

WORLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Sunnica Update / Planning Meeting of Worlington Parish Council

Thursday 6th October 2022 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall Worlington

Councillors present: Cllr K Lucas (KL) - Chair, Cllr L Osborne (LO), Cllr Geraldine Ciantar (GC) and Cllr Paula MacKenzie (PM)

Present: Clerk – Joanna Priestley and Cllr Brian Harvey – WSC.

ITEM

Public Forum – LGA 1972, Section 100(1)

Chris Hall commented that there was an omission in the minutes of the last meeting regarding the point raised about speeding in the village (22/09/4 (i)). It was clarified by LO that there was a call for a Freedom of Information request of Suffolk Constabulary for details of prosecutions in this matter. The minutes were amended accordingly.

Chris Hall then stated that in the summary of the last meeting produced in the Pump it was noted that there were no objections to the planning application in Church Lane (DC/22/1261/HH) when in fact, the Council were not quorate to vote on the matter. This error was acknowledged and agreed.

Chris Hall also commented that the One Suffolk Worlington website was woefully out of date and PM agreed and stated that this would be revamped and brought up to a good standard now that she and the clerk had full access to the log in details.

22/10/1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):

Apologies were received from Alan Marshall

22/10/2 Members' Declaration of Interests (LGA 2000 Part III)

Item 6 (ii) – Cllr MacKenzie

22/10/3 Approval of Minutes (LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2))

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st September 2022 were approved as amended and signed by the Chairman.

22/10/4 Election

The Clerk explained that West Suffolk Council (WSC) had received ten requests for an election and that a notice of election had been put on display on the website and the noticeboard. Nominees should make their applications to WSC by Friday 7th October at 4pm. She confirmed that if up to two nominees were received then they would automatically be appointed as councillors and the costs would be approximately £100. If more than two nominations were received then an election would be held on 3rd November and costs would range between £2,000 and £5,000.

22/10/5 Agree the date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting was due to be held on 3rd November. As there was the potential for there to be an election on that date and the polling station would open until

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10pm, it was agreed that the meeting should be changed to Thursday 10th November 2022 at 7.30pm.

22/10/6 Planning

(i) **DC/22/0796/FUL - Application to discharge conditions 12 (management strategy) and 16 (materials - samples/details)**

There were no objections to this application.

(ii) **TPO/1970/104 -Tree preservation order - one Oak (T1 on plan, A12 on order) upper crown reduction by 33% reducing branches originating from pruning wounds; two Oak (T2 and T3 on plan, A12 on order) lift crown by two metres on Western side to give clearance from house; one Oak (T4 on plan, A12 on order) crown lift lateral branches Eastern and Western side to give two metre clearance from house and garage**

GC commented that these works were mostly to reduce and remove deadwood and a report was completed with advice taken. BH clarified that work done under tree preservation orders were generally a good idea. There were therefore no objections.

AP/22/0019/STAND - Planning application: a. change of use to gypsy and traveller residential use; b. 12 residential pitches each accommodating a day room/amenity building, up to two caravans and parking spaces; c. vehicular access; d. play area

It was confirmed that the appeal hearing on 8th September had been granted in favour of the applicant.

22/10/7 Neighbourhood Plan Update

LO explained that good work had been done on this and by 19th November there would be a drop in event to update the public at the Village Hall. The next meeting would be held on 2nd November to discuss the amended report and a first draft would be sent to the planning team by the end of this year. This would then come back to the Parish Council for comment in February 2023 and would then go on to the local plan.

LO then discussed the possibility of a community orchard. She explained that a member of the public was looking to gift part of a field to the village for this purpose and were in the process of seeking legal advice. LO produced a leaflet from the East of England Apples of Local Heritage and explained that this was the sort of exciting opportunity that could be realised for Worlington with the option of allotments at the back in either full or half size plots. Access would need to be carefully considered and it would just be of a horticultural nature, no livestock. BH commented that funding may be available for this type of community project.

22/10/8 Sunnica Update

PM explained that she attended a preliminary meeting on 28th September. PM went on to read out a report which will be available on the parish website. In brief the following points were made:

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- Sunnica submitted their change proposals within the time frame set out by the Planning Inspectorate;
- in regard to the grid connection - Option 3 has been presented to the National Grid and a response is awaited;
- though the layout and scale have changed they still lay within the original "envelope"; and
- site visits – there were over a hundred requests for areas to be visited with the first site visit conducted on the 29th September. It was suggested that a public show of support would be welcome on these accompanied site visits.

PM is still working on the written representation and the SOCG with the help of two Worlington residents, Denis and Lisa, whom she thanked for their tireless help and support. The written representation is due on the 11th November 2022. As yet there is no dead line for the SOCG. Sunnica have requested a meeting to discuss SOCG points directly with the Parish Council. It was decided, under the advice of the Parish Alliance, that we should not engage with Sunnica until our written representation has been submitted.

It was noted that the Planning Inspectorate Examining Authority (ExA) accepted Sunnica's Change Request submitted on 30th August 2022 and that the examination of Sunnica's application had begun and is a 6 month process. The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of Sunnica's application by 28th March 2023.

22/10/9

Cheques for signing and approval of outstanding invoices

KL explained the problems the Parish Council had experienced with Lloyds Bank in respect of changing the correspondence details, removing signatories and adding new ones. Historical members of the Council were still on the list of signatories and the former chairman had finally been able to go to the Bank to deal with these issues. The Council would now await more details from Lloyds before it is able to sign cheques and proceed with banking as normal. It was noted that, due to this delay, the Clerk had not yet been paid and there were mounting invoices that were outstanding.

The Next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Thursday 10th November at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting Closed 8:15pm.

Signed: *Ken Lucas*

Date: 10 November 2022

Chair, Worlington Parish Council