

# Worlington Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall from 7.30pm Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Councillors present:** Cllr. N Foster (NF) Chair, Cllr. S. Foster (SF) & Cllr. K. Lucas (KL).

**Present:** Clerk – Vicky Bright. Cllr. Louis Busuttil – SCC.

Item	Meeting opened at 07.30pm
	<p><b>Public Forum – LGA 1972, Section 100(1):</b> 20 Members of the public were in attendance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Clerk was asked to chase Highways regarding the footpath repairs on The Street and also the drains/gulley's cleaning.</li><li>• Thanks were given to the RLCP regarding the works at the 'Hythe' river. The Clerk is to chase Glenn Smithson regarding the jetting of the river bed, to remove the chalk silt. The Clerk is also to enquire what options may be available to improve the mud bank slope, as it is becoming increasingly slippery.</li><li>• The Clerk was asked to add Speeding and Traffic Calming to the next agenda. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Harvey (WSC) and the Police, with the suggestion that a FOI request be made to Highways regarding the speeding and accident data in the village, with letters to go to our MP.</li></ul>
19/07/1	<p><b><u>Chairman's Welcome &amp; Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) &amp; (2)):</u></b> <b>Apologies:</b> None. <b>Absent:</b> None.</p>
19/07/2	<p><b><u>Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:</u></b> None.</p>
19/07/3	<p><b><u>To approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):</u></b> <b><u>Resolved 19/07/3.01</u></b> The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were adopted as a true statement of the meeting, and were duly signed by the Chairman (NF).</p>
19/07/4	<p><b><u>Councillor Vacancy Update:</u></b> The Clerk advised that Alan Marshall had expressed an interest in coming back on the Council as a member. Cllr. Nick Foster proposed co-opting Alan Marshall onto the Council, this was seconded by Cllr. Steve Foster. The vote was unanimous in favour of co-opting Alan Marshall on. Cllr. Alan Marshall signed his Declaration of Office, this was duly countersigned by the Clerk. Cllr. Marshall submitted his completed Register of Interests, which was duly countersigned by the Clerk.</p> <p>The Clerk and Chairman stressed that three vacancies remain on the Council and encouraged residents to apply.</p>
19/07/5 19/07/5.1	<p><b><u>External Forum:</u></b> <b>County Councillor</b></p>

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Cllr. Louis Busuttill advised that he and Cllr. Harvey (WSC) were against the Sunnica proposal in its current proposal, and will be offering support to Freckenham and Worlington in their objections.

19/07/5.2

### District Councillor

Cllr. Brian Harvey sent his apologies. The Clerk read out his report on his behalf;

The West Suffolk Council Leader is Cllr John Griffiths & the Main portfolio holders are

Deputy Leader & Housing	–	Cllr Sara Midway-White
Resources & Partnership	-	Cllr Sarah Broughton
Governance	-	Cllr Carol Bull
Regulatory	-	Cllr Andy Drummond
Families & Communities	-	Cllr Robert Everitt
Growth	-	Cllr Susan Glossop
Leisure, Culture & Community Hubs	-	Cllr Jo Rayner
Operations	-	Cllr Peter Stevens

The committee makeups are still being worked through with the first meetings being held early July. These are advertised on the West Suffolk Website, but if you require any specific information please let me know.

The first round of consultation events is being held during May/June for the new proposed National infrastructure Project for the installation of a massive Solar farm “Sunnica”. Principally based between Worlington and Freckenham with the second site at the junction A11 – A14 Chippenham. Louis & I attended the Sunnica display on Saturday 29th at Freckenham Village Hall, there was a good turn out with lots of issues and objections being raised. See my twitter feed @brian4manorward. I would strongly recommend that Residents and the PC complete questionnaire forms and send these in, also raise any issues with Matt Hancock.

The process for Planning application reviews has changed slightly. It is now very important if residents or PC’s do have any concern’s to ensure that these are raised to the appropriate Planning Case officer with copies to myself at: - brian.harvey@westsuffolk.gov.uk or on my mobile – 07801-472461, in order that I can present these issues at the “Revised Delegation Panel meetings”.

Recent thefts from the Church roofs at Freckenham & Tuddenham show the importance for smart water marking and other security measures. Freckenham village has already started to hold fund raising events in support of these repairs which are not fully covered by insurance. I would be able to offer limited financial support towards these events but am unable to offer financial support directly to the Church itself. If there are any planned events being organised say by the village hall, please let me know soonest in order that the appropriate applications can be made for assistance.

We have recently received an update briefing on the new Mildenhall Hubb which is in the construction stage expected completion towards the end 2020.

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And finally I have had The Honour to have been elected as the 1<sup>st</sup> Chair of West Suffolk Council, with my Vice Chair Cllr Margret Marks – As you can imagine a very busy year ahead. If you have a local civic type events which you might like the Chair to attend please let me know soonest.

19/07/5.3

### Police Report

The latest edition of your local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) newsletter is now available to view on the Suffolk Constabulary website <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area>.

19/07/6

19/07/6.1

### Reports:

#### Update from the Friends of the Village Hall

Cllr. N. Foster gave the following report;

The main income for the Village Hall continues to rely mainly on the regular classes, with most days now having at least one class running. We have a few parties booked in for later in the year and the usual church quizzes as well.

The Worlie Cafe trialled afternoon teas in July and these seemed to be quite popular, with another planned for August. The cafe will return as normal in September.

19/07/6.2

i)

#### Play Area and Maintenance

No issues.

ii)

#### Parish Footpaths & Public Footways.

The Clerk is to chase Highways regarding the footpath repairs in the village.

19/07/6.3

#### SID (VAS) Scheme Update

The machine will now be put back up, now the roadworks has been completed. The Clerk is to speak to Cllr. Harvey to ask him to send the VAS Data to the new A14/A11 Link pressure group.

19/07/6.4

#### External Meetings that Councillors may wish to report upon

All Councillors have attended several meetings regarding the Sunnica proposal, see Item 19/07/7.2.

Cllr. Lucas advised that he had attended the recent Quarry Liaison meeting, nothing of interest to report. The next meeting will be held 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

19/07/6.5

#### Clerks Report

None.

19/07/7

19/07/7.1

#### Planning Applications (For consideration):

**DC/19/0912/FUL - 1 no. dwelling and detached garage (following demolition of existing dwelling) Location - Little Orchard, Mildenhall Road, Worlington**

#### **Resolved 19/07/7.01**

No Objections submitted 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

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19/07/7.2

### **Sunnica Energy Farms Update**

The scheme contravenes guidance laid out by Government. It was felt that consultation and information provided was not adequate and was vague in some areas. The scheme itself is for a Solar Farm over 700 hectares, a 500 MWh solar farm. The grounds for objection would be its sustainability, and its effect on the economy and environment, and also its effect on the community. Several concerned residents have now set up The Worlington Community Action Group, and they intend to strongly petition against the proposed scheme. The Clerk advised that she would be happy to help with producing leaflets and posters educating the village on the proposal and its consultation process. It was agreed that Cllr. N. Foster would sit upon the group as a representative of the Parish Council. It was agreed however, that any action the Parish Council takes will be in conjunction with the other Parish Councils of the villages affected, and after carrying out our own public consultation to glean the opinion of the whole village, in order that we can represent them accordingly.

19/07/8

### **Finance & Policies:**

19/07/8.1

### **Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from List of Payments/Receipts**

The Payments and receipts were scrutinised and approved. The accounts balance was confirmed as £23,323.56 as of 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

### **Resolved 19/07/8.01**

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

19/07/8.2

### **Parish Council Account Cheques for signing and approval**

### **Resolved 19/07/8.02**

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.

Suffolk Preservation Society	Membership 2019	000814	£30.00
Mijan Ltd	Internal Audit 2018/19	000815	£63.06
RH Landscapes	Grass cutting March-May 2019	000816	£810.00
Harry Stebbing Workshop	Village Sign	000817	£2,640.00
Mrs V Bright	Mileage & expenses	000818	£12.19

19/07/9

### **Highways Issues:**

19/7/9.1

### **Golf Links Road & Flooding Issues Update**

Cllr. Harvey has reported the potholes by the concrete pad on Golf Links Road, and included photos. The Clerk has once again chased Fran Clarke and cc'd Mark Stevens, and sent new photos of the erosion and potholes and surface water, showing even in hot weather. The Clerk will continue to chase. The Clerk was asked to report the flooding on Isleham Road.

19/07/10

### **Correspondence:**

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None.

19/07/11  
19/07/11.1

**Village Hall:**  
**Kitchen Refurbishment Update**

Cllr. Foster (NF) confirmed the cooker had now been installed. Thanks to Cllr. Harvey for the funding towards it.

19/07/11.2

**Funding Update**

The Clerk continues to source grants & funding for the new windows and fire doors.

19/07/11.3

**Village Hall Accounts**

The Lloyds accounts balance was confirmed as £1,353.80 as of 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

**Resolved 19/07/11.01.**

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

**Village Hall Cheques for signing and approval**

**Resolved 19/07/11.02**

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.

Mrs J Foster	Reimburse for Cooker	000821	£680.00
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**Parish Matters:**

19/07/12

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19/07/12.1

### **'Hythe' River Access Update**

The Clerk confirmed that RLCP had carried out the works on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, only one volunteer came to help from the village, with one lady taking refreshments. The Clerk is to chase the jetting of the river bed and also to explore options to improve the muddy slope.

The Parish Council will be looking at planting etc. and also clearing some of the branches and nettles in the woodland behind.

19/07/12.2

### **Discuss the Possibility of a Parking lay-by at the Church (verge opposite)**

Cllr. Foster advised that he had been approached by a resident with the suggestion of making the verge opposite the Church into a proper parking lay-by. The Church have confirmed that they are not aware of any suggestion or proposal. The Clerk is to look into the land ownership and the item is to be deferred.

19/07/12.3

### **Village Sign Funding & Public Consultation Update**

The new sign has now been erected, thanks go to Harry Stebbing Workshop for an excellent job. Thanks also go to our District and County Councillors who provided funding from their Locality Budgets. The Clerk is to look at getting a small plaque thanking the benefactors.

19/07/12.4

### **Update on 'Hythe' Track & the 'Old Railway Cutting' (Rear Lark Close) Land Registry**

The Clerk is still working on the Land Registry applications and is awaiting information from the Solicitor.

19/07/13

### **Items for Next Agenda:**

- **Golf Links Road Flooding Update**
- **Footpaths Repairs Update**
- **VAS Data Update**
- **Traffic Calming & Speeding**
- **'Hythe' Track & Old Railway Cutting Land Registry Update**
- **Village Hall Funding Update**
- **Sunnica Solar Farm Update**

**The Next Meeting to be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall.**

Meeting Closed 9:02pm.

Signed: *Nick Foster*

Chair, Worlington PC

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019