



WORLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Worlingham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 16th July 2024 at 6.30pm at Worlingham Primary School

Present; Cllrs; W Summerfield (Chair), D Anderson, J Mather, S Robbins, J Stevens

Also, Present - Mrs L Beevor parish clerk. ESC Cllr Plummer arrived 6.45pm and left at 7.15pm.

Minutes

- 1
 - a) *To receive any apologies for absence.* Apologies were received from Cllr Holman, Cllr Kersey, Cllr S Mather.
 - b) *To receive any Declarations of Non registrable interest* regarding the agenda – Nil
 - c) *To receive a Declaration of Other registrable interest.* Cllr Stevens re Marsh Lane.
 - 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. Cllr Robbins had provided apologies and had not declared an ORI in section 1c). With these amendments the minutes were approved.
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* – Nil
 - b) *SCC Ward Cllr Lever* – Not present
 - c) *ESC /Reports* had been circulated. Also see below.
- 4 Planning
 - a) *Applications received prior to the meeting including.*
Nil
 - b) *ESC Decisions received.* Land at Ellough Road, and DC/23/2699/FUL.
 - c) *Any other planning matters.*
Letter from ESC RE Sandpit Lane re the possibility of this being a quiet lane.

Discussion about how this could work.

How would the farmer get access?

How would emergency vehicles get access?

What is the intention of the proposal?

What surveys are being carried out – ask that these include Rectory Lane, College Lane as well as Sandpit Lane.

5 Chairs report and updates including correspondence received.

- ESC Planning forum – 11th July – WS provided a summary to members. It was noted that the new government seem well advanced on revised planning legislation which is likely to be provided to councils in draft form in the autumn.
N Plans can be reviewed after 5 years.
Waveney and Suffolk Coastal have separate Local Plans – these will come together at some stage.
ESC is creating a Developers informal Charter, and it is hoped that developers will embrace this.
Workshops were held – WS attended the one on ‘enforcement’. Queries were raised as to why ESC does not enforce more planning infringements – it was felt that there is a level of inconsistency on what ESC do enforce.
The parish clerk had attended the workshop on preplanning and statutory consultations.
- Boat trip – it does not seem that Suffolk Wildlife will be able to arrange a trip just for parish council members – members were encouraged to join one of the scheduled boat trips.
- Garden village meeting – this is taking place this week and will include landowners, stakeholders and councils’ representatives.

ESC Ward Cllr Sarah Plummer arrived 6.45pm

There may be delays to some items as colleagues come to terms with a sudden death within the ESC planning team.

Forest School – no planning application has yet been received.

WS advised that a member of the public has complained about the location of the seat at Bluebell Way as they believe that it will encourage anti-social behaviour. Resident to be advised to report any anti-social behaviour concerns to Police on 101.

ESC Cllr Plummer left at 7.15pm

6 Councillor and clerk updates:

- All Saints Green play area – the Badger scaffolding will be erected in the play area.
Discussion about charging a fee for the permission at the same costs as SCC would charge.
This would be in the region of £900.
It was suggested that such fees could then be reinvested into upgrades for the play area or to add to donations for community organisations.

WS voiced concerns about the proposed charge and the possible delays which this might cause to the community centre project

WS left the meeting at 7.35pm.

Further discussion about charging a fee. It was proposed, seconded and AGREED BY ALL to advise Badger Building of the £900 fee for the scaffold permission for All Saints Green. Costs aligned to those charged by SCC.

WS did not return to the meeting. It was agreed by all that Cllr Stevens chair the remainder of the meeting.

- Walk around parish with SCC to note any concerns. ESC had responded on some of the matters which SCC subcontract them to do, and on some of the matters which are an ESC responsibility. Issues re overgrown hedges etc – these are to be reported on the SCC Highways reporting tool and SCC will then write to the landowner. SCC would like to identify some traffic management schemes which could be introduced in Worlingham. It was agreed that a regular walk around with SCC would be beneficial. A member asked that the parish council asks SCC where they are going to slurry seal.
- Community self-help scheme – SCC advise that the parish council could apply for some costs for machinery to help with works in the village, but they cannot fund the training to use the machinery – this would need to be organised and paid for by the p.c. Cllr Stevens offered to collate a list of items which would be useful to have.
- Bench by One Stop – ESS to be asked to ensure that this is secure.

7. Events

- Mobile skate facility – clerk updated members about the request for those attending to be able to use the toilets in the school sports hall – this request had been declined by the Head teacher.
- **Use of All Saints Green for fete – after full discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that the policy on charging for using the land at All Saints Green would be waived for community events such as the village fete. It was agreed by all that no fee would be charged for community events being held on the land by charitable/ not for profit organisations.**

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

A1 Recycling has asked that the parish council consider a donation to Heart to Heart charity to assist with the funding of a defib at the shops on Hillside Ave.

After full discussion it was AGREED by all to provide a donation of £450 to Heart to Herat charity for the balance of the defib being purchased.

c) Year-end accounts 2023/2024 including reserves.
All documents submitted to the external auditor.

d) Financial Standing orders – new Nalc template

Discussion about the need to advertise opportunities on Contracts Finder and the appropriate limit for advertising on the platform. It was agreed by all that the limit would be raised to £60k to reflect the present costs of capital items.

9. Play area capital projects and maintenance.

Woodfield Park – It had previously been agreed to budget £50k for play area improvements. Beccles TC have recently had their play area at the Quay updated – clerk to find out who they dealt with and at what cost. One supplier has already provided an indicative cost for the new equipment – they to be asked whether this would be their best deal. Ask whether any other items could be included within the price.

Bluebell Way capital equipment to be considered as phase 2. Check with ESS what needs prioritising.

Accessible swing in Werels Loke needs to be considered as is difficult to get to at present.

Rospa repairs need carrying out on all play areas – Vertas and ESS to be approached. Gate at All Saints Green needs to be self-closing – quote for repair required.

‘No Dog signs’ – 2 new ones to be ordered for All Saints Green gated area.

Tree works all play areas – ESC tree officer costs previously agreed. One tree has been cut down at Woodfield Park opposite the play area – pc to check that this was on the work required and costed.

Talking Seat – Sid the Snake was suggested for the play area at Woodfield Park.

10. Policies to approve:

Complaints, grievance, Equality and Diversity, Anti-harassment and bullying – to be considered at the next meeting.

11. Date of next meeting. Tuesday August 13th at 6.30pm

DRAFT