



WORLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Worlingham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 15th October 2024 at 6.30pm at Worlingham Primary School

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

Also, Present - Mrs L Beevor parish clerk. ESC Ward Cllr Plummer, and SCC Ward Cllr C Topping.

Minutes

1.
 - a) *To receive any apologies for absence.* Apologies were received from; Cllr Holman and SCC Ward Cllr Lever
 - b) *To receive any Declarations of Non registrable interest* regarding the agenda – Nil
 - 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. Cllrs J and S Mather re 3 Ashdale Drive.
 - 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 September 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) *SCC and ESC Ward Cllr Topping* – monthly reports have been sent to all.
Cllr Topping had visited the Beccles Health Centre – spoke about the Garden village which will not have a new surgery on it.
Cllr Topping described the options for increasing the surgery at the present site – and has suggested that the partners apply for ESC Cil money. They are going to meet the ESC LPA in November as part of a pre planning process.

There might be an option to move a whole dept out to the Worlingham Pharmacy site.

The doctors have joined the 'Good things foundation' and they do a digital inclusion seminar to teach people about using the internet to access NHS information.

Cllr Topping advised that she had visited Lowestoft Library to see the use of a new Sisa machine which takes blood pressure and pulse and can advise whether you are at risk of a heart attack over the next 10 years. The doctor's surgery does have these machines – ESC Cllr Topping and ESC Cllr

Plummer are going to look into funding more for community venues where people can take the tests without having to go to a doctor.

ESC - Simpler recycling – Food/ plastic/ glass collection will be needed from 2025. Tetro packs from 2026. People will have 3 bins and a food caddy which will fit into one of the bins.

Forest School – members were advised that the speed and traffic surveys have been taking place and a survey of all of the entrances to the site. No planning application has yet been received, but neither has any enforcement taken place.

Cllr Summerfield spoke about the visit of 2 of the Health Centre partners to Beccles Town Hall and the questions that had been asked of them there by Worlingham and Beccles members.

Cllr Stevens suggested that the partners engage with SCC Highways re pre planning as well as with ESC.

Cllr Summerfield advised that the business manager at the surgery would send the clerk some text to go into a parish newsletter, to explain to residents how the booking system etc works and how to feed back any concerns etc.

Cllr Stevens asked whether ESC planners were asking builders to construct properties with sufficient bin storage facilities for the new requirements.

Cllr Summerfield asked about the timings for the next meeting re the Garden Village. ESC is waiting for the new planning officer to get into post before there is any further discussions and they do not expect the actual plans before 2025. Cllr Summerfield advised that the parish council want another meeting with the ESC planners asap.

Cllr Stevens advised that parking along Marsh Lane has become a problem with people waiting for the Forest school.

Questions to SCC Ward Cllrs

What is happening about the removal of weeds from the walkways i.e. Mirbecks to All Saints Green, The Chase to Park Drive.

What is happening about the pavement tarmac along the Lowestoft Road which was laid and then dug up 2 weeks later. SCC Cllr Paul West has apparently apologised for this. SCC should be relaying the tarmac – obtain timescales from SCC i.e. Ward Cllr Topping/ Lever, Cllr West, SCC Officer Graham McIntyre.

Are the cycle paths being cleared by the road sweepers – answer is no they are not.

Discussion about the pathway alongside the primary school to Cedar Drive – the trunks of the trees are within the school grounds. Advise SCC Carl Lockwood that the canopy of the trees is obstructing the lights. Also advised SCC Craig Leech and SCC Charlotte Frost. Contact the school again about cutting these back. SCC Cllr Topping will contact the asset team in SCC as the school is an LEA school.

b) *Public* – NIL

4 Planning

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

Cllrs J and S Mather did not take part in the discussion or vote.

DC/24/3152/FUL 3 Ashdale Drive Worlingham Beccles Suffolk NR34 7DU. Single storey kitchen extension to rear of property, new front porch & internal alterations.

There were no objections to this application.

b) To receive ESC decisions

Hillwood Lowestoft Road Worlingham Beccles Suffolk NR34 7PD

Ref. No: DC/24/2936/FUL Permitted

Olive Grove 31A Garden Lane Worlingham Beccles Suffolk NR34 7SB

Ref. No: DC/24/2884/FUL Permitted

9 Pine Tree Close Worlingham Beccles Suffolk NR34 7EE

Ref. No: DC/24/2633/FUL Permitted

c) Any other planning matters.

Garden Village – as above.

5. Chairs Report and update

Beccles Health Centre – see above.

6. Events

Remembrance Sunday - wreaths will be laid on 10th November 2024 at Worlingham Church

7. Finance Matters including;

a) Authorisation of cheques/ Bacs 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 – Beccles Salvation Army. Application form has been sent for completion – await all details before considering request.

c) AGAR Audit Report 2023.2024 – Final report from external audit received. There were no matters for action nor to note. **Considered and agreed by all.**

- d) Pedestrian kerbing – ESC Ward Cllr Topping and Plummer do have some funds which can be used for a dropped (pedestrian) kerb. It was suggested that Wainford Close might be a priority area. Any other suggestions to be e mailed to clerk and the contact to be made with the ward councillors.
- e) Cllr Topping has some funding available which might be able to help with the purchase of a new basket swing in the play area – cost approx. £4k. Clerk to contact Cllr Topping.

8. Play area improvements – update on;

Capital purchases of equipment – Wicksteed are due to visit on 22nd October.
Designs and bids will need to be assessed and scored.

Grounds maintenance works - ESS to be advised to cut back the football pitch further at Cedar Drive.
Advise Vertas to cut through the pathway from Suttons Road to the play area – suggest that they meet with Cllr Anderson to get precise area.

Rospa Reports – to be analysed.

Bluebell Way – parking on the grass – discussion. Residents have complained about people parking on the grass area. Parking on this area could mean that the motorist is driving over the culvert – this could be problematic with regards to the flooding issues already identified around the site. Esc ward Cllr offered to write to the motorist – details tot be provided. Signs stating that there should be ‘No unauthorised vehicles’ to be erected.

9 Policies to approve. Nil

10. Clerk and Councillors

To note matters from around parish now requiring attention

Alleyways – noted as above.

Chase glass in Kempton Cross bus shelter

Ask SCC Jo Kerridge to check the fence at Ashdale Drive as this could be a highways safety issue.

Many of the grit bins have been checked for litter as requested by ESC.

Community Self Help – see above re Vertas creating the path through to Werels Loke from Suttons Road.

Litter picking to be third Thursday in November.

Xmas Trees and Lights have been ordered.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust visit re a school project – date to be set.

Cllr S Mather will put the Tommys out.

11. Date of next meeting. Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 6.30pm

7. Finance Matters including;

a) *Authorisation of cheques/ Bacs 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-as per recent NALC update* – as per previous discussions it was agreed that the Contracts Finder procurement limit be set at £60k before VAT.

f) *Grants received – Men’s Cycle race – £500 grant for bike racks.* Members suggested that contact be made with Mr Cooke to ask permission for a new cycle rack to be placed by the newsagent/ fish and chip shop.

g) *Insurance renewal* - It was agreed by all that the insurance contract be renewed on a long-term arrangement until 2027.

h) *Cil update* – The clerk has made contact with ESC who advise that there is no further Esc scheme which parishes can apply to until April 2025.

In 2025 there may also be a play area CIL Scheme available for parishes to apply to.

The parish council CIL will be in the region of £20k in 2025.

8. Play area improvements – update on;

Capital purchases of equipment – The Chair advised that 2 companies have visited the site. Potential plans have been received from Playdale, and those from Eibe are awaited. Kompan are also due to visit as well as

Wicksteed. The Chair advised that Matta is grass plastic sheet, whilst wet pour is a mulch which is more expensive. Eibe has suggested that the slide from the large piece of equipment could be reused. Once all companies' designs have been received these will need to be scored and a design chosen.

Grounds maintenance works – Werels loke - members considered that Vertas were doing a very good job and that compliments had been received about their work. Vertas have been asked to cut swathes through the brambles at Werels Loke to create footpaths.

ESS works – work on Woodfield Park needs to be cut back more. Meeting to be arranged with ESS to discuss the necessary works with them.

All Saints Green will be cut for the fete.

Rospa reports are due for all play areas.

Location for talking seats – Members considered that a snake seat be purchased for the Woodfield Park play area as part of the refurb.

9 Policies to approve. Nil

10. Clerk and Councillors

To note matters from around parish now requiring attention. Councillors to notify clerk if they see anything that needs doing.

Volunteer Works carried out in village / Community Self Help update. Cllrs Anderson and Stevens have been doing some clearing of the footpath from Suttons Road through to Werels Loke, and the cutting of the extra land by Werels Loke.

Community Partnership – LK had attended the last meeting of the partnership. 3 priorities have been set – Social isolation, improving mental health, natural environment.

*Letter re use of new Community Facility **.* Item moved to confidential section.

** These items may be moved to a confidential section if required.

11. Date of next meeting. Tuesday October 15th, 2024

The Chair left the meeting prior to the discussion about the letter received from the community facility about renting their room in the future. No action at this stage.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS THE PARISH COUNCIL ABIDES BY THE PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT 2011
THE CODE OF CONDUCT IS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY CONTACT WITH THE CLERK.

DRAFT