



WORLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Worlingham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 6.30pm at Worlingham Primary School

Present; Cllrs; D Anderson, Cllr Holman, Cllr Kersey, Cllr S Mather Cllr J Mather, S Robbins.

Also, Present - Mrs L Beevor parish clerk. ESC Ward Cllr Plummer (arrived at 7pm) and SCC Ward Cllrs C Topping and A Lever. 3 members of the public were also present.

Minutes

1.
 - a) *To receive any apologies for absence.* Apologies were received from; Cllr W Summerfield, and Cllr J Stevens
 - 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.
 - 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 November 2024 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.

The ESC and SCC written reports had been received and circulated.

The SCC Ward Cllrs spoke about the Beccles Parking Review which was considering zoning resident areas to assist with parking. It is also reviewing the 30min free parking within the town centre, Beccles Transport Plan is a SCC scheme. It was suggested that when it gets to its next stage, Worlingham p c ought to be involved as representatives of the residents of Worlingham. A copy of the Beccles T C response has been sent to the parish council. The review of Beccles is one of 15 being carried out by SCC. A part of the project is a piece of work being undertaken at the station. Cllr Lever advised that Worlingham P C could still respond to the SCC information if it wished to, and SCC ward Cllrs would make sure that WPC has a place at the table for any further discussions.

Community Partnership – quality of place awards had taken place – Barnby Chapel was one of the nominees.

ESC is promoting regifting / recycling at Xmas.

AD Digester application is going to appeal. Worlingham P C will be sent the details of the appeal hearing. Any new comments need to be sent in by 23rd December. Discussion – nothing has materially altered on the application. Residents were encouraged to write in direct if they had any concerns.

V C Cooke incinerator is likely to go ahead. ESC is still considering the best methods for monitoring to ensure that there are no risks around fume inhalation. Cllrs asked the SCC and ESC ward Cllrs about the existing air quality data – and about who would be doing the next data collection and when. Members were advised that the existing data was done by ESC as will future data collections.

Garden Village meeting will be held in the New Year, prior to a planning application going to consultation. There has been no update about the intended public consultations.

Forest School – ESC Cllr Plummer advised that a complaint has been lodged by a resident against the ESC enforcement team.

Flooding on Lowestoft Road by the garage – SCC Cllr Lever met with SCC highways to discuss this matter. Cllr Lever will take photos to see what the storm drains are now like. Would seem to be the amount of water, which is the issue, rather than blocked drains.

Poor tarmac on footpaths – SCC Ward Cllr Topping advised that the SCC Highways reporting tool does now enable reporting of unsuitable laying of tarmac on pavements.

SCC ward Cllr Lever advised that City Fibre will be laying a connection in and around Beccles starting in April 2025. Cllr Lever advised that he would keep members informed of any works proposed for Worlingham.

Cllr Topping advised that the existing contract for the SCC Library service expires June 2025 – but arrangements for future operation are not presently known by the ward members. ESC officers are doing information sessions at various libraries i.e. warm rooms etc.

Fence by Kempton Cross/ Ashdale Drive – Cllr Lever advised that SCC is awaiting a cost for the work to replace the fence.

Potholes Ellough Road – cumulative effect is now serious on this stretch of road. SCC Cllr Lever advised that he is aware and has reported it to SCC Highways.

b) *Public* – NIL

4 Planning

Applications received prior to the meeting including.

a) To consider new planning applications including;

DC/24/1418/OUT Hollybank Rectory Lane – It was agreed by all that as there had not been any significant alteration to the details, the response for this application is the same as previous.

DC/24/4118/FUL – 19 Holly Close – single storey rear extension with flat roof. No Objection.

b) To receive ESC decisions

Nil

c) other planning matters;

Garden village meeting with Beccles T C - meeting with LPA planners to be chased by ESC ward Cllrs.

Appeal / APP/V3500/W/24/3354097 – Land at Copeland Way, Ellough – noted. See above.

5. Chairs Report and update

Nil

6. Play Area – Woodfield Park/ Cedar Drive. To consider designs submitted and if appropriate agree preferred supplier.

All councillors had viewed and considered the various designs and costs of the park from the companies who had provided a submission for the capital project.

Designs had been scored against the agreed format.

Most of the submissions had been able to come in within the tender budget, or close to it. Designs and layout varied as did the equipment being included. Intended materials as well as future maintenance was considered as part of the process, as well as sustainability.

On the proposal of Cllr S Mather, seconded by Cllr Kersey it was agreed unanimously to approve the capital designs/ costs as submitted by Kompan for the Cedar Drive/ Woodfield Park play project.

Members asked that the clerk contact the companies who had provided a quote and update them on this decision. Timescales to be discussed with Kompan.

As part of the project, the costs of an accessible swing seat had been provided. This will be in the region of £6,000. Ward Councillors Lever, Plummer and Topping advised members that they would be able to fund the accessible swing from the various council grants that they have available to them. Thanks were extended by members to the ward councillors for their assistance with this project.

7. Finance Matters including;

a) Authorisation of cheques/ Bacs for payment. A full financial summary of the Council balances, and the Bacs/cheques for payment, was provided for councillors as attached to the main copy of the minutes and cheques as detailed in the Receipts and Payments. These were read out to the Council meeting. **It was RESOLVED by all** that the payments as detailed could be made.

b) Donation requests – Nil. 2 organisations have made initial enquiries – application forms have been sent out.

c) Budget – informal meeting to be arranged to consider the projects for 2025.2026.

d) Precept 2025 – 2026 – it was noted that this needs to be advised to ESC by the end of Jan 2025

e) *Barclays account/ signatures need updating* – new mandate completed and sent back for processing. Letter received from Barclays advising that as no transaction have taken place for some time the account will be made dormant unless used. Monies transferred into the account as per the accounts in a) above.

8. Play area improvements – update on;

Grounds / trees / hedges - maintenance works - Meeting had been held with ESS to discuss and to consider the work/ costs for 2025 and to discuss a number of issues arising from the work at Woodfield Park during 2024. Issues included; grass cuttings, cutting of the larger football play area, cutting back to the boundary behind the play area and cutting back behind the willow trees. At the meeting ESS advised that they had made allowance for hedge cutting at All Saints Green, but that as the pc had used Vertas to do this hedge, there was a credit on the account which would be set off against additional tree/ grounds works requested at Woodfield Park. Vertas have continued their work at Werels Loke, and the parish council has received compliments for the standard of the work.

Rospa Reports – works continue as advised by the reports.

Other maintenance works - Trees. A quote has been requested from Waveney Odd Jobs for work to the entrance gates and to clean the bus shelters.

Vertas to quote for improvement to the wet pour at All Saints Green area.

Meeting with Suffolk Wildlife Trust re play area project – Meeting with SWT held to discuss a potential project at Cedar Drive open space. A working group will be needed to take this project forward.

9. Policies to approve. Nil

10. Clerk and Councillors

Matters from around parish now requiring attention;

- *New memorial bench* – Cedar Drive – some of the enamel/ stickers are being peeled off. New stickers have been received from the seat supplier – Cllr S Mather will put these on when the weather conditions are appropriate.
- *Request for cycle racks by the shops* – no response has been received to the parish council request.
- *Volunteer Works carried out in village / Community Self Help update/ Litter picking* – works continue to be carried out by the community self help volunteers. Litter picking continues on a monthly basis- thanks were extended to all volunteers. Old Lowestoft Road to be the next place to be litter picked. ESS to be asked what their level of responsibility is for this litter clearing.
- *Cleaning of bus shelters* – Waveney Odd Jobs have been asked to quote.
- *Christmas Trees and Christmas Lights* – have been installed and once again look very good.
- *Newsletter* – to go out once precept set so that this can be notified to all residents.
- *Beccles Area Transport Plan* – see above.
- *Fly Tipping* – Some fly tipping has been reported on Sheridan Walk and Garden Lane – these to be reported to ESC via the online system.
- *Glass on Kempton Cross shelter* – still not installed. LJB to chase SCC again.
- *Community Partnership meeting* – Cllr Kersey had attended. Members were advised that the group had many various financial donations including; £2500 to Aspergers Group, £4k to Disability Cycling, £5k to assist with lighting for the skatepark in Beccles, £4k for Heritage projects in Beccles, Bungay and Halesworth

11. Date of next meeting. Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 6.30pm

DRAFT