

WICKLEWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Wicklewood Village Hall on Monday 7th November, 2022

Present: John Seville (JS) Chair, Richard Goodings (RG), John Hipperson (JH), Stephen Brown (SB), Nick Kemp (NK)

In attendance: Helen Frayer (HF) Parish Clerk, Margaret Dewsbury (MD) County Councillor, Richard Elliott (RE) District Councillor

92. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received from Louise Downton

93. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

94. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A local resident asked about the play area as it had previously been said that funding would be reconsidered in a year but it wasn't on the agenda. JS explained that the council had pledged future CIL money but that the ongoing fundraising had been handed over to the new community group that organised the Jubilee event. Will request an update on future plans for the next meeting
- Resident stated that people had reported having trouble crossing the High Street near the Cherry Tree pub. Could something be done to make the junction safer. It was suggested that if people crossed right on the junction they would have a clear line of sight for all approaching traffic. It was not clear what could be done but requested to be on agenda for discussion at next meeting
- Resident asked for update re the hedge in Church Lane. JS asked MD to push further to get action done on this hedge this winter. HF reported that the Highways Engineer has notified that there will be meeting this coming week with the Legal Services, NP Law and other stakeholders re the hedge in Church Lane.
- MD has sent a report which will be on website. Reminded people that all birds must now be kept locked undercover due to the spread of avian flu.
- RE reported that a resident had been in touch with himself, MD and local MP re the temporary bus stop which is considered to be in dangerous position. George Freeman contacted the Council Council who contacted Konnect bus and the requirement is to have hard standing on both sides of the road if there is going to be a bus stop. NCC do not have enough in the budget to do it this year. Suggest that the parish council apply for funding under the PPS. However in view of the deadline for application this would not be possible. HF explained that the bus service along that road is a hail and ride service and passengers are entitled to stop the bus wherever they see fit, previously they had waited outside a local property where the verge is flat and wide however the new occupants of this property complained and the temporary stop was put up to

encourage people to wait for the bus elsewhere. The concerns are that the verge at the temporary stop is not level and as it is used by school children and with darker mornings and with the speed limit there, it is far from safe. SB said he would notify the St George's community that they were allowed to hail the bus anywhere. To be on next agenda to agree possible actions from parish council

- RE reported that the SNC office in Long Stratton has now been closed. The new office will be on the Broadland Business Park but temporarily based in Thorpe Lodge. It is planned that there will be a mobile contact point for those who need face to face locally

95. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2022: SB proposed to accept the Minutes as correct, seconded by NK all agreed

96. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CLERK ON ACTIONS SINCE PREVIOUS MEETING: HF reported all actions had been completed. Letters have been written to the farmer re hedge on High Oaks Rd, no reply, also to householder in Low Street re clearing water course, no reply. Highways have agreed to re-sweep the pavement in High Street clear of chippings

97. CORRESPONDENCE:

97.1 SNC – Warm Spaces Grant – circulated and on agenda

98. FINANCE

98.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Salaries	Clerk (incl half back pay from re-grade) & Booking Clerk	617.56
HMRC	Month 7	147.80
Clerk's expenses	Mileage and items for first aid box	22.27
Dream Team Cleaning	Cleaning village hall	364.50
NPTC	Planning training	55.00
Tim Carver	Verge cutting	120.00
TTSR	Grass cutting	391.48
	TOTAL	£1,718.61

Resolved: That all accounts as presented be paid. Proposed JH, seconded NK, all agreed

98.2 MONTHLY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS REPORT

	Current	Premium	Total
Balance b/f	27,469.47	18,902.34	46,371.81
Total receipts to	1,011.00	4.38	1,015.38
	28,480.47	18,906.72	47,387.19
Total payments to	1,417.08	0.00	1,417.08
	27,063.39	18,906.72	45,970.11
Inter Account Transfers	-5,658.00	+5,658	0.00
Closing Balance	21,405.39	24,564.72	45,970.11

98.3 CORONATION CELEBRATION: For local community group if they wish to organise event. **JH proposed the parish council donate the hall for free on condition it is not**

sublet. NK seconded, all agreed. Event should be self funding. Hall to be reserved for the Bank Hol Monday 8th May

98.4 BUDGET: Draft budget had been circulated. It was noted that it was difficult to judge future costs with unknown price rises. The hall is currently making a loss of income over expenditure. Will consider increasing hire costs in April. To be on February agenda. It has been possible to keep the precept the same but will need to be financially careful this coming year. **NK proposed accepting budget, SB seconded, all agreed**

99. HIGHWAYS:

99.1 JS reported that the drains in the High Street near the windmill need clearing as they are blocked with the chippings. **HF to report**

99.2 RG reported that in High Oaks Rd the edge of the ditch appear to have been repaired with sand and following rain is already developing pot holes. Believe to have been done by Highways. **HF to report**

99.3 The new gully constructed between the two Hospital Road junctions is now blocked with leaves and needs clearing. **HF to report**

99.4 Consider repositioning of 30mph sign on Wymondham Rd. This is currently at the end of the allotments. It would be better if moved to the west side of Hospital Road junction. Benefits of this are that there is housing in this area, the previously mentioned unofficial bus stop is there, which is used by school children and would improve safety for that, and also, it would enable the Speedwatch to record speeders coming from that direction. **NK proposed requesting it be repositioned, SB seconded, all agreed.** MD had previously mentioned that there will be a group of traffic requests from this area to be considered next year.

100. PLANNING

100.1 2022/1878 15 St Georges Hospital – Retrospective listed building application. No views or comments

100.2 Decisions all noted

101. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYING FIELDS AND ALLOTMENTS

101.1 Report from Booking Clerk: TP reported that one of the regular users has now finished, the line dancing. She has offered the hours to Donna if required. No other issues

101.2 Hall Maintenance: JS suggested purchasing more oil before winter price rise. **NK proposed, JK seconded all agreed**

101.3 Playing Field Inspection: As LD was absent, there was no update. NK reported that there had been some vandalism with the ball holder on the table tennis table broken. He will try and fix it

101.4 Report from allotments inspection: RG reported he had inspected on 24th. All satisfactory. He was doing the risk assessment.

102. RESPONSES TO CORRESPONDENCE:

102.1 Warm Spaces Grant – After discussion it was not considered that there was not a local need

103. UPDATE FROM CLLR BROWN FROM NORFOLK ALC MEETING:

SB reported that he had attended the first online meeting. It had been explained what Norfolk ALC was able to offer. His report of the meeting had been circulated. Amongst the things they could assist with was help with promoting the recruitment of new councillors and information about grants

104. TRAINING: HF had requested training on elections. It was agreed not required as clerks have minimal input on election

105. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

105.1 HF reported she has put a page on the village website called Community Noticeboard where she will post items of use/interest to the community.

105.2 HF reported that this year's pay increase had now been agreed, backdated to April. As this is a contractual matter, council approval not required, but noted. The backdated pay also applies to the previous booking clerk if requested. **NK proposed offering her this, SB seconded, RG agreed. JH and JS disagreed.**

106. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING: The next meeting will be at 7.45 on Monday 5th December. Agenda items to Clerk by 25th November.