

# Wacton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Wacton Village Hall on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**Present: - Chair: Calvin Goreham. Councillors, Peter Jacques. Piers Blaikie.**

6 members of the public attended plus District Councillor Barry Duffin.

**1. To consider apologies for absence:**

Apologies were received from Paul Muston and Ian Mortimer all agreed to accept.

**2. To receive any declarations of interest for items on the agenda:**

Piers Bliakie for a payment under item 12 for travelling expenses.

**3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019:**

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and was duly signed by the Chairman.

**Proposed. Peter Jacques. Seconded. Piers Blaikie. .**

**4. To consider matters arising from the last minutes (for information only):**

No matters were arising.

**5. To receive a report from the County Councillor:**

Alison Thomas sent her apologies and her report is below

The Budget consultation is available until December on the Norfolk County Council website.

The Hempnall roundabout will open on time!

As £500,000k Government grant has been awarded so final business case to be finished. Assuming any new Government does not change the funding.

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If you have any small highway schemes, I still have some of my member budget available.

**6. To receive a report from the District Councillor:**

No Planning for our area

Run up to Christmas sees free parking in Wymondham, Loddon and Diss in December on the 7<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> which are all Saturdays.

Christmas Bin collections will have changed dates, and these will be put on the Parish Website.

**7. To receive the Footpath Wardens report:**

The Footpath Warden was in attendance and had emailed her usual detailed report No.47 which are attached to these minutes as Appendix 1 and a summary report of The Wacton Conversation area is Appendix 2 (for Councillors information only).

**8. To receive a report from the Tree Warden:**

Nothing major to report.

The leaning Tree on Blacks Meadow will be dealt with soon and apple trees will be pruned by Peter Jacques.

**9. To receive a report from the Village Hall Committee:**

A working party is planned for the 17<sup>th</sup> November and all volunteers are welcome.

**10. To consider Planning Applications:**

No Planning Applications had been received.

**11. Correspondence:**

The Clerk reported that he had received the paperwork from The Local Government Pensions Scheme to enrol the clerk in a pension scheme and it was agreed that this would be done in time for the budget to be worked out.

The Clerk also reported that he and the Chairman had attended a meeting with regards the need for risk assessments for all events. Earlier notification of these events from The Social Club was needed and an agreement was reached that in future this must happen.

The Clerk had also received details of this year's important Precept payment dates from South Norfolk District Council.

The Clerk also reported that he had received an email from Wacton Village Hall bookings clerk regarding chewing gum stuck under the seats at events recently.

The Clerk also reported that he had received details of a road closure on Wash Lane Wacton for 8 hours on 11<sup>th</sup> November for overhead power line works.

The Clerk also reported that he had received details of a small price increase on our Annual Play Inspection in January 2020.

The Clerk reported that he had received notice of an abusive letter sent to a parishioner regarding the Speed Watch scheme. This had been forwarded onto The Police for action.

Finally, The Clerk reported that he had received notification of The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan reaching its consultation stage and this ends on the 7<sup>th</sup> December. The link to comment on is on our Parish Website.

**12. Authorization of Cheques:**

- Cheques were authorized as follows:

Parish Clerk salary and expenses for October                    £608.58

Payment to Society of local Council Clerks for Clerks Course  
£278.00

Payment to Society of local Council Clerks for new clerks manuals  
£75.75

Payment to Westcotec for SAM Machine Repair            £77.40

Payment to Wacton Village hall for

Parish Office and meeting hire    £500.00

Payment to Town and County Websites for

Annual Parish Council website hosting.                            £130.00

Payment to Royal British Legion for Poppy wreaths £35.00

Payment to Gary Bentley for Parish Maintenance

of the Children's Play Area    £425.00

Payment to Piers Bliakie for Travel Expenses

To Parish Training Course    £23.85

The Clerk took the meeting through the Octobers Financial report

The Parish Council was in good financial health.

**13. To receive reports and discuss any on-going matters:**

**a. The Woodland Project Review:**

The trees alongside Common Road and Hall Lane have had pruning and cutting done to them by the Long Stratton High School students.

New work will be done by the students on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November when it is hoped that the national and local press will be in attendance. Long Stratton High School will provide both the risk and Health and safety assessments.

**14. To discuss Parish Speed Watch Group and Speed Awareness Machine data:**

The Speed Awareness Machine is due to be downloaded this Sunday and the findings will be but on the Parish website for all to see.

Locations need to be investigated as soon as possible.

It was requested that the police attend this meeting but unfortunately, they do not attend Parish Council meetings now due to operational issues.

The abusive letter was discussed again and most people in the speed watch group are happy to continue.

**15. To discuss the need for new Parish Councillors:**

We still have two vacancies for Parish Councillors and if anyone would like to take up the role (full training will be given) please contact the Clerk.

**16. To discuss the need to appoint a new Emergency Planning Coordinator:**

A discussion ensued regarding appointing an Emergency Planning Co-Ordinator for the Parish. The discussion then moved onto the makeup of the list, how it would be administered moving forward and once all the information had been collated, we would approach these parishioners to ensure the Co-Ordinator's role is needed.

**17. Matters raised by Councillors and members of the public (for information only):**

The bench outside the Village Hall is damaged and needs repairing so The Clerk was asked to contact Gary Bentley on this As Soon As Possible.

Grass Cutting to contact Norse to see if they were able to do another cut soon as it was very long.

The work on the Well on the Village Green to be sent to Gary Bentley for a quote. Also get Gary to check all benches in the Parish for stability.

Trees on a parishioners land to be looked at by Peter.

Hedge on Church farm on the top of Church lane is really overgrown and another hedge a further 40 yards up on Church Lane near Chapelfield. Clerk to check with Highways if they could undertake the work.

Litter issue in the Parish for the new year and The Clerk would look at a grant for Litter Picking equipment and the issue of a new dog bin for Sallow Lane from South Norfolk in the future.

**18. Items for the next agenda:**

Budget Meeting date.  
Speed watch Locations.

Next Parish Council Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Meeting ended 8.21 pm.