement pads for the defib will not be needed until 2024, but they should be budgeted for. A spare set of pads should be purchased now. The Clerk recommended a defib Guardian be appointed. Cllr Keable volunteered for this role, and this was **agreed.** The Clerk also recommended defib training be arranged for the village. Cllr Stringer said he would send the contact of a local person who could do the training at no cost.

1. 08/11/21: Correspondence Received. A summary of the correspondence received is available as part of the Clerk’s report on the Council website. Main points considered:

* Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Beacons Plan – after some discussion, no proposal for beacons was agreed.
* Resident enquiry regarding the Grimmer. See agenda item 9.
* Headway Suffolk: no donation agreed.
* Suffolk Archives reopened. It was **agreed** the Clerk would investigate the feasibility of transferring old council records there.
* Suffolk County Council review of recommended lorry routes across the county. The Clerk will circulate the details to cllrs interested.

1. 08/11/21 Finance

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7.1. 08/11/21: The RFO presented the Statement of Account as of 31st October 2021 (along with a copy of latest bank statement), which was reviewed and **approved**

7.2. 08/11/21: RFO update: the RFO presented their report. A copy is available on the Council website. Changes to the Asset Register were considered, and it was **approved** provided replacement values are increased by 5%.

7.3. 08/11/21: Insurance Renewal. The Clerk reported that the previously approved Insurance cheque had been rejected and it was **agreed** a replacement cheque needed to be sent asap.

7.4. 08/11/21: The RFO presented a first draft Budget for FY2022/23. The Budget is to be finally agreed at the next meeting.

7.5. 08/11/21: No new invoices for were approved (but note the agenda item 7.3).

8. 08/11/21: Planning Matters

8.1 08/11/21: The following planning application was considered: DC/21/05954: Full Planning Application - Conversion of agricultural barn to form 1No dwelling, erection of new triple cartlodge, formation of new vehicular access/driveway and change of use of land to residential garden (following demolition of outbuildings). Location: Barn 1, Hempnalls Farm, Willow Lane, Cotton Suffolk IP14 4QN. The council was **neutral**, as the location was outside of the village.

The following planning decisions were noted:

8.2 08/11/21: DC/21/04539: Householder application - Installation of air source heat pump heating system. Installation of 2no external units of 0.55 cubic metres volume. Location: Jacks Barn, The Green, Wickham Skeith, Suffolk IP23 8LX. GRANTED.

8.3 08/11/21: DC/21/04116: Application for Listed Building Consent - Erection of single storey extensions (following demolition of lean to building), internal and external alterations as detailed in the Schedule of Works and Design and Access Statement. Location: Willow House, The Street, Wickham Skeith, Suffolk IP23 8LP. GRANTED.

8.4 08/11/21: DC/21/04103: Householder Planning Application - Erection of two bay cartlodge, Erection of single storey extensions (following demolition of lean to building), external alterations as detailed in the Schedule of Works and Design and Access Statement. Alterations to existing vehicular access. Location: Willow House, The Street, Wickham Skeith, Suffolk IP23 8LP.8.1. GRANTED.

8.5 08/11/21: DC/21/04804: Outline Planning Application (all matters reserved) - Erection of 1no. two storey dwelling and construction of new vehicular access. Location: The Orchard, Kitchen Close, Wickham Skeith, Suffolk. REFUSED.

8.6 08/11/21: DC/21/05298: Application for works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order MS353/A1 – Reduce 1No Ash tree (T1), 1No Lime (T2) and 1No Maple(T3) by up to 1/3rd for safety and tree health. Location: Willow Lodge, Rose Lane, Wickham Skeith, Suffolk IP23 8LU. GRANTED.

Cllr Knights raised an issue with a previous planning application for land east of Grange Road (DC/20/00849). He reported a 50 year old oak tree chopped down, and that this seemed to contradict the tree plan (T3 in the planning application). After some discussion, it was **agreed** the Clerk would raise this with the relevant planning officer and copy in Cllr Warboys, to check which, if any, planning application approved this.

9 08/11/21: Working Parties: Village Green and the Grimmer.

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Cllr Knights reported that there would be a date in January for a review of trees on the green.

In response to an enquiry from a resident of Finningham, it was **agreed** that the council would politely decline the offer of clearance of the plants. The Clerk will respond that the Grimmer is an environmental asset and that currently there are no plans to remove any weeds or other flora from the Grimmer..

10 08/11/21: Festival of Suffolk and Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. It was **agreed** this would be referred to the Village Hall committee.

11. 08/11/21: Matters for next agenda. Nothing raised other than the Budget and Precept.

1. 08/11/21: Next Meeting: Monday, 10th January 2021, 8pm, to be held in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.52 pm

Signed: ………………………………………….. Date: ……………………….

Chair