

WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on on Wednesday 23rd November 2022 at Wrabness Village Hall.

Present: Mr R Colley (Chairman), Miss L Taylor and Mr. F McGowan.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Mrs. J Cole, Mr H Jones (Vice Chairman), Miss R Thornton, Mr G Watkins and District Councillor Z Fairley.

3235. Declarations of interest: none

Public Forum – Four members of the public were present. The public forum was opened and comments invited. No matters were raised. The public forum was closed and the meeting opened.

3236. Minutes: of the meeting held on: Wednesday 12th October 2022 were agreed as a true record and signed.

3237. Matters arising and actions:

A. Parish Council requests to Local Highways Panel for action (3226) – Our District Councillor has taken up the Parish Council concerns about the LHP process and lack of liaison by ECC. We now have the offer of a meeting with an ECC Highways Officer to review our highway requests which include:

i: Speed Limits – Scheme LTEN212003 Cancelled. The Parish Council consider this request to extend the existing speed limit should be revisited by the LHP due to visitor traffic and now homes are occupied on the new housing estate.

ii: Parking issues: Wall Lane, Church Road, Rectory Road – Scheme LTEN212004 No Validation for a highway survey on file. The Parish Council consider this request should be revisited by the LHP.

iii: Uplifting pavement on Harwich Road – Scheme LTEN213002 P1 - £16,000 ECC budget has been allocated for repairs. A ECC highways engineer had confirmed the only section of pavement considered bad enough for repair is a short stretch adjacent to the field which will be kerbed and resurfaced after the clearance of soil. The Parish Council consider that other nearby Harwich Road pavement defects require attention.

iv: Replacement Village sign – Harwich Road/ Wheatsheaf Lane junction. Scheme request LTEN212002 has now moved up to P1 and scheme enlarged with other features which have not been requested. The Parish Council strongly objects to public money being spent on additional vanity highway furniture, when funds cannot be made available to resolve existing highway problems.

For too long there has been a major disconnect between parish council requests and lack of ECC highways response regarding highway repairs. The local roads require attention to the multiple defects, damaged verges and defective signage.

Resolved: Parish Clerk to progress a site meeting with the ECC Highways.

B. Other Outstanding Highways issues reported to Essex County Council online. – (3226) i: Defective manhole cover near Red Barn corner: ii: Signage defects Harwich Road including crossroads iii] demolished wall at crossroads.

C. Wheatsheaf Lane traffic: (3226) Awaiting meeting with ECC.

D. Footpaths: (3226) extra footpath way marker discs. No response from ECC.

E. Monitoring highway issues arising from housing development (3226). Ongoing.

3238. Grant Applications - details had been circulated of two applications seeking Parish Council grant support:

A. Wrabness Pantomime Group – A village group requesting financial support towards the production costs of a pantomime to be staged in the village hall next February. The application was considered in relation the WPC grants policy and following discussion it was agreed to award a full grant of £150 as sought. **Action: Parish Clerk**

B. Churchyard – Wrabness Parochial Church Council requested support towards the cost of maintaining the churchyard. The application was considered in relation the WPC grants policy and following discussion it was agreed to award a full grant of £400 as requested. **Action: Parish Clerk**

3239. Amended Planning Application – notification has been received from TDC of an amended application: ref: 21/01891/FUL Broadfields Primrose Hill Wrabness CO11 2TZ - Proposed change of use of former forge building to dwelling. The Parish Council considered the amended application and reaffirmed its original comment of no objections to the planning application and advises that due to the excessive surface water in this locality good drainage arrangements will be required. **Action: Parish Clerk**

3240. Planning Application Update: It was noted that two planning applications on which the parish council had commented are still awaiting determination by TDC:

A. 22/00080/FUL Hut 16 East Beach The Foreshore Wrabness CO11 2BB Proposed construction of a new beach hut for holiday use. Status: Pending

B. 21/01519/FUL - Site 13 East Foreshore Wrabness CO11 2BB - Proposed construction of a new beach chalet on the site of a similar construction destroyed by fire in June 2020. Status Pending

3241. Environment Award 2023: In accordance with recent tradition the Parish Council will select the recipient for the annual Environment Award at the January meeting. The 2022 winner was Sue Everett.

3242. Coronation Weekend: The parish council wish to promote a village celebration over the Coronation weekend in May 2023. It was agreed to liaise with village groups and consider grant support similarly to the successful village Platinum Jubilee Celebration.

Action: R. Colley

3243. Meeting Dates: The schedule of parish council meetings at the Village Hall during 2023 was agreed for the following dates: 11 January, 22 February, 29 March, 17 May, 21 June, 26 July.

3244. Draft Budget 2023/2024: A report was made by the Budget Committee and a draft budget circulated for the next Council year. It was noted that cost pressures for the coming year include the national pay award for parish clerks, inflation affecting the cost of council services, including maintenance of open space. Income is mainly derived from council tax precept and we are awaiting TDC data about the council tax base for next year. Following receipt of this information the parish council precept can be determined for 2023/24. In the meanwhile it was resolved to note the budget proposals and consider the matter further at the next meeting.

3245. Any Other Business:

A. Parking Problems: At the last meeting it was proposed to reintroduce local advisory notices for badly parked cars in the parish. Mr F McGowan advised charges have increased at the station car park resulting in more on street commuter car parking in the village. Copies were circulated of an advisory notice based on our past campaign of ticketing badly parked cars. It was agreed to reintroduce the parking notices and ticket nuisance vehicles. Councillor Taylor volunteered to lead on this initiative.

Action: L. Taylor

3246. Parish Clerk Vacancy: due to the nature of this agenda item it is recorded in the confidential minutes of the meeting.

3247. Reports:

STATION GARDEN New notice board erected at entrance by Greater Anglia. Information on the Wrabness history panels facing the Garden supplied by Parish Council.

TRANSPORT Community transport scheme is offering strengthened services in rural areas, including Wrabness, to offset the decline in bus services. Travel is free for residents with a bus pass.

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER Closing date for next edition 25th November

PHONE KIOSK seasonal display proposed for the Christmas season.

WEB SITE Over 20,000 visitors to the parish council website during 2023.

3248. Accounts and monies received:

RECEIVED	AMOUNT		DISBURSEMENTS	AMOUNT	CQ No.
TDC Precept 2 nd instalment	£2,922.00		Wrabness Village Hall November Meeting	£15.00	1194
			Harwich Connexions Annual Membership	£25.00	1195
			Grant to Village Pantomime Group. (Miss F. Caslake)	£150.00	1196
			Grant to Wrabness PCC for annual churchyard maintenance	£400.00	1197

3249. Confirmation of Account Balances:

Current Account: Balance as at 1st Nov £7,542.64

Deposit Account: Balance as at 19th Oct £6,725.62

Meeting commenced at 8.00pm following a RSPB Nature Conservation Talk and closed at: 9.00pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 11th January 2023 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Contact Wrabness Parish Council: Email: wrabness.parishweb@gmail.com Telephone 01255 880868