

WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 22nd of February 2023 at Wrabness Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Mr R Colley (Chairman), Mr H Jones (Vice Chairman), Mr F McGowan, Mrs J Cole, Mr G Watkins, Miss R Thornton, Miss L Taylor and Parish Clerk Juliet Bambridge.

3263. Declarations of interest: None

Public Forum – No members of the public were present.

3264. Minutes: of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th January 2023 were agreed as true and were signed.

3265. Matters arising and actions:

A. Parish Council requests to Local Highways Panel – (3252):

i: *Review Speed Limits:* ECC is undertaking a review of the local speed limits.

ii: *Review Parking issues: Wall Lane, Church Road, Rectory Road* - Scheme LTEN212004: The North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) are responsible for enforcing on-street parking restrictions within the District. Requests to NEPP to enforce Parking restrictions are forwarded to the relevant team so they can take any necessary action when they are next patrolling the area. WPC advises that a portfolio of photographic evidence should continue to be built.

iii: *Repair Footpath on Harwich Road* Scheme LTEN213002: Repairs are due to be done by the end of the financial year.

iv: *Replacement Village sign – Harwich Road/ W heatsheaf Lane junction* - Scheme LTEN212002: The new village signs, replacement finger post sign at cross roads and road markings are due to be completed by the end of the financial year.

B. Highways issues reported to Essex County Council online – (3252): There is no progress to date on the following issues.

i: Manhole cover near Red Barn corner:

ii: Signage defects Harwich Road

iii demolished wall at crossroads.

C. W heatsheaf Lane traffic - (3252): Nothing new to report.

D. Footpaths: extra footpath way-marker discs - (3252): Nothing new to report.

E. Monitoring highway issues arising from housing development - (3252): Nothing new to report.

F. Parish Council records and contact arrangements - (3258): A Parish Council USB (64GB) has been purchased for the secure storage of digital documents. A monthly payment SIM card has also been purchased to create the official WPC phone number where the Clerk can be reached. The lock on the filing cabinet is not yet operational, it was suggested that purchasing a second hand filing cabinet may be more cost effective than hiring a locksmith. **Action: H Jones**

G. Harwich Turnpike Road Milestone Markers (3259B): WPC have been in contact with The Manningtree Museum and Local History Group to gain more information in regard to this project. No response has been received to date. WPC wishes to clarify where the funding will be sourced from, who is managing the application and compiling supporting documents and whether permission has been gained from Essex County Council to place Milestone Marker No 65 in its proposed location as it is on highway land.

3266. 2023 Parish Litter Pick – Saturday 4th March (3255): Posters advertising the Litter Pick have been displayed and equipment for the day has been arranged. Councillors discussed the safety of the volunteers. TDC will be contacted to handle any waste beyond the scope of the litter pick volunteers. **Action: H Jones**

3267. Grant Application:

Playing Field Association Jumble Sale – Wrabness Playing Field Association requested financial support for a fundraising Jumble Sale. The grant requests support with the cost to hire the Village Hall and to place an advertisement in The Standard. It was resolved to award the full grant of £68.80 as requested.

3268. Playing Field Annual Maintenance Fee: Wrabness Playing Field Association submitted an annual breakdown of the maintenance costs for the playing field. The land continues to be kept in good order and is available daily for play and informal recreation. It was resolved to award an annual fee of £1,600. This is an increase of £100 from last year, in line with the 2022/23 budget provision.

3269. Coronation Village Celebration (3256): The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) have sent communications encouraging community celebrations for the Coronation, with suggestions that planning should be taking place now. Village people and organisations have been contacted to begin organising. WPC will continue to discuss and update. **Action: R. Colley**

3270. Tendring IRP Parish Report 2023: This report reviews the guidelines in regard to paying allowances to Parish Councillors. Wrabness Parish Councillors are not paid allowances and prefer to represent the parish as unpaid volunteers. It was agreed to continue the tradition that no allowances will be paid, to avoid additional cost for the people of Wrabness.

3271. Planning Application Update: The Parish Council has already commented on the following applications to TDC. The current position is summarised below

A. 22/02138/FUL Land at The Coign Ash Street Wrabness CO11 2TG - Proposed erection of a detached dwelling as a replacement for the existing dwelling. Status: Approved on 15/02/2023. Correspondence received from the applicant was discussed and a response was agreed to the matters raised. **Action: Parish Clerk**

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.

C. 22/00080/FUL Hut 16 East Beach The Foreshore Wrabness CO11 2BB. - Proposed construction of a new beach hut for holiday use. Status: Approved. Following the approval of this application on 20/12/2022, WPC contacted TDC with regard to the window for response not being provided. A response was received from Susanne Chapman-Ennos at TDC apologising, providing assurance that extra staff training on new procedures will be provided to TDC staff.

D. 22/02056/VOC Land site of former Broadfields Primrose Hill Wrabness CO11 2TZ - Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) of 20/00036/FUL to simplify the new dwelling construction by removing the jettied gables and adding mono pitch roof to bay windows. Status: Pending

E. 22/02121/FULHH Shore Farm Ash Street Wrabness CO11 2TG - Proposed erection of two storey side extension following demolition of existing one and a half storey element. Status: Pending

3272. New Planning Application – the Parish Council has been consulted by Tendring District Council on the following application:

A. 23/00150/FUL Oakfield Wood Burial Ground Ash Street Wrabness Essex CO11 2TG - Proposed change of use of existing agricultural land to a wildflower wildlife meadow burial site and woodland burial site. Following discussion the Parish Council resolved it has no objection to this application. **Action: Parish Clerk**

3273. Village Green - Bennett Homes: Bennett Homes envisage that the open space should be ready for transfer to WPC by the end of June 2023. A meeting will be arranged with the village hall committee to discuss boundaries, access and the management of the land. **Action: R. Colley**

3274. Parish Council Finance: A finance report was tabled and discussed:

-The 2023/24 Parish Precept will be received from TDC in two instalments during April and October 2023.

-WPC has sought advice from Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) in regard to banking following the employment of the Parish Clerk.

-WPC has been advised to upgrade to online banking as a cheque book account is less usual for local councils now. It was agreed to make enquiries into online banking facilities with two signatories to ensure probity.

-WPC does not currently need to be registered as an employer with HMRC due to the payment threshold. This will need to be kept under review.

-The Clerk annual salary should be paid in regular monthly instalments and following discussion it was agreed this should be implemented and the expenditure reported in the usual way on meeting agendas. **Actions: R. Colley**

3275. Any Other Business:

A. May 2023 Elections: TDC have sent nomination papers for Local Election on 4th May 2023 and will shortly supply the public notices. The public notices are to be displayed on the WPC notice boards and website as from 13th March. The nomination papers will also be uploaded to the Wrabness website. Persons wishing to stand for election need to deliver their nomination papers to the TDC Returning Officer by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 4 April 2023).

Action: Parish Clerk

B. Information: Extension of Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme Grant (AONB)

The 12-month extension means the grant scheme will now run until March 2025, and is open to landowners, farmers and other land managers in the Dedham Vale and the Coast & Heaths Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Since the programme launched in April 2021, more than £442,000 has been awarded to fund over 40 projects across Suffolk and Essex. Visit <https://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/managing/farming-in-protected-landscapes/> for more information on the programme and how to apply.

3276. Reports:

HIGHWAYS: The large pothole on Station Rd near the station has been filled.

WRABNESS PLAYING FIELD: WPC have been in contact with Clive Dawson regarding a Tree Protection Order (TPO) for the tree on the playing field. This tree was covered by a TPO until 2014 but this was revoked due to an issue with the documentation. TDC has commenced the process for a new TPO to be put into place. This will be at no cost to WPC.

STATION GARDEN: The Community Rail Partnership official launch of the Wrabness Wildlife Garden on Saturday 25th of March at 12 noon. A gathering for tea, coffee and sandwiches will take place afterwards in the community café.

PUBLIC HEALTH: The Ambulance Service notified us the defibrillator outside the Village Hall has been accessed in an emergency. It has been serviced, checked and is operational. The location post code has been added to the secure housing.

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER: The deadline for the next newsletter is 20th March 2023. The current editor wishes to retire. WPC will be looking for an editor for the newsletter, please contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested in supporting this local information source.

VILLAGE HALL: The Nostalgia Morning held at the Village Hall was successful. Attendees were able to identify people in the old photographs. The event also raised £103 from raffle and refreshments. This will help towards the running costs and maintenance of the hall.

KIOSK: Some flowers have been placed in the kiosk. The question of the cost of plants was raised and it was agreed a funding application should be made to the next meeting. **Action: J. Cole**

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: Please BE AWARE that there have been thefts of bicycles and metal items from front gardens, as well thefts from cars, in local areas. There has also been an increase in thefts of heating oil.

FORESHORE: Balhaven have reached out to WPC querying where to gain financial support to protect the sea wall. WPC has suggested investigating local environmental grants to gain funding to efficiently protect the sea wall.

WEBSITE: The number of visitors to the Wrabness Parish Council website continues to increase each year, with 23,206 visits during 2022. The website is run at no cost and provides information and publicity for local services, organisations and clubs.

3277. Accounts and monies received:

RECEIVED	AMOUNT	DISBURSEMENTS	AMOUNT	CQ No.
-	-	Wrabness Village Hall February Meeting	£18.00	1200
-	-	Parish Clerk Expenses for January and February 2023	£55.99	1201
-	-	Parish Clerk Salary for January and February 2023	£395.90	1202
-	-	Grant to Playing Field Association - Jumble Sale	£68.80	1203
-	-	Annual Maintenance Fee to Playing Field Association	£1,600.00	1204

3278. Confirmation of Account Balances:

Current Account: Balance as at 1st Feb £6,691.72

Deposit Account: Balance as at 19th Jan £6,737.51

Meeting closed at 21:24pm

The Annual Parish Assembly will be in the Village Hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday 29th March 2023 and will be followed by the next Parish Council meeting.

Juliet Bambridge - Wrabness Parish Clerk

Contact Wrabness Parish Council: Email: wrabness.parcishclerk@gmail.com Telephone 07535812543