



WORLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Worlingham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th January 2021 at 7.30pm via zoom.

This meeting was held by zoom as per the regulations provided in the Coronavirus 2020 legislation.

*Present; Cllrs; W Summerfield (Chair), E Hubbard, S Holman, L Kersey, J Mathers, S Mathers, J Raybould, S Robbins.
Also Present - Mrs L Beevor parish clerk and ESC and SCC Cllr Brambley-Crawshaw.*

Minutes

- 1 a) *To receive any apologies for absence.*
Apologies were received from ESC Cllr Topping and ESC Cllr Elliott
- b) *To receive any Declarations of Personal interest regarding the agenda.*
There were no declarations of interest.
- c) *To receive any Declaration of Prejudicial Interest regarding the agenda*
Nil
- d) *To receive any Requests for Dispensation on matters relating to the agenda*
Nil
- 2 *To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 10th November 2020.*
There was one amendment – DJ Day should read as VJ Day. It was agreed by all to approve the minutes of 10th November 2020 with this one alteration.
3. *To receive report from SCC ward councillor*
Both the ESC and SCC reports had been circulated.

Cllr Brambley-Crawshaw advised that the Locks PH campaign is at the fundraising stage.

Town House café is still offering school meals which can be arranged through Facebook.
A new area of concern is the number of young families on a low income who are now being affected.

Vaccination programme is challenging but is going well. If anyone is known to have difficulty getting to any of the venues then ESC can make arrangements if no other assistance is available.

Cllr Summerfield advised that the local MP had suggested that a vaccination centre should be available in Beccles in February.

Questions from councillors;

Cllr Hubbard asked about the cycle strategy in Suffolk and whether there could be some cycle racks installed in Worlingham. Request to be made via the ward councillor.

Query raised about the present lack of vaccination centres locally.

Query raised about the local flooding issues over the Xmas period. SCC Cllr Brambley-Crawshaw advised that flooding is the responsibility of the Environment Agency, who are very difficult to hold to account or to get to liaise with other stakeholders. The ward councillors have met with the emergency response team and the ESC

officers- and they all understand the issues and will now try and lobby EA for the necessary action to be taken.

Members were advised that ESC has reversed its policy about not supplying sandbags and will now consider how to support communities suffering from flooding.

There is no official process at present to record information about which individual houses are affected by flooding and this needs to change.

The sluice gates are nearly all automated, and are working well.

Cllr Hubbard asked about the SCC hardship fund and whether it is still available – members were advised that it is.

Cllr Hubbard asked about the household waste site by Morrisons and whether this could be made available again. Members were advised that this is owned by Beccles Town Council.

Tree planting scheme – SCC has a new policy on this, which the parish council could consider.

Highways matters.

Discussion about the need to slow traffic on Garden Lane and whether the parish council could place an ANPR camera in this location. Type and costs to be ascertained. Cllr Brambley Crawshaw to find out if this might be a possibility and to see if she might be able to assist with funding.

Electric charging point – Cllr Brambley Crawshaw to find out if one could be installed at the Community Facility venue.

Quiet Lane status / Sandpit Lane – Cllr Brambley-Crawshaw to chase SCC on this matter.

To receive report from ESC ward councillor

See above.

Members of the public any matters on items on the agenda.

Nil

4. Chairman's Report including;

Covid group is using the 0300 number again. Food bank is ongoing. BACT are helping with vaccine transport.

Litter pick dates- 29th Jan and 19th Feb will be the next dates – to be carried out individually due to Covid 19 restrictions. There are new pickers, and trolleys for anyone who might like them. More black bags to be ordered.

ESC to be advised of the ongoing litter issues along the Old Lowestoft Road – 15 bags of rubbish were collected at the last litter pick.

Councillor vacancy – a parishioner has expressed an interest and hopes to be able to attend a future meeting.

MP Peter Aldous hosted a zoom meeting re Covid 19 and the work of stakeholders and volunteers were applauded. It was acknowledged that there was much being done for young people but there are concerns about the social isolation of elderly people who are home alone.

Cllr Robbins and Cllr Summerfield to attend the Community Partnership meeting

5. Planning

a) *Applications received prior to the meeting Nil*

b) *ESC Decisions received; see website. Noted.*

c) *Any other planning matters*

It was noted that TPO work on a cherry tree has been approved by ESC Fiona McEwan and is being carried out by Tim Harrison.

6. Clerks and councillors' reports and updates including correspondence received.

- Neighbourhood Plan update – Cllr Summerfield advised that Reg 14 consultation is ready –The Plan consists of 16 policies and 70 pages of text. Discussion about getting the consultation organised – all agreed this should be carried out as soon as possible. It was agreed that printing and advertising costs would be covered by the parish council.
- Divestment of play areas – new maps have been provided for insertion into the land transfer docs and these have been signed.

7. Works in village

See spreadsheet.

All Saints Green play area – matting needs repairing under swing equipment and slats are missing in the fencing. This to be advised to Norse who will need to repair under their maintenance contract. It was also noted that the fence to the main area at All Saints Green needs repair. Norse to be advised.

Xmas trees and Xmas lights – it was agreed by all that these looked lovely again.

Village sign on Lowestoft Road – Beccles TC has now supplied a new picture for consideration. All agreed that this was an improvement to the previous suggestions. Beccles T C to be thanked and asked if they would like to add some colour to the picture and to take off Beccles at the bottom of the picture as there is already 'Beccles' on the sign itself.

8. Finance Matters including; Finance Matters including;

a) *Authorisation of cheques for payment.*

A full financial summary of the Council balances, and the 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*

c) *Budget 2021.22.*

Members discussed the budget on a line-by-line basis.

Discussion regarding the draft budget for 2021/22 and the projects/ costs described therein.

The parish clerk presented the budget to those present. The budget includes those projects that council wish to complete in 2021/22 and includes a resource to carry out maintenance works in the village. Members reminded those present that play area refurbishment would be a large part of the expenditure for the next year especially as the play area transfers take place from ESC. School to be consulted on what items of play equipment the children would like in the play areas. Excess of expenditure over income to be funded from reserves. **It was AGREED by all to approve the budget.**

d) *Precept 2021/22* – Following on from approval of the budget it was **RESOLVED with 7 in favour and 1 against that in view of the Covid 19 impact there should be 0% increase in precept. In view of falling number of**

parishioners paying the precept the request will be £38030.89 for the year 2021.22 which will reflect an actual decrease from the amount collected last year by the parish council.

e) *Conclusion of audit 2019.20* – The clerk advised the outcome of the audit process and confirmed that the public notices had been placed on the website and on the noticeboards. The only matter to note was that the documents had been signed after the date of the meeting instead of before/ or on the date of the meeting.

9. Other matters

- Salc training and webinars – members were advised that there are many training webinars available on the SALC website. Hard copy of the councillor training book to be requested for Cllr Kersey.
- Footpath on Lowestoft Road –part of the footpath has been cleared by volunteers but several areas are covered in leaves etc and are slippery. SCC to be notified and asked to clear the leaves on the footpath especially by the church, and by Pepys Ave.
- Wildflower planting – discussion about wildflower planting and how to involve the community including the school. Which open spaces/ verges to plant on? How to advertise? Wildflowers costs to be ascertained and garden centres/ Morrisons etc to be asked if they could assist.
- Cllr Hubbard reminded members of the totem pole design of the village sign that has been designed for Ellough Road – and offered to liase with PCE Automation about it being located on their land.

10. Date of next meeting. Tuesday 9th February 2021.