

# WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

# **Minutes**

### Minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2020 via Zoom at 7.30pm

**Present**: Mr. M Cole (Chairman), Mr. R Colley (Vice Chairman), Mr. H Jones, Ms. R Thornton, Mr. F McGowen, Mrs. J Cole, Mrs. L Byrne.

In Attendance: Mrs. C Greenwood (Parish Clerk) and 2 members of the public

2928: Apologies for absence: None

2929: Declaration of interests: Ms. R Thornton: item 2936 (b)

2930: Public forum: The meeting was opened, and the Chairman invited comments from those present.

(a) Wall Lane parking issues: A member of the public raised concerns regarding the number of cars parked along Wall Lane this summer. This made it difficult for other cars to get past and concerns, if there had been an emergency, it could have been impossible for a Fire Engine to get through until parked cars had been moved. The parking could also obstruct access for the weekly refuse collection to the west shore. The member of public suggested: Stop the parking in Wall Lane? Perhaps using no waiting bollards or double yellow lines?

This was noted by the Chairman for discussion later in the meeting.

(b) Playing Field: A resident thanked the Parish Council for arranging the cutting back of the oak tree at the entrance to the playing field. They would like a scheduled maintenance plan in place for the future reduction of the oak tree crown.

This was noted by the Chairman and discussed later in the meeting.

(c) <u>Playing Field incident and damaged fence</u>: A resident reported to the TDC ASB team and to the police, that a group of men had entered the closed playing field to play football, later, in order to retrieve the ball from their garden they broke one of the boundary fence panels and their dog managed to escape. The fence panel has very kindly been re-secured by John Hockley. The resident requested a permanent repair could be made priority as they have security concerns.

This was noted by the Chairman and discussed later in the meeting.

## The public forum was closed, and the meeting opened

**2931: Approval of Minutes -** The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September were agreed as a true record.

### 2932: Matters arising and actions.

- (a) Police Community Support Officer, Street Meet. See item 2940 Reports: NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
- (b) Speed reduction stickers: Mrs. L Byrne gave an update: 17 speed reduction stickers have been sold from the shop, will re advertise.

  Action: Mrs. L Byrne

### (c) (2918) Playing Field

(i) crown reduction to Oak Tree: Mrs. J Cole gave an update: The tree surgeons have reduced the crown and removed debris from the site.

<u>See item 2930 (b)</u> – response to Public Forum, Oak Tree maintenance plan: It is proposed to ask the TDC Tree and Landscape Officer to carry out periodic inspections of the tree and advise when further work is required.

Proposed by Mrs. J Cole, seconded by Mr. R Colley. All agreed.

- (ii) Playing Field Action list: Is being progressed in partnership with the Playing Field Association. At the September meeting a report of findings was circulated and the Parish Council agreed to progress the recommendations:
- 1. <u>Immediately commission a better CLOSED sign for the front gate</u> (from Autoprint) to discourage unauthorised entry. Update from Mrs. L Byrne: The new closed sign is displayed and appears to be working well. As far as she is aware there has been no unauthorised use of the playing field since our last parish council meeting. **No further action**

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- 2. <u>Install a lockable gate in the gap in the perimeter fencing to improve site security.</u> Update from Mrs. L Byrne: A Harris security fence panel has been fitted across the gap at the north east corner of the field temporarily blocking the gap.
- 3. <u>Following specialist advice; repair or replace the damaged safety fence panels as appropriate</u>. Check all fixings and tighten as necessary to ensure any fence noise is minimised. The team of volunteers are hoping to action this within the next couple of weeks.
- 4. The goal posts be taken down, stored on site for future use by arrangement with WPFA: Update from Mrs L Byrne: The goal posts closest to the safety fence have been removed.
- 5. The lower section of the chain link fence to the eastern boundary be affixed by a straining wire and/or peg. To be progressed by the volunteer working party.
- 6. WPFA be requested to implement the recommendations of the Annual Inspection Report as appropriate.
- 7. That no further action be taken about a restricted reopening of the playing field for a few families.
- 8. <u>The recommendations listed as 2-5 above</u> be carried out as soon as possible to support the potential reopening of the playing field, including the play area, to the public. **Action by Working Party**
- 9. <u>A risk assessment be undertaken</u> to determine the safety measures to be implemented during the pandemic on site to comply with government guidelines and best practice. Mr R Colley reported that he is preparing a draft to support the reopening of the playing field.

  Action Mr R Colley
- 10. <u>Publicity be given to the need for volunteers to help</u> with work at the playing field to support reopening the facility to the public. This was promoted in the September Village Newsletter and Mrs L Byrne confirmed a group of 5 volunteers from the village have come forward to help with the playing action list. **No further Action**
- 11. The playing field should not be reopened to the public at the present time but be kept under review.
  - (ii) <u>See Item 2930 (c) Response to the Public forum; damage to fence</u>: Mr J Hockley has made a temporary repair. The volunteer team will replace with a permanent fence and make this priority.

**Action by Working Party** 

- <u>(d)</u> <u>Wheatsheaf Lane Traffic:</u> Ms R Thornton gave an update: Still waiting for a response from County Councillor Guglielmi and District Councillor Zoe Fairley.
- (e) (2919) Wrabness Parish Council Action Plan: Storage Depot, Wheatsheaf Close. Mr R Colley gave an update: Contacted Health & Safety Executive concerning the safety of storing hazardous substances. Was referred to online documents for the site, this shows the depot is registered and complies with Health & Safety to protect staff, residents and the environment and emergency procedures in place.
- 2933: Speed Limits: A request has been received by a member of the public regarding the 60-mph speed limit along the route from Wheatsheaf Lane and Church Road to Wrabness Village Hall: This is national speed limit; can this be reduced? It was agreed to write to our District Councillor, Zoe Fairley and County Councillor Guglielmi with the view the speed limit being reviewed reduced. All Agreed:

  Action Mr. M Cole

<u>See item 2930 (a) response to the public forum, Wall Lane parking issues</u>: Mr. M Cole suggested putting an Access Only road sign at the beginning of Wall Lane. It was agreed to write to our District Councillor, Zoe Fairley and County Councillor Guglielmi. All agreed.

Action Mr. M Cole

- 2934: Open space, land South of Station Road, Wrabness: Mr. R Colley gave an update: as reported at the last meeting TDC were arranging for the Section 106 agreement between TDC and Bennett Homes to be varied to lay out and gift the new village green to Wrabness PC and Bennett Homes are preparing a deed of transfer to gift the land to the Parish Council.

  Action: Mr. R Colley
- **2935: Draft Budget 2021/2022**: A committee was formed of Mr. R Colley, Mrs. C Greenwood and Mrs. L Byrne to meet via Zoom to discuss and draw up a draft budget for the next financial year: All agreed.

Action: Mr. R Colley, Mrs. C Greenwood and Mrs. L Byrne

#### 2936: Planning Applications Update:

(a) 20/00739/COUNOT Porthwen Church Road Wrabness CO11 2TQ Proposed conversion of agricultural building to dwelling. Prior approval will not be required. 28th July 2020.

(A class of application on which the parish council was not consulted.). On the TDC website it states the Parish Council didn't comment – The Parish Council was not consulted as it's a Prior Notification *not* a planning application and therefore the Parish Council are not able to comment. It was agreed at the last meeting to contact TDC to clarify this and correct the comment page. Parish Clerk gave an update: An email was sent to TDC planning, waiting for response.

**Action: Parish Clerk** 

(b) <u>20/01029/AGRIC</u> Priory Farm Harwich Road Wrabness CO11 2UG - Proposed steel frame agricultural storage building. As this is a Prior Notification not a Planning Application the Parish Council are unable to comment: It was agreed at the last meeting to contact TDC to clarify this. Parish Clerk gave an update: An email was sent to TDC planning, waiting for response.

Action Parish Clerk

(c) 20/01157/MMO Wrabness Beach – Proposed beach recharge and gabion construction. (A class of application on which the parish council is not consulted.) Listed by TDC as an application received by the Environment Agency for a Marine Licence to authorise the recharge of the beach with dredged materials and the construction of gabions to offset erosion. Planning permission was granted for this work in 2019.

No Action Required.

#### 2937: Notifications:

**Covid 19: Essex County Council announcement 15<sup>th</sup> October:** Essex moving to the Tier 2 High Covid alert category as from Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October. This will be publicised on the Parish Council website.

For further information: https://www.essex.gov.uk/questions-about-essex-moving-to-the-high-covid- alert-level

#### Local COVID Alert Level - High

This high level means <u>tighter restrictions</u> in place across Essex, including Tendring, to help manage the rising levels of COVID- 19 within our communities. Measures in place include:

- People must not meet with anybody outside their household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- People must not meet in a group of more than 6 outside (including in a garden or other space so the Rule of Six applies in a garden).
- People should aim to reduce the number of journeys they make where possible. If they need to travel, they should walk or cycle where
  possible, or to plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport.
- If people can work from home, then they should
- Certain businesses selling food or drink on their premises are required to close between 10pm and 5am.
- Schools, universities and places of worship remain open

For the latest government advice on COVID-19 visit - <a href="https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus</a>

#### 2938: Information Only:

<u>Parish Council Meetings</u>: Public meetings are still not possible due to the pandemic. Meetings will be held virtually via Zoom as an alternative. The Parish Council will keep the matter under review in line with EALC advice.

# 2939: Any Other Business:

- (a) Autoprint: printing of Wrabness Newsletter: work complete and invoice paid, see item 2941.
- (b) <u>Cochrane Tree Services</u> (crown reduction, oak tree Wrabness Playing Field) work complete and invoice paid see item 2932 (c) & 2941
- (C) Councillor Zoe Fairley, support: Does the Parish Council require support for community activities. No action required.
- (D) Current alert level: High (An extension on previous item 2937, Notification's )For the latest government advice on COVID-19 visit <a href="https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus</a>

### (E) British Red Cross: Support in Essex -

### British Red Cross: Support in Essex

### Support Line:

Our National Covid-19 Support Line – **0808 196 3651** – 10am – 6pm daily (see attached flyer) has helped more than 10,000 callers since April and our volunteers are currently receiving around 600 calls per week nationwide. Our free and confidential support line can:

- Help with practical information and advice
- Provide emotional support
- Connect people with support in their area
- Organise food and prescription deliveries to vulnerable households

#### Hardship Fund:

We have a hardship fund and cash assistance programme to support people without access to money. This can provide people with a cash grant of £120 per month for 3 months, up to a maximum of 3 persons per household. It is a very limited intervention designed to help those most financially impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. For a list of the qualifying criteria, please see the Hardship Fund Website.

Cash Transfer programmes require a level of bureaucracy which can be time-consuming and labour intensive for Local Authorities to meet. In order to be as useful as possible, we have simplified the process and are taking organisations on as referral partners, thereby taking most of the bureaucracy on ourselves. We would like to bring local partners on board as a referral partner and the Hardship Fund team are standing by to fast-track the process for you – please email hardshipfund@redcross.org.uk for more information or to begin the process.

For further information: www.redcross.org.uk/About-us/Contact-and-help/Contact-us

It was agreed to put British Red Cross flyers up on Parish Council Notice boards, village shop and other locations around the village: All Agreed:

Action: Mrs. L Byrne, Mr. R Colley, Parish Clerk.

# 2940: Reports:

HIGHWAYS: 1. Phase 1: A120 Horsley Cross Roundabout to Cansey Lane, in both directions, from Monday 26 October to Tuesday 10 November.	MICRO GRANTS: Nothing to report
<ul> <li>Traffic wanting to travel westbound on the A120 from Harwich will be diverted from Ramsey Roundabout via the B1352, B1414 to Thorpe-le-Soken, B1033, A133 to re-join the A120 via the A133 link at Hare Green.</li> </ul>	
- Traffic wanting to travel eastbound on the A120 will be diverted off the A120 at Horsley Cross Roundabout to follow the B1035 to Manningtree, B1352 to re-join the A120 at Ramsey Roundabout.	
Phase 2: A120 Ramsey Roundabout to Parkeston Roundabout, in both directions, from Monday 23 November to Wednesday 17 December and then from Monday 4 January to Wednesday 20 January.	
- Traffic will be diverted off the A120 at Parkeston Roundabout via Parkeston Road and the B1352 before re-joining the A120 at Ramsey Roundabout. This diversion route will be in place for traffic travelling in both directions.	
Work will take place between 8.00p and 6.00am	
VILLAGE HALL: Mr H Jones gave an update: The Village Hall Committee had met last month and will remain closed this year, opening will be reviewed next year.	WPFA: see above item 2930 (c) 12.
FORESHORE: See item: 2930 (a)	STATION GARDEN: Mrs J Cole gave an update: Water storage tank being installed by Rail Scape.
PUBLIC HEALTH: Ms R Thornton gave an update: No cases of Covid 19 reported in Wrabness.	NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: Mr H Jones gave an update: Met with the Police Community Support

		Officer on 13th September, went well. Was informed neighbourhood watch is no longer run by the police but a volunteer in Clacton. No reports of crime in the last week in Wrabness.
KIOSK: Mrs J Cole gave an update: A pumpkin will put in next week and a Christmas tree beginning December.		TRANSPORT: Mr R Colley gave an update: Community Transport is offering a shuttle service to destinations throughout TDC area including Wrabness for shopping and medical appointments.
FOOTPATHS: Mr. F McGowen gave a report:		OPEN SPACE, Land South of Station Road: See
(a)	Gas bottles have been dumped in layby along Harwich road to the east: have reported to Clacton Town Hall who will remove them. Will check they have been removed. <b>Action: Mr. F McGowen.</b>	item 2934
(b)	Obstruction along Harwich Road footpath, Council Cottage and Wells Cottage, A lorry has been parking on the footpath between 7.00am – 5.00pm, residents are having to walk along the busy Harwich Road. Update the Windscreen Notices: <b>Action: Mr. M Cole.</b>	
(c)	Footpaths on the Harwich Road, uplifting pavement: contact Councillor Carlo Guglielmi: <b>Action Mr. M Cole.</b>	

### 2941: Accounts and monies received:

RECEIVED	AMOUNT
TDC 2 <sup>nd</sup> precept instalment Oct 2020	£2773.00

DISBURSEMENTS	AMOUNT
Cochrane Tree Services (crown reduction, oak tree Wrabness Playing Field)	£600.00
Autoprint: printing of Wrabness Newsletter	£89.00

# 2942: Confirmations of Account Balances:

<u>Current Account</u>: Balance on: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 - £4782.05 <u>Deposit Account</u>: Balance on: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 - £6673.51

# Date and Time of next meeting Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Carol Greenwood, Wrabness Parish Clerk, 2 Fredricks Close, Wix, Manningtree, CO11 2AY Tele 07985676482

 ${\bf Email: \underline{Wrabness.parishclerk@gmail.com}}$ 

The meeting closed at: 9.02 pm