

Worlington Parish Council

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

Councillors present: Cllr. R. Osborn (RS), Cllr. N Foster (NF), Cllr. S. Foster (SF), Cllr. K. Lucas (KL) and Cllr. B. Harvey (BH)

Present: Clerk – Vicky Bright, Chris Hall – Village Hall Committee & Jim Power – Worlie Cafe

Item	Meeting opened at 07.30pm	Action
	<p>Public Forum – LGA 1972, Section 100(1): 8 Members of the public were in attendance. Issues raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drains/Flooding – Highways are aware and Councillors have met with David Stiles from Highways to address the issues. Soakaways are not cleared on a regular basis anymore as new policy. If you have a Highways or flooding issue then it is suggested that people use the online reporting procedure, guidance on how to do this is minuted below in item 15/16.056.• Residents are pleased with the new website which is now up and running, thanks to Cllr. Nick Foster.• The site at Alan Mayes Nursery looks like it has a track being created for an exit/entry road, it has been posted out with post rail.• Roadworks on Mildenhall Road, the sign is still there, Cllr. Osborn said he will report to Highways.• Chris Hall reported that from the last meeting he had investigated and found that the Walnut Tree pub had to tarmac the land and have marked bays allocated for parking as a condition of their planning application being approved.• Thanks was given to Cllr. Lucas for the new traffic mirror.• Thanks was given that the hedge at Bell Lane had now been cut. However, one side was not cut and is still an issue for some residents. Cllr. Nick Foster to take a look and address with INL Landscapes.	RO NF
15/16.046	<p>Chairman’s Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)): 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.</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr. Peter Merrick</p> <p>Absent: None</p>	
15/16.047	<p>Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III: Cllr. Brain Harvey declared interest in item 15/16.050.3.</p>	
15/16.048	<p>Minutes of the meetings held on 22nd September 2015 - LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2): Resolved 15/16.048(1) The minutes of the meetings held on 22nd September 2015 were adopted as true statements</p>	

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and signed by the Chairman (RO).

15/16.049
15/16.049.1

**External Forum:
County Councillor**

Cllr. Waters sent his apologies.

15/16.49.2

District Councillor

Cllr. Harvey advised nothing to report at present.

15/16.49.3

Police

The Clerk advised that PCSO Askew had emailed to advise that reports would resume for PC meetings, and hopefully we should have a report for our next meeting.

15/16.050
15/16.50.1

Reports

Update from the Village Hall Committee

Chris Hall read a report for the Village Hall Committee, he requests information on the costs involved and grants/donations received for the toilet refurbishment. The hall has received a request from a group wanting to use the hall for 0-2 year olds, the Clerk advised she is chasing the Insurance Company regarding our cover for this. The hall has received many Thanksgiving and Christmas bookings. A microwave has been purchased for the hall. Fundraising is ongoing and a new game has been set up, with 50-50 of the proceeds being split between the winner and the hall. A pub style quiz is being held on Friday 22nd January it costs £4 per person to enter. The committee is also looking at Bingo.

Clerk

15/16.050.2

Play Area and Maintenance of Parish Footpaths

Cllr. Foster advised the meeting that he had met at the play area with the Inspector, he has confirmed that photos are reUsed to save time and new ones are only used if there is a specific issue with a piece of equipment. All outstanding issues have been or are being resolved;

- Second cradle swing seat has been purchased
- Play bark has been levelled and this is now done regularly and is being monitored
- Cllr. 's Foster are sourcing materials to repair the ramp.

Cllr. Harvey advised he would check his Locality Budget and see if we are eligible for funding from him.

NF/SF
BH

The Clerk advised she is still waiting for a reply from Highways regarding the grass cutting at the Paddocks, Walnut Grove & Newmarket Rd/Golf Links Rd. It was suggested if no response received from them once the Clerk has chased them again, then to follow up with Cllr. James Waters.

Clerk

The Clerk has been liaising with the Footpaths Officer and now has a copy of the definitive footpaths map for Worlington. She will email the correct tracks highlighted on the map by Cllr. Foster, to ascertain ownership of the track at the Hythe and Green Lane to enquire regarding No Parking signs and getting the overgrown trees cut back.

Clerk

15/16.50.3

Village Speed Watch

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The Clerk read out a report on behalf of Sue Dampier;
Since the last Parish Council meeting, we have recruited three additional volunteers to our scheme: Elaine Redhead, Debbie Moore and Martin Morgan. Their applications have been submitted to the Police for clearance and we hope to hold a training/refresher session for them and other interested parties in the village hall in early December. Sue is liaising with the new Freckenham Speed Watch Coordinator, Sue Scratby, and supporting the setting up of their new scheme, including extending training to include their members.

Two small 'Community Speed Watch Area' signs were issued to us by Suffolk Constabulary, and these have been put up adjacent to the pub and The Paddocks. They are additional to a much larger one located opposite Worlington House.

There have been three speed checks this last month, with a further one cancelled due to bad weather conditions. The first of these, at The Meadows Car Park, resulted in nine motorists being recorded as travelling in excess of 35 mph, and the other, along the Red Lodge Road, eight. The third, in the rush hour at the end of the day on the Mildenhall Road, served only to remind motorists to watch their speed as traffic was heavy and this generally reduces the volume of offenders.

We had the use of the Highways Department's flashing variable speed (VAS) sign for 3 weeks from September 21st to October 12th and deployed it in a variety of locations around the village for up to 12 hours per day. It continues to be an effective reminder to motorists to maintain awareness of their speeds, provided it is regularly moved around and does not become 'part of the furniture'.

Barton Mills have expressed an interest in participating in the VAS scheme and are pursuing this with the Highways Department. However, it is unlikely that another unit will be made available in this area and there are already 5 villages in the group that 'shares' the use of 'our' sign on a rotating basis, in blocks of 3 weeks. I have been told that no further villages will be allowed to join in with our existing rotation as 'equals' so with the Parish Council's support, I would like to offer the use of our VAS sign for the middle week of our 3-week block to Barton Mills if they are not able to source one of their own. The VAS sign serves as a reminder to drivers to remain aware of their speeds, and as such, moving it around the local area serves to increase awareness and minimise complacency.

Resolved 15/16.050(3)

It was agreed that Barton Mills have sub-let of the VAS sign for the second week of our three-week rotation.

15/16.050.4 External Meetings that Councillors may wish to report upon
See Item 15/16.056.

15/16.050.5 'Worlie Cafe' Update
Jim Power gave a report;
"33 people attended last Friday and we made £175, with £100 of that being profit. Thanks to all who attended and helped with their time and food. We are trying to encourage visitors from other villages in the area. The December theme is Christmas Fayre on 4th December. January 8th 2016 is Winter Veg Theme. The Village Hall Committee extended their thanks to

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Jim and Jean.

15/16.051 **Planning Applications**

15/16.051.1 **Resolved 15/16.051(1)**

It was agreed to offer No Objections to planning application DC/a5/2086/HH – The Red House Newmarket Road IP28 8RZ – (i) Front elevation (south) single storey extension & alterations to porch (ii) rear elevation (north) single & two storey extensions (iii) side elevation (east) first floor extension.

15/16.051.2 **FHDC Site Allocations Plan**

West Suffolk first draft consultation on potential allocations of land for potential new housing in the future has now been held. Nothing affects Worlington directly, we will be consulted on the next stage of the consultation involving secondary villages. The site of the old nursery (Sunny Side Meadow View) was a proposed site and has been deferred by Planning, the Parish Council is to reinforce deferment.

Holt House land (4.8 hectares) west of Brambles is also being considered as a potential site for a proposed retirement community with sustainable housing and affordable social housing with facilities. There is no further information on number of houses etc. available at present. It was suggested that we wait on planner's response to the proposal and more information on site plan/layout and informal proposals before an informed decision can be made on comments.

15/16.051.3 **DC/15/2109/FUL – Bay Farm Anaerobic Digestion Plant**

Concerns raised have been highlighted as increase in traffic; but farms involved regarding the foodstuffs being used are listed as Chippenham, Bay Farm, Dane Hill Farm Kennett and Grange Farm Barton Mills, which are all along the A11 corridor and should therefore not increase traffic flow substantially, which is good news. Regarding smell, the gas produced is methane which produces less smell and the fact that it is agricultural waste and not industrial waste should reduce smell. Cllr. Osborn advised that the Planning Consultant is speaking at Red Lodge meeting tonight and he will be receiving feedback from them regarding the meeting. It was suggested that Worlington invite the Planning Consultant and the applicant's agent to a meeting to get more information before the December deadline for comments.

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15/16.052
15/16.052.1

Finance & Policies

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

Resolved 15/16.052(1)

That the bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts be received and adopted and initialled & signed as such by the Chairman (RO).

Treasurers Account	£6,503.85
Business Instant Access Account	£1,335.32

Resolved 15/16.052(2)

It was agreed to add Cllr. Nick Foster & Cllr. Rupert Osborn as signatories to the Lloyds account.

15/16.052.2

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

Resolved 15/16.052(3)

It was agreed to approve the payments of the following outstanding invoices and the cheques were approved and signed by Cllr. Osborn and Cllr. Foster.

10.11.15	683	Fenland Leisure	Cradle swing seat	£148.80
10.11.15	684	Information Commissioner	Data Protection	£35.00
10.11.15	685	Pearce & Kemp	Street lighting (Sept/Oct)	£132.08
10.11.15	686	INL	Landscaping	£625.00
10.11.15	687	SALC	Payroll	£50.40
10.11.15	688	Mrs V Bright	Mileage & expenses	£12.54
10.11.15	689	Mrs V Bright	Oct/Nov Salary underpayment	£223.58
10.11.15	690	Mr R Osborn	Wreath	£17.00
10.11.15	691	Mr K Lucas	Traffic Mirror/dog signs	£170.00

15/16.052.3

Approval of cheques and to authorise payment of invoices signed between meetings

Resolved 15/16.052(4)

Approved cheque payments since the last meeting.

01.10.15	680	Came & Co.	Insurance	£521.19
01.10.15	681	Mrs V Bright	Sept Salary under payment	£80.00
01.10.15	682	HMRC	Su Field Tax	£185.80

15/16.052.4

Updated report on Village Hall bank accounts and expenditure

The Clerk advised that the bank account was still in the previous Clerks address and the signatories had now left, so it was necessary for the one remaining signatory, Cllr. Merrick??

Clerk/PM

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	<p>And the new Chairman and Clerk to go into branch to arrange for new signatories to be added and for the address to be changed and the Clerk to be given access. Until this is done the Clerk is unable to update the accounts as she has no access to the bank statements for the Treasurer account.</p>	/RO
15/16.052.5	<p>Precept & Budget Setting for 2016/17 The Clerk presented the Council with a budget for the next financial year and figures for the precept for 2016/17. Resolved 15/16.052(5) It was agreed to accept the draft budget for next year and to request a precept of £10,829.00 which will be no increase.</p>	
15/16.053	<p>Councillor Vacancy The Clerk advised that we can now co-opt for the vacancy and suggested that we advertise the vacancy in the Pump, website and on the notice board for co-option at the January meeting.</p>	Clerk/ NF
15/16.054	<p>Village Sign Competition It was agreed to defer this item until 2016.</p>	
15/16.055	<p>Planting Scheme The Clerk was asked to confirm the location of the planting for the Freckenham Road entrance with Ed Lubbock. Item deferred until January 2016.</p>	Clerk
15/16.056 15/16.056.1	<p>Highways Issues Flooding The flooding issues were addressed at the meeting with David Stiles from Highways who is going to address the issues, it is suggested that residents report flooding and Highways issues via the online reporting system at www.suffolk.gov.uk, Click Report icon, select category i.e. pothole, flooding, blocked drain, pavement damage etc. and follow the step by step directions.</p>	
15/16.056.2	<p>Traffic Calming The Red Lodge entrance has a higher proportion of speeders on exit out of village than on entering. The nature of the road gives the impression of not being a village. The proposal from Highways is a 40mph Buffer Zone on entering the village to include Highway Gates and village signs and a 30mph roundel. This is a costly (approx. £12-15,000) and long process (6mnths – 1 year). Cllr. Osborn has written to SCC to enquire about the £35,000 Section 106 monies from the Red Lodge development and our eligibility for some of it for perhaps this project. Other suggestions that Cllr. Osborn will go back to David Stiles with are; 30mph countdown sign with Highway Gates or narrowing or visual narrowing.</p>	RO
15/16.057	<p>Correspondence None.</p>	
15/16.058	<p>Items for next Agenda – next meeting on Tuesday 12th January 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hythe / Green Lane Track Update	

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- Grass Cutting Update
- Bay Farm Anaerobic Digestion Plant Update
- Village Hall Accounts / Bank Account Update
- Toilet Refurbishment Finance Report
- Councillor Vacancy Co-Option
- Village Planting Scheme
- Traffic Calming

Meeting Dates agreed for 2016:

Tuesday 12th January 2016

Tuesday 8th March 2016

Tuesday 10th May 2016 AVM 7pm & AGM 7:45pm

Tuesday 12th July 2016

Tuesday 13th September 2016

Tuesday 8th November 2016

Meeting closed at 9:18pm.

Signed: Rupert Osborn, Chairperson

Date: 12th January 2016