

Draft until signed

# WETHERDEN PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 July 2018 in the village hall

- Present: Cllrs Chris Harcourt, Stephanie Hensley, Paul Sutton  
Jen Larner – Clerk, County Cllr Andrew Stringer, District Cllr Rachel Eburne  
Two members of the public
- 2018/42 **Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Duncan Perry, John Bushell
- 2018/43 **Declarations of interest** – none
- 2018/44 **Minutes of Parish Council meeting** – the Parish Council meeting minutes of 18 June 2018 were amended so that the last item now reads 'an idea was expressed regarding land opposite Little Orchard, to maintain lower undergrowth and hedges for birds and wildlife'. With this amendment, they were signed as a true record.
- 2018/45 **County Cllr Andrew Stringer's report** – this had been circulated. Andrew updated us on the changes to school transport which will be phased in from September, the consultation that has been launched on specialist education transport, and the review of Highways services. He also cautioned vigilance on the road outside Lawn Farm Quarry as this could be particularly dangerous once we have rain.
- 2018/46 **District Cllr Rachel Eburne's report** – this had been circulated. Rachel updated us on the idea of a health and business scheme, which would see small grants going to community businesses which allow the public to use their toilets without the need to be a customer. She also reported that Mid Suffolk now has a 6.5 year housing supply plan which is good news in terms of planning.
- 2018/47 **Public participation** – the question was raised regarding the yellow lines on the road opposite School Meadow promised by Cllr Andrew Stringer some years ago, and what the parish council has done to progress these. Cllr Andrew Stringer confirmed that this job is still on the waiting list, with a budget of £4,500 against it, but had been paused due to opposition to the proposal. It was agreed to look at traffic calming ideas for Elmswell Road at the next meeting.
- Another query concerned the parish council response to the Minerals and Waste preferred options draft plan, and the retrospective planning application from Lawn Farm Quarry for a concrete batching plant. These were discussed at length.
- 2018/48 **Clerk's report** – the clerk reported that it seems as if the dog waste bin at the edge of the playing field has been emptied, though no response has been received from MSDC.
- 2018/49 **Finance** – The clerk's finance report ending June 2018 was approved.
- 2018/50 The following payments were authorised: Dianne Batten £92.24, clerk's salary £312.31, Cllr Paul Sutton (expenses) £41.31.
- 2018/51 **Football club rent for coming year** – after discussion it was agreed to maintain the rent for the football club at £450 for this year, given the poor state of the pavilion. The terms and conditions were discussed and it was agreed to amend conditions 2, 6 and 8. These will be sent to the club along with an invoice. Cllr Chris Harcourt will talk to Cllr John Bushell to see if he has had contact with the Junior team re the rent for the coming year.
- 2018/52 **Letter re car parking received from Village Hall Management committee** – a letter had been received from VHMC regarding the use of the village hall car park by users of the playing field, in particular footballers, and requesting a contribution from the parish council towards the costs of maintaining the car park. After discussion, it was agreed not to pay a contribution as it hasn't been budgeted for this year, but will be considered in next year's budget. The clerk will write to the VHMC explaining the reasons. It was also agreed that any mention of the village

hall car park would be deleted from the football club's terms and conditions of use, and they would be encouraged to use the car park in the centre of the village to prevent deterioration of the car park to the left of, and behind, the hall.

It was also recommended that a joint meeting with the football users (both senior and junior clubs), the village hall, the parish council and other interested bodies would be held to consider a joint bid for the Community Infrastructure Levy money towards village improvements such as sport, facilities, car park etc. This will be discussed further at the September meeting, and villagers encouraged through the newsletter to come and put their ideas.

2018/53 **Allotment rent** – it was agreed that the rent for the allotment would remain at £20 for this year.

2018/54 **Data protection** – in the absence of Cllr Duncan Perry, this was postponed until the next meeting.

2018/55 **Consultation on Minerals and Waste plan** – the draft response had been circulated to councillors and was discussed at length, and agreed.

2018/56 **Updates on common/playing field** – A quote had been received on cutting the triangle opposite the end of Beech Lane, but a second is still awaited and so a decision will be made at the next meeting. It was noted that the community probation team will be strimming the common this year. A revised quote for the pavilion roof – minus the cost of materials – is still awaited. It is hoped that work will start on oiling the bench and painting the shed in the middle of August.

2018/57 **Planning applications and decisions** – DC/18/03191. The Bungalow, Base Green, erection of two storey extension to west elevation, single storey to north elevation and erection of car port (following demolition of existing rear extensions). No objections.

SCC/0049/18 Lawn Farm Quarry. Retrospective application for installation and operation of a concrete batching plant, ancillary facilities and access. Objections on grounds of proximity to houses, noise, dust, dirt on road. However if SCC feels it is policy compliant, then strict conditions must be imposed regarding the routeing of traffic to and from the site, cleaning of the road before every use of the batching plant, regular air and noise testing and monitoring, operating and maintenance hours to be strictly enforced. The clerk will draft a response and circulate it. Individuals are encouraged to respond too, but the closing date is 24 July.

2018/58 **Correspondence** – report and funding request from SARS; query regarding a 30 mph sign found in Great Ashfield; information about funding a PCSO.

2018/59 **Urgent matters to be brought to council's attention** – volunteers are needed to carry out regular routine maintenance of the defibrillator. The clerk will put this request in the newsletter.

Next meeting Monday 17 September.

Jen Larner, Clerk  
01284 705548  
wetherdenparishclerk@gmail.com