

Wickmere with Wolterton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held in the Village Hall, Regent Street, Wickmere
On Wednesday 25 January 2023 at 7.00 pm

Present

Parish Councillors: Lesley Ash (Chair) Richard Hembling Phillida Hurn
Georgina Madeley Vanessa Tomczynska

Also in attendance:

John Toye (NNDC member for Erpingham Ward)
Saul Penfold (NCC member for North Walsham West & Erpingham division)
Barbara Shaw, Village Hall Committee
Ros Calvert, Clerk to the Council

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - none
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - none
3. **MINUTES** – The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 9th November 2022 were circulated agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record
4. **ADJOURNMENT** – it was agreed to adjourn the meeting to receive reports from NNDC & NCC, other community groups and from members of the public and those with a disclosable interest in agenda items.
 1. NN District Cllr John Toye – reported on:
 - The Youth Council which was open to younger people from the age of 11 to 18 years.
 - A successful tree planting project with over 100,000 trees planted by volunteers within the district.
 - The budget for 2023-4 was tight and would be increased by about £5 a head
 - New software for S106 Planning Applications would be circulated as available.
 - Voters attending the polling stations will have to produce approved ID. It was suggested that postal votes could be easier but that this could ultimately lead to the closure of the polling stations. (Contact John Toye if you have any issues).
 - The need to ensure the sustainability of local communities.
 2. County Councillor Saul Penfold – reported on:
 - The county deal and the government devolution plan. Norfolk had been selected as one of nine to be included in the first tranche with an investment funding at a fixed rate for 30 years, not index linked, which appeared to be insufficient to cover the powers being devolved from central government. If Council did not accept the offer, it would be put to the bottom of the list for financial support. “A take it or leave it situation?”
 - The pig units. The search for a solution for the triangle on the Barningham Road and a proposal to install a give way sign at the junction to improve

highway safety were discussed.

- Funding of the new road sign on Regent Street would be available through Cllr Penfold's NCC account. Members expressed their gratitude.

5. PLANNING

1. No new applications were received
2. Planning Decisions by NNDC
LA/22/2503 - Internal works to restore & renovate interior of dwelling at 1 Estate Yard Cottages, Wolterton Park, Wolterton.
 NNDC Approved – 7/12/2022
RV/22/2154 and LA/22/2155 - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission PF/18/0344 (Conversion and external alterations to stable block to form 5 dwellings for holiday letting and events/function facility) to allow alterations of plans including additional dormers and alterations to fenestration. Stable House, Wolterton Park Wall Road, Wolterton Norwich
 NNDC - Decisions pending

6. CLERKS' REPORT & MATTERS ARISING

1. Parish Engagement Forum 9th Jan 2023– election process and requirements and update on planning were covered. Next Meeting April '23.
2. Community defibrillator –
 - Cllr Richard Hembling reported on the monthly site checks and successful reporting requirements.
 - Painting of the kiosk would take place in the spring or summer.
 - A training session open the community and neighbouring parishes would be held in Village Hall to be arranged at the next meeting. Community Heartbeat Trust would need about 2 weeks' notice.
3. Highway and Footpath matters.
 The Matlaske Road triangle remained in a dangerous condition. Pigs were not in evidence. Units were still on site. Cllr Saul Penfold would chase this up with NCC Highways with proposal of a "Give Way" sign and the renewal road markings to enhance vehicular safety.
4. Street name sign – 1-4 Church View, Regent Street
 Sign ordered. Invoice to be sent to Cllr Sean Penfold. To be sited on verge outside No 1 Church View next to the telegraph pole.
5. Grit Bins – either end of Regent Street had been omitted from the NCC schedule. NCC Highways had noted the error, reinstated them and they had been filled ready for the next cold spell.
6. Sale of ex-local authority housing association property in Regent Street – Flagship had put on the open market and dropped the price for for a quick sale.
7. Hedge Cutting – Council thanked Beck Farm for effective hedge cutting adjacent the Highway at various points in the village where it had become a danger to road users. Visibility was improved and brambles removed ensuring safer routes for pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles.

8. Footpaths – it was noted that footpath Wickmere FP6 was overgrown causing accessibility difficulties.
9. There were no other matters arising

7. VILLAGE HALL

1. Bank Account – the Village Hall Committee (VHC) had received more letters from the Barclays threatening to close the account. Telephone waiting times were in excess of 90 minutes to speak to a customer advisor. Clerk to investigate.
2. VHC Year End Accounts 2022 would be sent to the auditor and then be presented to the Council on completion.
3. Christmas Lights & Carols – had been a success with over 25 people attending. It was followed by refreshments in the Village Hall.
4. Christmas Lights – **It was agreed** to purchase some outdoor lights to replace those that were not working. The VHC had thanked Tracy Riches for use of electricity and apologised for tripping her supply.
5. Local Elections – May 4th in the Village Hall.
6. Coronation of King Charles III – Saturday 6th May with extra bank holiday on Monday 8th May. The VHC would be looking at possible activities to mark the event.
7. The Electricity Contract ends in July '23 when renewal options will be reviewed.
8. Village Hall Committee Agreement – it was suggested to review this at the next meeting.

8. FINANCE

1. The bank reconciliation was signed. There was a balance of £29,794.45 on 13/01/2022
2. The budget comparison to 31 December '22 was received and variances were noted.
3. The Clerk explained the circumstances leading to the McAfee refund and cancellation of the contract. The computer was covered by Microsoft Windows Security and backed up on an external hard drive
4. The following payments and receipts were noted and approved

Receipts & Payments

Date	Payee	Description	£	Balance
BACS, DD or Transfer				32,548.25
25-10-22	Wave	VH Water	-5.00	32,543.25
01-11-22	NNDC	Grant	990.00	33,533.25
09-11-22	British Gas	VH Electricity	-11.89	33,521.36
21-11-22	R Calvert	McAfee refund	120.00	33,641.36
21-11-22	R Calvert/HMRC	Nov & Dec	-639.77	33,001.59
24-11-22	Wave	VH Water	-5.00	32,996.59
10-12-22	R Calvert (Currys)	Printer Scanner	-180.49	32,816.10
10-12-22	British Gas	VH Electricity	-16.10	32,800.00
11-12-22	C H T	Defib	2,928.00	29,872.00
12-12-22	Bank Statement	76		29,872.00

28-12-22	Wave	VH Water	-4.37	29,867.63
09-01-23	British Gas	VH Electricity	-19.18	29,848.45
13-01-23	NPTP	Auditor Course	-54.00	29,794.45
25-01-23	R Calvert	Salary, HMRC & Exp.	-569.00	29,225.45

5. **It was agreed** to purchase a flat pack Harewood bench in brown for £628 and soft anchor for £79.50 + VAT. To be delivered to Cllr Hembling with location to be approved following receipt.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE** - received had been circulated and noted.
10. **LATE CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS AND REFER AS APPROPRIATE TO NEXT MEETING**
1. Arrangements for 2023 Council Elections would be circulated on receipt and published on the website
 2. To note events to mark the Coronation of King Charles III (6th- 8th May '23)
11. **THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – would be held on **Wednesday 8th March at 7.00pm**
12. **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**
The next meeting would be held on **Wednesday 8th March 2023 at 7.30** following the Annual Parish Meeting
13. **CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**
There being no further business the chair closed the meeting at 8.30 pm

Signed:

Date: