

Wacton Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Wacton Village Hall
on Wednesday 7th October 2019**

Present: -

**Chair: Calvin Goreham. Councillors, Paul Muston. Peter Jacques. Piers Blaikie.
Ian Mortimer**

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

1. To consider apologies for absence:

No apologies were received as all Councillors were in attendance.

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

No declarations.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2019:

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

Proposed. Peter Jacques. Seconded. Calvin Goreham. .

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 had sent her apologies for this evening and the main things to mention are that the budget proposals went to Cabinet today so consultation will be launched once call in window has finished.

Obviously, the recent torrential weather has put the highways teams and Fire service under extreme pressure so please be patient if you are waiting for jobs to be done!

6. To receive a report from the District Councillor:

No Budget details yet but will inform The Parish Council when the budget is finalised.

The Planning Application raised at the last meeting is due to be approved soon.

Questions were asked on the proposed Planning Application for numerous homes in Gt Moulton and Aslacton and the worries for Wacton with regards the traffic issues in our Parish and the concerns over getting appointments at The Doctors Surgery and local school's admissions.

7. To receive the Footpath Wardens report:

The Footpath Warden was not in attendance but had emailed her usual detailed report no 46 which are attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

8. To receive a report from the Tree Warden:

The Tree Warden had no formal report for the meeting but reported that the trees on Common Road Wacton were overhanging the road. It was agreed that the trees were on Christian Taylors land and Peter would speak with him on the issue.

Peter also reported that there were no ditch flooding issues after the recent heavy rainfall.

Finally, Peter reported that it was All Saints Church, Wacton clean up this Saturday and asked for all to attend and help if they could.

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

It was reported that the light outside the main door was not working correctly and this would be fixed on Saturday.

It was also asked that the light be put on in the carpark on meeting nights as it was very dark.

10. To consider Planning Applications:

No Planning Applications had been received.

11. Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that he had received an email from the Pensions Regulator regarding his enrolment in a pension scheme which he will look at in due course in time for the budget calculations.

The Clerk also reported that he had received an email from Norfolk County Council regarding an amendment of the Register of Common Land regarding Wacton Common. It was to inform the Parish Council of a Right of Transfer for the grazing of cattle on Wacton Common from Mr. Humphreys and Mrs. Potter to Mrs. B Humphreys.

The Clerk also reported that he had received an email from Wacton Social Club for use of the Village Green on 9th November for a fireworks event and access to The Village Hall on the 8th November to collect the Marquee. The Clerk would like to make it known that legally this should be an agenda item for a decision to be made and the necessary documents to be submitted to the Parish Council at least 2 months before the event is planned and that he intends to write to the Social Club to ask for a meeting as soon as possible to instruct them of their legal duties regarding such requests and the timescales involved.

Proposed. Ian Mortimer. Seconded. Paul Muston.

The Clerk also reported that he had received a quote from G Bentley (maintenance contractor) for the extra work on The Children's Play Area as discussed with Chairman Calvin Goreham recently. The quote is for £425.

Proposed. Calvin Goreham. Seconded. Paul Muston.

The Clerk would also like to place on record the excellent work done by Mr. Bentley recently on the multi play equipment and the grass cutting of the small area by the car park on the Village Green.

12. Authorization of Cheques:

- Cheques were authorized as follows:

Parish Clerk salary and expenses for July	£474.39
Payment to PKF Littlejohn	£240.00
Payment to Norse for Village maintenance	£926.40
Payment to Wacton Village Hall for PAT testing	£29.50
Payment to Gary Bentley for maintenance work	£495.00

Proposed. Ian Mortimer. Seconded. Paul Muston.

Cheques agreed and signed and detailed on the accounts.

The Clerk took the meeting through Septembers Financial Report.

The Clerk then took the meeting through the External Audit Report and the need to change boxes 3 and 6 as per their comments on page 6 of the report. This was over the issues with an extra VAT repayment to the Parish Council received in error and then returned by the Clerk.

The Parish Council was in good financial health.

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

a. The Woodland Project Review:

Peter reported that the students from Long Stratton High School will be back working in the Woodland Project from next week and would now be attending on a Tuesday from now on.

Peter also reported that the final work should take place in The Woodland Project soon.

14. To discuss Victoria Cottage Trees:

Councillor Paul Muston visited the Victoria Cottage Beech Hedge area and he proposed that the Parish Council purchase a few Beech Saplings to plant in the area. A discussion ensued on this with points raised on the access to the area. A vote was taken, and the vote was 4-1 in favour of purchasing some beech tree saplings.

Proposed Calvin Goreham Seconded Peirs Blaikie

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

The Speed Awareness Machine is back and is mounted outside the village hall but needs moving slightly to ensure that all vehicles are captured.

The coordinator of the speed watch campaign commented that a few new volunteers had come forward and their details were being sent to The Police for vetting.

The Clerk commented that we could use the Speed Awareness machine to check vehicle numbers also that come through the village and should we see an increase over normal figures we can forward the information to Norfolk county Council Highways.

16. 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.

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

The Chair commented that he felt we needed to appoint a coordinator to assist the vulnerable moving forward. The coordinator needs to be GDPR compliant and fully DBS checked to undertake the role. A discussion ensued on this and it was agreed that the practical reality would be difficult to achieve. All Councillors were asked to look at this and to canvass people that may need the help on the viability of the scheme. It was agreed to discuss at the next meeting.

18. To discuss the upcoming Parish Council meeting dates

It was agreed to stick with Wednesday meeting dates.

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

The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan Submission was now in full swing and the Clerk would put a link on our website for Parishioners to access and comment.

There will be a consultation on 8th November at Long Stratton Village Hall from 6.30pm to 9pm.

The County Broadband scheme would be holding a consultation on the 8th October at Wacton Village Hall and all are welcome to attend. It was noted that we still needed 36 people to sign up so the Parish can access this service.

Finally, it was reported that the railings by No19 Hall Lane had been damaged and had been reported by a Parishioner who will forward the details to the Clerk

20. Items for the next agenda:

Emergency Coordinator

Overhanging Trees on Common Road Wacton

Next Parish Council Meeting Monday 6th November 2019

Meeting ended 8.25 pm.