

WICKLEWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Wicklewood Village Hall on Monday 29th January, 2024

Present: John Seville (JS) Chair, Nick Kemp (NK) Vice Chair, Richard Goodings (RG), Stephen Brown (SB), Hilary Matthews (HM), Danny Clarke (DC), John Hipperson

In attendance: Helen Frayer (HF) Parish Clerk, Richard Elliot (RE) District Councillor, Tina Phillips (TP) Booking Clerk

116. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting which is the February meeting brought forward to enable response to the planning consultation. JS announced that Tina had resigned from the Booking Clerk role and presented her with a plant. Apologies received from Margaret Dewsbury.

117. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

118. PUBLIC FORUM:

118.1 Several residents spoke of their concerns over the increased housing allocation on the South Norfolk Village Clusters consultation. Concerns were raised re:

- Will there definitely be houses, it this just about additional houses
- Lack of school places – children are already coming to Wicklewood school because Wymondham schools are full
- Additional traffic through the village. No safe walking routes
- There is an SSI near the site that would be affected by water draining from the site
- Previous applications in this area were refused due to blocking the open views
- Concerns about the flooding that already occurs in the area being made worse

RE explained the situation – The Greater Norwich Plan had put forward the required number of developments. Of the initial plan 12,000 were for village locations. 2 of the original sites have proved not suitable so their allocation has been distributed over the other sites. This is now out for consultation, the planners will consider the results then the next stage will be decided. RE urged people to respond to the consultation. JS said that statements on the local landscape had been deliberately removed. DC said there are hard copies of all the documents at Wymondham library if people wanted to look at them

118.2 A resident raised concern about the flooding in Low Street which has been going on for several years. JS stated that the parish council had done what they could, had written to a resident about the drain going through their land and had informed the Highways Engineer of the issue and he was going to inspect. He clarified that the parish council have

no powers or duty over flooding and urged residents to report to the Norfolk Flood Hotline as they are the appropriate body to deal with this. The majority of the problem appears to be insufficient, or partly blocked drains going through the grounds of the houses preventing the ditches draining into the river. JH confirmed that he has cleared his ditches and the land-drains on his property are working properly.

119. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th DECEMBER. SB proposed accepting Minutes as correct, HM seconded, all agreed.

120. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CLERK ON ACTIONS SINCE PREVIOUS MEETING: HF reported that all actions had been carried out but no further updates from any.

121. CORRESPONDENCE: Email from Anglian Water confirming that the generator was operational and there had been no overspill during the heavy rains. JS reported that he had seen a workman there who told him that he had been called out as the generator was full of rain water and had triggered the alarm

122. FINANCE

122.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: to ratify payments made in January

Salaries	Clerk & Booking Clerk	602.62
HMRC	Month 9	108.60
Clerk's expenses	Mileage	16.20
Dream Team Cleaning	Cleaning village hall	283.50
Booking Clerk expenses	Diary	1.99
E Fire	Alarm and emergency lighting service	108.00
Various	Return of hall deposits	100.00
	TOTAL	£1,220.91

122.2 Monthly payments for February including late invoices

Salaries	Clerk & Booking Clerk	602.62
HMRC	Month 10	108.60
Graham Mann	Plumbing work at the hall	150.00
EDF	Electricity - DD	189.59
The Payroll Site	Annual fee	93.60
Information Commissioner's Office	Annual fee - DD	35.00
A & R Construction	Repointing and gutter work	552.00
Dream Team Cleaning	Cleaning village hall	364.50
Various	Return of hall deposits	100.00
	TOTAL	£2,195.91

Resolved: That all accounts as presented be paid. Proposed DC, seconded HM, all agreed

122.2 MONTHLY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS REPORT

		Current	Premium	Total
Balance b/f		2,555.51	48,811.02	51,366.53
Total receipts to 22.1.24		2,878.31	162.98	3,041.29
Hall hire	2,387.50			
Hall Deposit	400.00			
FIT	63.81			
Allotments	27.00			
		5,433.82	48,974	54,407.82
Total payments to 22.1.24		3,559.85	0.00	3,559.85
		1,873.97	48,974	50,847.97
Inter Account Transfers		+3,000	-3,000	0.00
Closing Balance		4,873.97	45,974	50,847.97

123. HIGHWAYS:

123.1 RG reported lots of potholes on Low Rd. **HF to send RG the link to report direct**

123.2 RH reported that he had cleared the culverts on Wymondham Road/Hospital Rd that Highways should have cleared

123.3 HM reported that the junction Wood Lane/The Green was flooding again. Had previously had the stop cock for field drainage done, but now problem has returned. **HF to contact Highways**

123.4 JS reported that the Highways engineer updated him that the situation re the hedge in Church Lane was still going through the legal process

124. PLANNING:

124.1 To agree response to South Norfolk Village Clusters consultation: SB reported that he had already given a personal response pointing out that South Norfolk had changed the characterisation of the village to suit the plans, omitting the previously considered important views and also the capacity of the school. The school have confirmed there are currently just 19 places across the year groups. It was agreed the council's response should include the concerns raised by the residents, the flooding, the lack of capacity of the pumping station, impact on Milestone Lane/The Green and the scale of growth – the proposed 52 houses compared to the current 407 properties in the village. The facilities in the village are minimal, just the pub, village hall and limited bus service. The parish council has previously stated it is not opposed to modest development in keeping with the village layout. **HF to draft response and circulate to councillors before submitting**

124.2 Application: 2024/0073 – Rosewall Barn. Amendment to previous application. No views or comments

125. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYING FIELDS AND ALLOTMENTS

125.1 Report from Booking Clerk: HF reported that a new booking clerk had been appointed, Sophie Scott, who would start on 1st February. TP reported that she had a good handover session with Sophie and was happy to help her with the first month's checks. Bookings are currently slow. Worth considering advertising the hall again in social media.

125.2 Maintenance items in hall: HF reported that an inventory had been done in the hall and some items needed replacing – kitchen bin, trays and bowl. **NK proposed purchasing**

more, DC seconded, all agreed. HF suggested the piano be moved into the hall so it could be used. Agreed. Two chairs needed repair. **RG agreed to repair them**

125.3 Playing Field Inspection: NK reported he had inspected and all was in order. There was evidence that a motorised 2 wheel vehicle had been driven on the field, but it appeared to be a one-off. JH has felled the dead tree which will be left at the side of the field for wildlife. HF reported that the grounds maintenance company were no longer able to offer scarifying. Agreed that we would continue to use them for the cutting. **HF to request refund for them not scarifying last year and to research another company to do the scarifying.** The play area sub group are meeting a contractor next week. JH reported he had done some clearing of the old ditch at the top of the playing field

125.4 Report from allotments inspection: RG reported he had inspected 7.1.24, all in order. HF reported that plot 12 had been given up but the person at the top of the waiting list had taken it on

- 126. UPDATE RE AIR PUMP HEATING INSTALLATION:** JS reported that oil had had to be purchased. The company are still processing the quotation. They have received permission from UKPN and were processing the grant application
- 127. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** The local MP is meeting members of the parish council on Friday 2nd February
- 128. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING:** The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting at **7.00** on Monday 8th April, followed by the monthly parish council meeting. Agenda items to Clerk by 28th March