

WICKLEWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Wicklewood Village Hall on Monday 3rd October, 2022

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

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

74. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No apologies

75. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

76. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A local resident gave an update on Speedwatch. They have done 19 sessions, people are visibly slowing down. Would like more volunteers and will promote it in The Net. They have 4 sites: the village green, th High Street, outside the Cherry Tree and Hackford Road. Only able to monitor speeds in one direction from the last two sites because of placement of 30mph signs. It would be better if signs could be moved further back. JS said it had previously been requested and refused. MD said that because of the high cost of changes like that, each area's request are being considered as a bulk item. Suggest we get the request in.
- A local resident asked if the council were considering including a Coronation celebration in the budget.

77. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2022: RE proposed to accept the Minutes as correct, seconded by RG all agreed

78. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CLERK ON ACTIONS SINCE PREVIOUS MEETING: HF reported all actions had been completed. Re the hedge on Church Lane, the Out of Office response had been received from the Highways Engineer as he is currently away.

79. CORRESPONDENCE:

79.1 NCC – Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan – on agenda

79.2 Margaret Dewsbury – Norfolk against Scams Day - noted

80. FINANCE

80.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Salaries	Clerk & Booking Clerk	437.22
HMRC	Month 6	73.80
Clerk's expenses	Mileage, stationery, stamps	59.68
Dream Team Cleaning	Cleaning village hall	353.38
PKF Littlejohn	External audit	240.00
Norfolk PTS	Planning training	110.00
Nick Kemp	Book of Condolence etc	51.95
Various	Hall Hire Deposit refund	400.00
	TOTAL	£1,726.03

HF also requested that it be authorised to refund the £2,100 loan money that NCC had paid with the precept in error.

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

80.2 MONTHLY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS REPORT

	Current	Premium	Total
Balance b/f	21,916.20	18,902.34	40,818.54
Total receipts to 30.9.22	7,486.72	0.00	7,486.72
	29,402.92	18,902.34	48,305.26
Total payments to 30.9.22	1,933.45	0.00	1,933.45
	27,469.47	18,902.34	46,371.81
Inter Account Transfers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Closing Balance	27,469.47	18,902.34	46,371.81

HF reported that receipts included the half year precept, received in full as NCC had failed to deduct the loan, and also the Bowls Club utilities recharge

80.3 Annual Audit Report – The final report has been received from the external auditors PKF Littlejohn who report that all is in order, no issues found. Accounts have been published on the website and noticeboard

80.4 Review of budget at half year – The budget had been circulated. The village hall maintenance budget was overspent and the cleaning one will be due to cleaners having increased their fees, but everything else was on or under target. No concerns

80.5 Appointment of Internal Auditor – The usual internal auditor has given notice that she is not continuing. HF had approached local Clerk's forum and received two expressions of interest and one quote from Lorraine Truman who has completed the appropriate training to be a local council auditor and has a financial background. **NK proposed appointing her, JH seconded, all agreed.**

81. HIGHWAYS:

81.1 HF gave updates received from Highways: Wymondham Rd, the grip has been cleared from road to river, the broken pallet has been removed from under grit bin and Give Way sign straightened and replacement pole ordered

81.2 A complaint had been received re the trees overhanging the verge on the High Street near junction with Church Lane which prevent people walking along the verge to

avoid traffic. Not clear who the trees belong to. **NK agreed to investigate which addresses are concerned**

81.3 JS reported that following the recent surface dressing of High Street, the footpath needs sweeping again. **HF to contact Highways**

81.4 HF to chase up response for Church Lane

81.5 JS reported that he and JH had inspected the drain under the road in Low Street. It is clear until it reaches 37 Low Street. Therefore the responsibility is for the householder who is the riparian owner of the watercourse and is required to keep the water course clear. **HF to write to householder**

81.6 RG reported that the situation with the passing bay on High Oaks Lane has not been resolved. **HF to chase Adam Mayo, Highways Engineer and also write to the farmer, Mr Cook, who has planted the hedge too close to the boundary and caused the problem**

82. PLANNING

82.1 2022/1627 Whitehall Farm. Retrospective application. Concerns are raised about noise and light pollution. The noise can be heard over large areas of the village, particularly noticeable at night. A proper noise assessment BS4142 should be carried out and any mitigating measures carried out along with assessment of the light pollution. There is also increased traffic, with tractors etc going down the High Street right through the night although there is nothing on the application about increased traffic movements. There is no environmental impact statement shown on the application. There are two nearby rivers to this site. **SB proposed these points be put to planning as the council's response, NK seconded, all agreed.**

82.2 2022/1702 Land North West of Wicklewood Rise. This was submitted previously and refused by SNC. It is outside the development boundary, and one of the reasons given for the refusal of the previous application was that the design was an inappropriate suburban character but this recent application seems to be of similar suburban character which would not be in keeping with being in open countryside. **NK proposed responding on these grounds, LD seconded. RG proposed that he felt the site would benefit from being developed, no seconder. All other councillors voted for the first option.**

83. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYING FIELDS AND ALLOTMENTS

83.1 Report from Booking Clerk: TP reported that it had been a little quieter this month. New Ts & Cs had been issued to all regular users.

83.2 Hall Maintenance: No issues

83.3 Playing Field Inspection: RG had inspected on 15th, 22nd and 29th. All in order apart from the net had needed reaffixing to goal posts, there was some soil erosion under the rockers and the bench had loosened a little in the dry weather. NK said that 7 more trees had been planted to replace the dead ones

83.4 Report from allotments inspection: RG reported he had inspected on 29th, all satisfactory. HF reported that she had written to the plot holder of plot 12 as discussed at previous meeting. Had received an unhappy reply that they were in hospital and had arranged to have plot cleared. HF had written back saying they could keep plot but to consider if they were in a position to keep on top of it. Had received no further reply. Agreed to give them more time.

- 84. TO AGREE NOT TO HOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN JANUARY AND AUGUST.** JS suggested that it would be appropriate to agree not having a meeting in these months in future as January is always quiet and August is holiday month. **SB proposed accepting this, NK seconded, all agreed.**
- 85. TO CONSIDER NEXT STEPS FOLLOWING RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR.** No applications for vacant position had been received. Agreed to publicise vacancy on website, The Net and social media with no closing date.
- 86. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE TO NORFOLK ALC.** Norfolk ALC are requesting a representative from each council. Joel was the previous rep. **NK proposed SB, LD seconded, all agreed**
- 87. TRAINING.** HF requested attending training on elections. JS asked her to find out more about what was involved as he wasn't aware that clerks were involved in the process
- 88. RESPONSES TO CORRESPONDENCE:**
88.1 Response to Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan. Wicklewood is not a site that will be directly affected by this plan. Agreed to not give council response, individuals can respond if they wish
- 89. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** None
- 90. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING:** The next meeting will be at 7.45 on Monday 7th November. Agenda items to Clerk by 28th October.