

Wacton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Wacton Village Hall
on Wednesday 4th March 2020

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

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

1. To consider apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Paul Muston. All agreed to accept.

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

No declarations reported.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2020:

The minutes were agreed with one small alteration as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

Proposed. Ian Mortimer Seconded. Piers Blaikie .

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

No matters arising from the last meeting minutes.

5. To receive a report from the County Councillor:

The boundary review is ongoing at present and will not have a final decision until the Autumn.

There are still issues with the water on the road from Long Stratton to Wacton and Alison feels the Highway engineer is running out of funds to get all the work done. There has been publicity on the School music service which has been running at a loss, so a consultation is in progress to ensure the best cost-effective solution is found.

Due to the weather Highways are working at full stretch and some things are still not completed due to these issues. The Chairman made comment that the recent work done on Stratton Road was completed well and looks fantastic and he wanted to pass on his thanks to Highways.

6. To receive a report from the District Councillor:

Apologies for being late but Barry had nothing to report.

7. To receive the Footpath Wardens report:

The Footpath Warden did not produce a detailed report for this month's meeting due to last month's weather.

8. To receive a report from the Tree Warden:

Peter reported that a tree had blown down on Common Road and thankfully Christian Taylor helped to move the tree with his forklift. The wood is slowly being taken away. The work on Wacton House hedge has been completed and looks very rough but Peter reported that it will take 2 years to come to maturity.

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

Two recent incidents were reported and are currently being investigated as we speak.

10. To consider Planning Applications:

2020/0301 Approved

2020/0302 Listed Building Consent Approved

11. Correspondence:

The Clerk reported the following emails.

The Information Commissioner's Office had reminded him that the annual direct debit will be taken out in April for our annual charge.

The Police are opening the Diss enquiry Centre which is open for parishioners to meet the Safer Neighbourhood Team on Fridays from 10 am to noon to discuss any issues they have.

The Older Peoples Forum (now known as Your Voice) have a meeting at the Poringland Community Centre on 25th March from 1.30pm to 4pm with various activities on the Agenda. Copies are available at the meeting for parishioners to take away.

A parishioner had raised a query regarding the culvert on Hall Lane as you leave the village, but very little information was provided by the parishioner, so The Clerk has emailed the parishioner back for more information on the enquiry.

A letter from Norse regarding their future and their ability to provide Grounds Maintenance services in future. As yet The Clerk has heard nothing further from Norse.

Finally, The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Norfolk Parish Training and Support regarding renewing The Parish Councils subscription to this service.

12. Authorization of Cheques:

- Cheques were authorized as follows:

Parish Clerk Salary and Expenses for December	£445.02
Parish Clerk for New Printer	£49.99
Road Ware for New Dog litter Bin	£94.74
Wacton Social Club Grant	£250.00

(Replaces initial lost cheque)

The Clerk took the meeting through the February Financial report

The Parish Council was in good financial health.

Proposed. Peter Jacques

Seconded. Ian Mortimer

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

a. The Woodland Project Review:

Peter reported that the Long Stratton High School students had been helping with cleaning out the Bird Boxes.

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

The Speed Awareness Machine was now located on Hall Lane as you come into the village from Great Moulton and the download will take place before the next meeting.

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 for a new dog bin.

The Clerk reported that the new dog bin had been ordered but he was yet to learn of the preferred location for the dog bin. The Clerk will email The Highways officer to ensure that's okay to attach to the post.

17. To discuss the Parish maintenance schedule. For 2020-2021

It was agreed to defer this until the decision from Norse is received regarding the issue of Norse closing its depots that provide their grounds service.

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

The Clerk produced his proposed letter to be sent to Parishioners and the following issues were discussed.

Vulnerability

Helping hands and people with ability to help

Cost of the plan

The Chairman felt that we should just be knocking on the doors of all the vulnerable parishioners, but he felt we had moved away from the original idea and thoughts on the plan.

It was agreed that the letter needs working on and a defined schedule in place so the letter must go out by the middle of April with all information collated by middle of May with the final decision on whether the plans is workable in early June.

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

It was agreed that The Parish Council would undertake a Parish Litter Pick on Sunday 19th April and meet at the Village Hall for 10.30 am onwards. The Clerk will put this on the website.

The hedge on Church Farm still needs cutting back and the householder has been approached but to date nothing has been done. Peter and Maurice will approach the householder.

20. Items for the next agenda:

Emergency Co-Ordinator Plan
Parish Maintenance Agreement
Parish Insurance.
Parish Policies.

Next Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 1st April 2020

Meeting ended 8.20 pm.