

Worlington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall from 7.30pm Tuesday 10th March 2015

Councillors present: Chairman – Cllr. K. Lardner (KL), Cllr. G. Jones (GJ), Cllr. K. Lucas (KL), Cllr. R. Osborn (RO) & Cllr. P. Merrick (PM).

Present: Interim Clerk – Su Field

Item		
	Meeting opened at 7.30pm	
	<u>Public Forum – LGA 1972, Section 100(1):</u> 16 members of the public were present.	
	<p>Some members of the public commented about the poppies. A number of residents feel that they are too large and detract from the memorial itself. Parish Council were asked if they were happy with them and the majority of Councillors are.</p> <p>GJ stated that she had received mixed reports about them but reiterated that the Council had wanted to ensure that a lasting memorial was put in place. Approximately 110 people had attended the dedication.</p> <p>A resident requested clarification on an item appearing later on the agenda (Village Art Trail/Festival). The item had been placed on the agenda to enable the Parish Council to receive more information. Clarification requested as to where monies raised would be channelled. It was confirmed that any proceeds would be passed to the Church. The event is being planned as an Open Gardens with an art trail attached. It was also confirmed that this is not a parish council initiative.</p> <p>Website issues – a resident raised concerns about whether the content of the website was up to date. They stated that they had been unable to find the current agenda, that the mobile library dates were not available and The Pump would appear to be out of date. GJ informed the meeting that whilst every endeavour was made to ensure that the site was up to date, the website is now full and is currently being redesigned (inclusion of drop down menus) to allow more information to be stored.</p> <p>Walnut Grove Flooding – It was reported that whilst some surface drains had been cleaned by the County Council, the soakaway in Walnut Grove had not been dealt with. It was further reported that the operatives had refused to attempt to clear it. KL instructed the Clerk to contact Highways again to endeavour to get them to accept responsibility for maintenance.</p>	
	Agenda opened at 7.45 pm	
15.121	<u>Chairman’s Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):</u> Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 to consider the exclusion of the public and press for confidential items had taken place before the public meeting.	
	Apologies: Cllr E Lubbock Absent: None Cllr J Waters	
15.122	<u>Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:</u> None.	

Clerk

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- 15.123** **Minutes of the last meeting - LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):**
Cllr. Jones proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2015 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 29th January 2015 were accurate, Cllr. Osborn seconded.
Resolved 15.123/01
The minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2015 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 29th January 2015, were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (KL).
- 15.124** **External Forum:**
15.124.1 **Community Police**
No report received.
There have been four burglaries within the district very recently. The Police have asked Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators to reiterate to residents the importance of keeping premises secure.
- 15.124.2** **County Councillor**
CCllr Waters tendered his apologies. Following report received:

I have been extremely busy with work around the RAF Mildenhall closure, in my capacity as District Leader and County Councillor. I am attending the second of the Molesworth, Alconbury and Mildenhall (MAM) Working Group in London this afternoon/evening and will again be pushing MOD for a clear steer as to the future use of the site. We have also now held two of our local engagement sessions which have been very positive in terms of looking at local impact, how FHDC can help soften this impact and looking at ideas as to what the local community think should happen with the land. Although there are going to be many challenges and changes, this also brings lots of opportunity and we want to work with the local community to achieve the best outcome for the District and wider community. I will continue to keep the Parish updated.

West Suffolk is the County Council's main growth area. We are finally getting education on the page and looking to ensure that schools are a priority within the local area. We are looking to build new schools in Red Lodge and Lakenheath and gain funding for the other local schools which should, overall, tackle the current issue of the lack of spaces.
- 15.124.3** **District Councillor**
No apologies, no report received.
- 15.125** **Reports**
15.125.1 **Clerks Report and Update from previous meeting (for info only)**
The Parish Council have received notification from SCC that the C603, Freckenham, Worlington and West Row will be temporarily closed from 16th March until 3rd April in order for highway maintenance to take place.
- 15.125.2** **Update from the Village Hall Committee**
Takings for January and Feb were £516. Bookings still coming in – parties etc. There is now a regular booking for a Thursday exercise group.

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There had been an issue with the security light at back of hall and this was investigated on 10th March and was now working correctly. A new security light had been installed to the other side of the hall following oil thefts in the village. It was hoped that this would act as a deterrent in the event of anyone attempting a theft.

GJ confirmed that the clearance of roof moss would commence on 16th March.

15.125.3 Play Area and Maintenance of Parish Footpaths

(i) Bark Update and Play Area etc

The bark has been delivered. Is now on the play area and has been evenly distributed by a small band of volunteers. Thanks to be noted for all the volunteers, Mr J Smith of Tilbrook Landscaping, Mr P Nunn and Upton Suffolk Farms for their assistance with this project.

A further 'wear and tear' repair to the edging has been completed. The next repair of the equipment will be to the swing seats, one of which has some cracking of the top surface.

A report of the repairs and upkeep will be in a future edition of The Pump.

EL had met with the Outside Spaces Manager of the West Suffolk Partnership and a thorough inspection of the Railway Triangle had taken place. The manager's initial comment was that the area needs to be made safe. Two specific items were the barbed wire fencing which needs to be removed and the old tip site should be cleared or effectively fenced off before anyone is encouraged to use the site. A number of possible changes were discussed, including a parking area, cutting of paths through the brambles from the back of the site and management of the woodland.

It was agreed that the question of the wildlife area within the Railway Triangle would be placed on the next agenda.

(ii) Football Goal Posts Update

KL updated the meeting about the goal posts item. As the cricket season commences on 6th April no posts could be installed until the next football season later in the year. KL was requested to liaise with the cricket club on the question of the installation of goal posts. GJ had, during the poppy dedication event, taken a straw poll of the young people within the village and the following synopsis produced:

43 young people in the village.

20 teenagers.

23 children under 12

10 children under 8

Discussions had with parents and children revealed that the young people of the village would like additional play facilities. Further investigations to be carried out concerning the possible purchase of smaller goal posts. The views of the cricket club to be sought during the season.

It was agreed that a 'litter pick' would be arranged for late March/early April and this will be advertised in The Pump. Volunteers required.

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A bench in the Hythe area has been moved into the shrubs that surround the area. It is under cover and out of the weather so has not been moved back onto its hard standing. This will be done during the week prior to Easter.

15.125.4 Village Speed Watch

RO updated the meeting on the refresher training sessions that have taken place. The village is back on the rota with the visibility display unit and new signage has been installed on the Mildenhall side of the village.

It was acknowledged that there is a speeding 'hot spot' along the road from Red Lodge. Further speeding has been witnessed in Church Lane. Further "30mph" stickers were at the meeting available for those residents who require them. It was agreed that signs displaying "20 is Plenty" to be sourced.

15.125.5 External Meetings that Councillors may wish to report upon

KL and GJ attended a meeting at FHDC, main topic of which was planning and FHDC's progress with their Local Plan.

It was to be noted that there is animosity between the parishes and the Planning Department so a document (Memorandum of Understanding) had been produced to encourage parish input.

It had been reported at the meeting that FHDC's 5 year housing supply target can be met from currently identified sites.

FHDC had also informed the meeting that there would be a district-wide consultation commencing in June and July about village boundaries. Further information on this will be distributed when available.

15.126 Planning Applications

15.126.1 DC/15/0089/HH Planning Consultation

The Parish Council had no comments or objection to the application.

15.126.2 DC/15/0044/FUL Planning Consultation

The Parish Council supported the application.

15.127 Finance & Policies

15.127.1 Parish Council Bank Balances/Reconciliation from list of payments & receipts

Treasurers Account	£11,729.33
Business Instant Access Account	£1,184.87

15.127.2 Cheques for signing/approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices

Tilbrooks Landscapes	Play Bark (to be reimbursed from CClr Waters' Locality Budget – application submitted)	635	£1,392.12
Pearce & Kemp	Street Lighting Maintenance	636	£66.04
Mrs S Field	Salary & Mileage (part Feb & March)	637	£255.44
HMRC	Tax on salary (part Feb & March)	638	£62.80
Mr E Lubbock	Reimbursement of purchase of Gravel Board and Gravel (to be	639	£326.95

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	reimbursed from Cllr Waters' Locality Budget – application submitted)		
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15.127.3 Approval of cheques and to authorise payment of invoices signed between meetings
None

15.128.4 Updated report on Village Hall bank accounts and expenditure

Bank statements not available at this time.

Expenditure: £209.59

Paid in: £429.00

Cheques to be signed as follows:

Mrs G Jones	Reimbursement of expenditure	754	£209.59
G K E Electrical	Electrical work to the village hall	755	£147.00

15.129.5 Emergency Planning Document (FHDC) – Memorandum of Understanding

Discussed under item 15.125.5 above.

15.128 The Village of the Year Village Planting Update

EL provided a report detailing suggestions for the village entry points. At each site it was suggested 2 large shrubs at £8 each, behind the signs, 5 low growing shrubs at £5, in front of the signs. These would then be under planted with spring bulbs. Each site would cost £90 including the planting and this could form the back bone of the planting which could possibly be further enhanced by donations of unwanted plants from the gardeners of the village. It was agreed that the planting scheme be approved and started.

EL

15.129 Village Hall Roof Repairs Update

Confirmation has now been received that the work will commence on 16th March 2015. Funded from Cllr Huggan's locality budget.

15.130 Village Hall Toilets Refurbishment Update (Funding)

It was confirmed that a £2,000 grant had been received from Suffolk County Council towards the cost of the refurbishment. It was to be noted that the financial year end is April and there may be a possibility that if a further application for a grant is submitted in May there may be an opportunity for additional funding.

To be further discussed at the meeting in May.

15.131 Village Art Trail/Festival Project

This will be a resident run event, linked to the open gardens event. Hobbyists/artists within the village will be displaying their work. It is envisaged that the purchase of a £5 ticket for the weekend along with 10% of the proceeds of any sale of artwork will generate funds for the Church. It is planned that there will be stalls (ie produce, crafts) within the Church and the Village Hall during the weekend.

Organisers hope to produce a pamphlet which will be distributed throughout the village.

The event will take place during the last weekend in June – 27/28 June.

All proceeds to the Church.

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- 15.132** **Correspondence**
Mildenhall Credit Union – request for donation of £50.
Recommended grant of £50.
- 15.133** **Any Other Business**
Nomination papers for forthcoming Parish Elections on 7th May 2015. Any resident wishing to stand for election as a parish councillor must complete and submit a nomination form, in person – posted copies not accepted, to the District Council offices in Mildenhall between 30th March and 4pm on 9th April.
Both a completed nomination paper and a candidate’s consent to nomination must be submitted.
- 15.134** **Items for next Agenda**
12th May
Main village sign
Village Hall Toilet Refurbishment Funding

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.