

Wreningham Parish Council - Minutes

Meeting held on 11th September 2012 at 7.30pm held in the Margaret Preston Room, Wreningham Village Hall

Present

Cllrs Michael Hill (Chair), Elizabeth Brake, Jon Moon, Gill Page, Donald Whiterod, DC Webster, the Clerk and 8 members of the public.

473. Apologies: Cllr Sheldon Durant (work commitments) and PCSO Dan Shelley.

474. Declarations of interest. None.

475. Open Forum. Meeting closed at 7.34pm to allow members of the public to speak

People wished to speak about planning items which will be discussed at the appropriate time in the meeting.

There was clarification about item 466 (footpaths) where the minutes state that land owners are responsible for clearing paths on their land. It was noted that they are responsible where paths cross their land, but not field edge paths. M Hill explained the context to the meeting, that residents are concerned about paths being impassable for walkers. L Webster has forwarded the info to Derek Murphy and will report back. Dog owners were reminded to ensure that their dogs are maintained under close control when using paths.

Concerns were raised that plans for the junction at Church Road / Hethel Road will involve the central reservation being removed. This is where children gather to await their bus. **L Webster to investigate and report back.**

L Webster reported that 'building control' is moving to SNC on behalf of Norwich and King's Lynn Councils, and will improve quality of service and raise funds for the Council. Consultation on housing benefit changes are underway, as SNC will need to reduce benefit by 5 to 10% overall in the next few years. Council committee structure has been changed, however this will not directly affect Parish Councils.

476. Minutes of meetings held on 10th July and matters arising.

The minutes were approved with the amendment as in item 475 above : proposed: EB, seconded: GP.

477. Village Activity Reports

- Play Ground Group - The first phase is complete and the new equipment added to the asset register. The accounts will be presented to the November meeting.
 - Grass cutting around the equipment was discussed. The Clerk noted that from next year it will be covered by the general field cut, however it is too late to add for this year. M Hill and J Moon agreed to cut the grass for the time being. **M Hill and J Moon to action.**
 - Playing Field Signs. The Clerk has obtained two quotes for two small signs to put at each entrance. M Hill to re-draft the sign layout and add a notice warning about rabbit scrapings. Once the wording has been finalised, the Clerk to order two signs - proposed: MH, DW **M Hill to action.**

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- Rabbit fencing. The Clerk has quotes for both buried and lapped fencing. It was decided that this is costly to deal with and may not be effective. For the time being it was agreed to take no further action. Proposed: DW, seconded: EB.
- Insurance. The Clerk has obtained a quote to increase the insurance cover for the extra equipment. This will be covered under item 482.
- Safety Inspection. The extra safety inspection of the play area reported no serious issues. It was noted that 2 ferrules were missing on the youth shelter which **MH will replace**. Previous comments by residents about the safety of the skate park were covered. A minor action was indicated i.e. the replacement of missing rivets on the ramp runway, the ramp itself is deemed fit for purpose. **J Moon to action.**
- Neighbourhood Plan Update – A few residents have expressed interest in forming a committee. M Hill will report back to a future meeting.
- Tree Warden – I Dobson (ID) reported that the Village Jubilee fruit trees are established. They look healthy, but deer have nibbled off soft branch leaders and many leaves. Two trees to be replaced as part of "Tree week" this year. ID noted that The Hedgerows Regulations 1997 (SI 1160) makes it illegal to remove a countryside hedgerow without prior approval from the planning authority. It also defines the designation of an "important" hedge affording it some degree of protection. Natural England has produced Planning Guidelines 2012 in response to the Govt's planning systems review. ID highlighted that the guidance specifies that a development / planning application shall include a full ecological report where protected animal species are within two kilometres of the site. Wreningham has reports of Great Crested Newts in the parish and regular sightings of Barn Owl. Residents have approached M Hill regarding old and potentially dangerous trees. Such issues to be passed to ID for consideration.
- Homewatch – ID requested six new HomeWatch signs for the village to replace the existing signs. It was agreed to fund two to replace damaged signs. It was suggested that they are relocated to avoid further damage. The remaining four will be considered in the future. Proposed: MH, seconded: DW. **Clerk to action.**

478. Planning

- Planning notifications
- 2012/1403 – Bellars Barn, The Street, Ashwellthorpe: New garages / shed to the rear of the property and conversion of existing cart shed garage to garden room. No views or comments. Proposed: DW seconded: MH.
- 2012/7020 – Land at Hall Farm, Wymondham: Mineral extraction, processing and associated activities – no comments from the Parish Council, but M Hill highlighted to the Council a letter from Silfield & Standfield Action Group which S Durant received.
- Site Specifics Consultation. L Webster reminded the Parish Council that the consultation has opened. She noted that increased traffic through the village was been considered by NCC and hence only 10 houses are likely rather than the 20 suggested. M Hill read the report for Wreningham and explained the two sites which have been listed as the preferred site (1175) and a reasonable alternative (Z1226). He reminded Councillors that the Parish Council submitted its response to the initial round of consultations and it is available on both the Parish Council and SNC website. He noted that SNC are looking for material new evidence, rather than re-stated comments from the first round of consultations. SNC plan for a final document to be sent for approval to the Secretary of State by September 2013. A Planning Inspector will be appointed to hold an enquiry and report back during early 2013. To raise awareness, the Clerk is to hire the Margaret Preston Room and arrange to borrow the SNC display boards and ask for a planner to attend. To be advertised in the Mardle. **Clerk to action.**

Meeting opened at 8.44pm to allow the public to make comment.

The owner of the preferred plot, Mr Julian Wells, spoke to the meeting. He informed the Council that he has been asked to confirm that he will allow for three affordable houses, confirm compliance with the Community Levy and explain site viability. This information is hoped to be available on the SNC website by the end of September.

Mr W Lockwood, landowner of site Z1197, addressed the meeting as he feels that his site is more suitable for development than the preferred site. His alternative plan is for self-build houses, and if the Parish Council are interested in a dialogue then he will be very keen engage. I Dobson expressed his interest in looking at the plans on behalf of the Planning Group. Mr Lockwood explained that his site has a greater depth which allows for a group of buildings rather than a row and would not impact so heavily on traffic movement through the village or need tree removal.

There was discussion about both plans.

Meeting opened at 9.07pm

It was agreed that there should be an extra meeting to discuss the issue. **Clerk to arrange.** M Hill noted that there have already been 16 new builds, which should be included within the count, however the SNC Site Specific documentation shows zero. **L Webster to look into this and report back.**

Meeting closed 9.17pm

Harvey's Corner development – scale and design were noted as an issue and not in keeping with the village. It was noted that a tree has a TPO and is on the plans as protection and has an exclusion zone. Currently photographic evidence shows that the plans are not being followed as the tree has a steel container on the root system and soil built up around it. **L Webster to look into this and report back.**

Meeting opened at 9.22pm

5 members of the public and L Webster left the meeting.

479 Report back from Land Registry searches

The Clerk has completed a draft application for registering the Playing Field as Parish Council land, she will pass this to M Hill for checking and signing. **Clerk to action.**

480. Wind Turbine issues within the Parish.

M Hill confirmed that the Parish Council are not aware of any wind turbines plans in the village. Bernard Matthews has submitted a scoping report but there has been no planning application received. Oulton Parish Council are very active in looking at the issue and their reports are available from M Hill on request.

481. Village Maintenance

Bus shelter – Work will be started this week.

Village sign – J Moon reported that the sign is in a poor state and not repairable. He will look at the possibility of creating a fibreglass replacement. **J Moon to report to a future meeting.**

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Reading Room Grass Cutting – the clerk reported that SNC confirmed that the grass cutting had not been done. The invoice was cancelled.

E Brake left the meeting at 9.31pm

482. Finance

- The clerk distributed a precept update and bank account balances.

Payment to	Reason	Sum £	Proposed	Seconded
H Frary	Expenses, training, land registry searches and Annual Report costs	116.22	MH	JM
Mazars	External Audit	162.00	MH	JM
H Duncombe	Internal Audit	50.00	MH	JM
Action Play	Play Project work	644.89	MH	JM
Action Play	Play Project work	357.26	MH	JM
Action Play	Play Project work	570.00	MH	JM
Travis Perkins	Play Project work	406.37	MH	JM
Citizens' Advice Bureau	Donation	50.00	MH	JM
Wreningham Jubilee Account	Donation	100.00	MH	JM
Wreningham Jubilee Account	Donation	200.00	MH	JM
Came & Co	Insurance Adjustment	29.65	MH	JM
Digleys	Play Area inspection & report	Up to 100.00	MH	JM
Norfolk Constabulary	2 New Homewatch signs	40.00	MH	JM

483. Correspondence

- NCC – Local List for Validation of County Council Planning Applications. Retained by the Clerk.
- Norfolk ALC – AGM invitation and request for nominations and resolutions for debate. Retained by the Clerk.
- GNDP – Joint core Strategy amendments for consultation. Retained by the clerk.
- Records Office Archive receipt. Retained by the Clerk.
- Letter from Silfield & Stanfield Action Group regarding Land at Hall Farm, Wymondham, Norfolk Mineral extraction plans. M Hill explained the content of the letter objecting to the application. A copy is available from him on request

484. Future Business

None.

Dates of Future Meetings 13th November 2012 and 8 January, 12 March, 14 May, 9 July, 10 September and 12 November 2013. All at 7.30pm in the Margaret Preston Room in the Village Hall, Mill Lane.

Meeting closed at 9.41 pm.