**Councillors present**: Cllr. N. Foster (NF) - Chair, Cllr. K. Lucas (KL) (VC), Cllr. P. MacKenzie (PM) & Cllr. L. Osborn (LO), Cllr Geraldine Ciantar & Cllr. Alan Marsh

**Present:**  Clerk, Vicky Bright. Cllr. Lance Stanbury - SCC & Cllr. Brian Harvey – WSC.

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| **ITEM**  **21/12/1** | |  | | --- | | **Public Forum – LGA 1972, Section 100(1):**  Nine members of public were in attendance.  Mr. Don MacBean once again raised concerns regarding the Hythe Project and the works that  have been carried out. Mr MacBean quoted the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 and asked if the  Chair had read this, to which the Chair confirmed he had, before the works started. Mr MacBean  also made reference to the report from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and the Bat Survey recently  carried out, and made reference to the fact that "bats and other wildlife are protected by the  1981 Act and that unlimited fines and/or up to six months in prison can be imposed for breaches  of the Act." Mr MacBean advised that it is the Suffolk Police /Advice/Animal-protection/Wildlife Unit who enforce the Act. Act and asks people to report any negative activity to them; it is  unclear if Mr MacBean is proposing to report the works at the Hythe to them, or what he believes  the Parish Council has done in order to breach the Act. The Chair confirmed that the works have  been carried out according to the Act and that measures were taken to ensure the protection of  any Wildlife at the Hythe, as explained many times previously. He also reiterated that the Suffolk  Wildlife Trust report had not identified any concerns and that any recommendations from them  were purely advisory. Mr MacBean highlighted that the Chair reported in June/July that in  February & March dead trees had been removed and that Ivy had been stripped from the main  area trees; He suggested that this had damaged Bat habitat as Ivy is prime roosting for bats. The  Chair once again reiterate that only dead and dangerous trees had been removed and that only  small amounts of Ivy had been removed, and that there was still plenty of Ivy, holes in trunks,  dead wood areas etc. left. It was again reiterated by Cllr. S. Foster & Cllr. K. Lucas that the Hythe  used to be a recreational area and had been left to overgrow, with no maintenance and the  Parish Council are just trying to return it to its former state, and make it an Open Space to be  used by the residents, as it was originally gifted as such. Mr MacBean then addressed the public forum to stress his concerns and asked members of the public for their support, at this point no one responded. | | **Accepted Apologies for absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) and (2):**  Cllr. S. Foster.  **Absent:**  None. | |  |
| **21/12/2**  **21/12/3**  **21/12/4**  **(i)**  **(ii)**  **21/12/5**  **(i)**  **(ii)**  **(iii)**  **(iv)**  **21/12/6**  **(i)**  **(ii)**  **(iii)**  **(iv)**  **(v)**  **(vi)**  **(vii)**  **21/12/7**  **(i)**  **(ii)**  **(iii)**  **iv)**  **21/12/8**  **(i)**  **(ii)**  **21/12/9**  **(i)**  **(ii)**  **(iii)** | **Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:**  Cllr. Maddie declared an interest in item 6(i) Sunnica.  **To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings:**  **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th October 2021**  **Resolved 21/12/3.01**  The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7th October 2021 were adopted as a true statement and were duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting (NF).  **External Forum:**  **County Councillor Report**  Cllr. Lance Stanbury gave a report; See Full Report in ***Appendix 1.***  **District Councillor Report**  Cllr. Brian Harvey gave a report; See Full Report in ***Appendix 2.***  **REPORTS:**  **Play Area Update** – The fence has been repaired. The Buffalo Board to be purchased to replace the cargo net. Bark top-up to be discussed at the January meeting.  **Parish Footpaths** - A meeting has been arranged with SCC on Monday to discuss issues that have been outstanding for some time.   * **Worlington to West Row Track** – Evidence has been gathered and a case will be submitted January 2022. Mid-January 2022 Highways prioritisation meeting. * **Footpath skirting Worlington to Mildenhall** – Cllr. Stanbury, SCC confirmed he had attended a school transport appeals panel site meeting, where they walked the entire route, during which the narrowing of the pathway along the road was observed. Works have been ordered. * **Hythe to West Row footpath/bridge SCC proposal update** – The PC is to hold an Extraordinary meeting in January to discuss the proposals in full. * **Staunch Bridge repairs and gates** – No update at this time.   **VAS (SID) Data** – Data to be in the next edition of the Pump. Cllr. Harvey advised that the Camera Team had been at Freckenham, Barton Mills, Worlington and the outskirts of Mildenhall doing checks in the last couple of weeks. Cllr. Stanbury advised that it is a Suffolk wide problem and SCC is to work more closely with Parish Council’s.  **External Meetings**  Cllr. Ken Lucas reported that he had attended the recent Quarry meeting, where they advised that they had plans to extend the length of the site to the edge of Bay Farm by 2 more blocks.  **PLANNING:**  **Sunnica Energy Farm –** The formal application was submitted on 18th November 2021. The Parish Council have submitted their comments on the Adequacy of Consultation to the Inspectorate; anyone can submit their comments on this issue until 6th December 2021. SCC/WSC/ECDC/CCC have also submitted their comments. The PC has also registered as an Interested Party online. The Common Ground report still needs to be submitted, currently awaiting Sunnica’s submission of this; there will be 4 more stages after this stage. A FOI request has been submitted for information of the proposal of traffic using the roads past the Walnut Tree pub.  **Worlington Neighbourhood Plan Update (NF/LO) –** The return of surveys was good, with 120 returned. All points and comments raised are currently being compiled by the Committee. A meeting with the Planning Consultant is scheduled for 6th December 2021 at 7pm to discuss any views/open spaces to be protected. These sires will be included within the Landscape Consultants report. Boundaries have already been identified Ref: Soil types/land usage.  **Boundary Change (WSC) – Turnpike Estate (Red Lodge PC)** – The Red Lodge PC Clerk confirmed she had chased this with WSC and they advised it is being addressed and they will update soon.  **Church Lane Enforcement EN/21/0237** – The Clerk followed this up with Sarah Rampley, WSC and she replied; “I’ve been trying to make contact with the applicant but received no response at the moment. I’ll keep trying and if needs be will make a visit. Sorry no visit has as yet been made due to workload.”  **Land West of Mildenhall Development Public Consultation** –  **To find out more and have your say about the proposals, please visit the dedicated website:**[**www.westofmildenhall.co.uk**](http://www.westofmildenhall.co.uk/) The website details how feedback can be provided.  We are also holding an exhibition on the 2nd December 2021 at the Mildenhall Hub on an appointment basis only, with booking system available via the website.  There will also be a further exhibition event at the Jubilee Centre in Mildenhall following this on 15th December, times to be confirmed via the website when agreed. Please ensure any feedback is received by 4pm on 10th January, when the consultation will close.  **DC/21/1906/FUL – a. Change of use of land to Gypsy and Traveller residential area providing 12 plots with concrete pitches; b. 12 dayroom/amenity buildings; c. one touring caravan pitch; d. vehicular access and associated parking spaces; e. play area; f. open space – Location: Land opposite Pen Villa, Isleham Road, Worlington**  **Resolved 21/12/6.01**  The Parish Council resolved to reiterate previous objections submitted and to add that the FH 2017assessment of required Gypsy/Traveller sites be quoted as ‘No current or future need’ and that therefore 12 plots in one small village, lacking in any amenities is excessive.  **DC/21/2067/HH – a. Two storey front extension; b. front porch area; c. single storey car port to side; d. single storey rear extension; e. single storey side covered area; f. roof mounted solar panels; g. render existing dwelling – Location: 7 The Paddocks, Worlington**  **Resolved 21/12/6.02**  It was agreed to submit No Comments to application DC/21/2067/HH.  **PARISH MATTERS:**  **Hythe Update –** Cllr. Nick Foster confirmed that hedging delivery had been delayed, but that the hedging had now been received and planting was scheduled for 11am on 12th December, any volunteers are welcome.  **Discuss Memorial Bench for Bun How & George Pooley (Hythe scheme)**  A resident raised the concern that anyone should be able to have a Memorial bench/tree after the Chair confirmed that the PC had been approached about having a bench or plaque in memory of the two residents mentioned, who had sadly passed away recently. He explained that the PC hope to include a Commemorative Area at the Hythe, to allow families to have a Memorial Tree or Bench for lost relatives. The scheme is to be discussed further and a piece in the Pump to gauge ideas and interest, details will follow.  **Icknield Way Tree Preservation Order**  The Principal Planning Officer at WSC has confirmed that she is in receipt of the Tree Officers report and is currently reviewing it and hopes to respond shortly.  **Discuss Land Adjacent to the Village Hall – Protection & Preservation**  The possibility of approaching the landowners (Dick Mortlock) to purchase the land or to enquire about the land being bequeathed, in order to protect it from being developed was discussed, but it was felt that this was not feasible and was removed from the agenda.  **HIGHWAY ISSUES:**  **Traffic Calming/Highway Issues –** The Highways survey results have been released and are now pending Speed Surveys. It was suggested by Highways that the 3 Parishes split the costs of the surveys in order to get them done quickly. The difference in the costs is to be met by Cllr. Harvey and Cllr. Stanbury’s Highways Budget.  **Resolved 21/12/8.01**  It was agreed to contribute £200 towards the costs of the Speed Surveys.  **Quiet Lanes’ Scheme –**  Cllr. Osborn confirmed that Wave 1 & 2 have been agreed and signed off by the Cabinet Member.  The Legal Notices are to be published. Worlington is in Wave 3 with any objections currently being considered. Cllr. Osborn is to attend the Quiet Lanes Zoom meeting on 13th December 2021. Signs to be in place after official designation published. There is the option of installing the signage ourselves under the new Self Help Scheme.  **FINANCE & POLICIES:**  **Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from List of Payments/Receipts**  The Payments and receipts were scrutinised and approved. The Lloyds account balance was confirmed as £29,164.12 as of 26th November 2021.  **Resolved 21/12/9.01**  That the Bank balances and reconciliation of payments & receipts be received and adopted and initialled as such by the Chairman of the meeting (NF).  **Parish Council Account Cheques for signing and approval**  **Resolved 21/12/9.02**  It was agreed to approve the payments of the following outstanding invoices and the cheques were approved and signed by Cllr. N. Foster & Cllr. K. Lucas.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Royal British Legion | Wreaths | £37.00 | 000887 | | ICO | Data protection fee | £40.00 | 000888 | | RH Landscapes | October Grass cutting | £318.00 | 000889 |   **Approval of Amended Grass Cutting Schedule for the Hythe**  **Resolved 21/12/9.03**  It was agreed to increase the grass cutting at the Hythe to twice monthly from March 2022. |  |
|  | **Meeting closed at 9pm**  **Signed Date:**  **Chair, WPC** |  |