



## WORLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Worlingham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 6.30pm at Worlingham Primary School

*Present; Cllrs; W Summerfield (Chair), D Anderson, S Holman, J Mather, S Robbins, J Stevens*  
*Also, Present - Mrs L Beevor parish clerk. ESC Cllr Plummer, SCC and ESC Cllr C Topping, ESC Cllr Rumble, 3 members of the public.*

#### **Minutes**

1. a) *To receive any apologies for absence.* Apologies were received from Cllr Kersey, Cllr S Mather, SCC Ward Cllr Lever  
b) *To receive any Declarations of Non registrable interest* regarding the agenda – Cllr Holman re 9 Pine Tree Close, Cllr Stevens re Marsh Lane.  
c) *To receive a Declaration of Other registrable interest.* Nil  
d) *To receive any Declaration of Prejudicial Interest* regarding the agenda Cllr Summerfield re Community Hall.  
e) *To receive any Requests for Dispensation on matters relating to the agenda* Nil  
f) *To remind councillors to update the Register of Interests* online. Noted
2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting of July were approved by all.
3. *Meeting adjourned for public participation. During each meeting the council will adjourn for a period of 10 minutes for public questions. During this time, residents can put questions to the Chairman regarding matters on the agenda. Where possible, the Chairman will respond but the matter may have to be deferred and placed on a later month's agenda for discussion.*
  - a) *Public* – Public spoke about the Forest School and the activities at the rear of Marsh Lane. Complaints were expressed regarding excess noise and additional traffic. Volume of traffic along Marsh Lane has significantly increased. It was noted that a 52-seater coach had used Marsh Lane to access the Archery. There are no passing places along Marsh Lane, and it is single carriageway. With the addition of Worlingham Marshes traffic will again increase.  
The public advised that activities other than archery are taking place such as the Wood View Project, Wood Sisters, Kinder Forest School, Worlingham Archery School (see Facebook sites for these). Mention was made of the number of events being held. Public mentioned the planning permission conditions of 2021.

A member of the public spoke about the play equipment at Bluebell Way which has been damaged by

anti-social behaviour. The members of the public had taken some of the bits and stored in their garage for safe keeping. The member of the public confirmed that the new seat had been well used and not abused. Ward Cllr Topping suggested that Jacqui Balls Youth group could be asked to visit the area to talk to the youths.

A member of the public asked about the SCC surfacing of the pavements along Lowestoft Road – and why the contractors had not skirted the edges back as far as they needed to go. A council member asked SCC ward Cllr to find out why such a sloppy job had been carried out on the pavement resurfacing along Lowestoft Road, and why only some of the paths had been resurfaced and why they had not been skirted back to original width.

b) *SCC Ward Cllr Lever* – Nil

c) ESC /Reports had been circulated. Ward Cllr Topping advised that she had met with Rachel Reeves MP regarding devolution and had advised her that the 5 District Councils views on devolution had not been taken on board by the County. Members were advised that the deadline for grant applications relating to the Men's Tour of Britain had been extended to allow more time for applications.

Regarding the Forest School within the woods at the rear of Marsh Lane, ESC Cllr Plummer advised that the Archery School has the correct planning permission to continue. But that anything outside of the permission must be reported to ESC Planners.

The Forest School planning application is awaited. Because of traffic issues being highlighted, a traffic survey will be required, and it is suggested that this takes place once schools are back for the new term.

Discussion re the Forest School and Archery.

Members noted that SWT is advising the public that parking for Worlingham Marshes should be at Beccles.

Cllr Summerfield advised the residents that the parish council also has the same concerns as raised by members of the public about the use of the land at the rear of Marsh Lane and that everything on there needs to be properly set up with planning / event permission.

Discussion about officers at ESC not listening to concerns of the parish council. It was suggested by the parish council that ESC does not have sufficient staff resourcing in the enforcement section of the planning dept and asked that Cllr Topping considers this as a concern.

The public advised that another gathering at the site was being advertised on social media for 31<sup>st</sup> Aug – and that they had concerns re noise. Discussion about a noise monitor. Cllr Topping offered to contact the noise abatement officer at ESC who is Shane Mingay to see what they suggest.

Discussion about when the planning application for the Forest School could be expected.

Cllr Topping advised that the activity day held by Worlingham PC at the school had been excellent and that it was wonderful to see so many children enjoying it. 130 youngsters had attended – between ages of 2 – 15. Discussion about the upper age limit for the day – it was agreed that the parish council had noted the correct age limit – older children can access Beccles Skatepark.

Cllr Topping asked about Sandpit Lane letter received by the parish council – clerk to send a copy to Cllr Topping.

It was mentioned that PCE Automation has just won the Kings Award for Industry.

*Public and ward Cllrs left at 7.30pm.*

4 Planning

a) *Applications received prior to the meeting including.*

DC/24/2633/FUL – 9 Pine Tree Close. Council had no objection to the application but noted that they would want the size to be in accordance with the SCC Plans and Worl N Plan and that the condition should be that the garage needs to be ancillary to the house and not a separate property.

Dc/24/2504/FUL – 8 Lowestoft Road. No objections.

b) *ESC Decisions received.*

DRC – land off Rectory Lane - permitted.

22 Copplestone Close Worlingham Beccles Suffolk NR34 7SF

c) *Any other planning matters.*

Letter from ESC RE Sandpit Lane re the possibility of this being a quiet lane. See above.

5 Chairs report and updates including correspondence received.

*Garden Village meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> July.* Members felt that this had been a good meeting and that it was encouraging to see that concerns had been listened to. It was noted though that there are still matters to consider such as how the boundary between Beccles and Worlingham will be distinguished.

Re sports facility – it was suggested that a running track/ hockey pitch would be welcomed, with the intended community facility to be sports related. Discussion about whether WPC could run the sports facility.

Discussion re the ‘drop off loop’ which is shown on the Plan and whether it should be there.

Members noted that both Beccles and Worlingham are against the prospect of a management company.

*Activity day at Worlingham Primary – see above.* Discussion about maximum number- it was agreed that 130 ought to be the maximum. It was agreed by all that the activities ought to be held again next year – discussion about whether it could be held at the same time as the fete. Lack of permission to use the toilets at the sports hall was considered a problem for the activity staff, and it was suggested that this matter, and the use of the community sports hall need to be discussed with the Head Teacher again – especially as most of the beneficiaries, those attending the day, were from Worlingham Primary School.

6 Councillor and clerk updates:

*Volunteer Works carried out in village / Community Self Help update –* Community Self Help group has carried out work around the cycle path on All Saints Green. Thanks to JS for all of his help with this.

Discussion re Samford Court Hedge – it was felt by members that this is the responsibility of Broadland Housing. Garden Lane – a shrub needs cutting back – JS offered to do this.

See list of things to buy from Community Self Help Scheme – after full discussion it was agreed with 1 against and 1 abstain to send the list to SCC for consideration by them.

JS mentioned that the blade of his own chain saw had blunted due to the use for the community self-help work– JS will try and put claim into Community Self Help, if not will claim from WPC.

Chainsaw / multi tool course to be arranged by Community Self Help for JS – noted that WPC will need to pay for training. Cost to be ascertained.

Glass in Kempton Cross shelter still needs replacing – this has been noted on the SCC Reporting tool.  
Larger transport schemes – accessing SCC budget for drop kerbs etc to be considered for the future.  
Fencing by Kempton Cross bus shelter to be reported again.  
Garden Lane Bank – need to establish whose responsibility it is to cut this area.  
Who owns/ maintains grass at end of Orchard Rise.  
Add Suttons Close grass area by Noticeboard to the Vertas schedule.

Scaffold agreement re All Saints Green – being completed.

#### 7. Events

- Village fete – being organised by fete volunteers, not the PC. Permission has been given to use All Saints green subject to the volunteers carrying out all necessary risk assessments and having all due insurance in place., and the appropriate number of volunteers on the day.
- Beccles Community meeting- WS will attend.

#### 8 Finance Matters including.

- a) Authorisation of cheques for payment.

**It was agreed by all that the payments as scheduled could be paid by cheque/ Bacs in accordance with council requirements.**

- b) Donation requests – Nil

- c) Financial Standing orders – new Nalc template – See previous minutes.

#### 9. Play area capital projects and maintenance.

Capital purchases – discussion re the quotes being obtained for Woodfield Park. More to be obtained.

Repairs/ maintenance – Bluebell Way area – quotes being obtained from ESS for repairs.

Grounds works – members passed on their thanks to Vertas for all of their work on Werels Loke play area and open space.

Cil funding – discussion about the lack of future Cil as the Garden Village is at £0. Discussion about contacting ESC to find out what Cil might be available to apply for.

Mention was made of Diss play area by Mere – and Lowestoft by Sparrows Nest – suggested that contact be made with the councils to see how / who funded these.

It was mentioned that a Just Giving page might be worth considering.

Talking Seats/ benches – It was agreed to review location if Woodfield Park not going ahead quickly.

#### 10. Policies to approve.

**Complaints, grievance, Equality and Diversity, Anti-harassment and bullying – Agreed by all.**

#### 11. Date of next meeting. Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm

DRAFT