

# WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Ordinary Monthly Parish Meeting of Wretham Parish Council** held on Thu 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7:00pm in Wretham Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr Harold Smith (HS) – Chair, Cllr Sharon Ford, (SF) – Vice Chair, Cllr Paul Barnard (PB), Cllr Jon Ford (JF) and Parish Clerk, Jules Challenor (JC)

1. **APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE** – Cllr Lorna Soar due to covid
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
3. **DISPENSATIONS** – None
4. **MINUTES** – The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 23 were agreed by all and signed by the Chair. These will be available to view on the Parish Council website and noticeboards.
5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – No one attended. As no public attended, Cllr JF would like it noted as a member of the public that he is concerned about what happening on the A1075 by the layby. There is a huge chunk taken of the grass verge inviting people to turn around and as more vehicles use, it is making it larger and big artic lorries are sitting there. Highways Rangers need to look at it, possibly a reinforced kerb is needed? *Action: Clerk investigate*

## 6. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

6.1 District Councillors Report – Phil Cowen attended the meeting and reported as follows:-

The teams at Elizabeth House are deeply entrenched in putting together the budget proposals for the coming year and whilst routine day to day matters are ongoing as you would expect, the collation of data for senior officers and cabinet to review ahead of the formal budgetary process is a priority.

Locally in Breckland, flooding and its impact upon residents in those areas affected, has been a focus of attention for our community teams and we continue to apply pressure to those responsible for drainage and flood management within the county and at the EA and Anglian Water. Perhaps it is a timely reminder to all residents and businesses who have land that adjoins a watercourse that as land owners they have what are known as Riparian responsibilities to ensure that the watercourse is able to flow freely. More information is available here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse> and please note the floodline details 0344 800 8013 and [NSFA-leaflet.pdf \(norfolkprepared.gov.uk\)](#)

6.2 County Councillors Report - None

## 7. MATTERS ARISING

### 7.1 OUTSTANDING HIGHWAY MATTERS


Road towards Croxton Potholes – Highways inspected and are going to resolve the problem - Defects are scheduled for repair and on average can take approximately 6 weeks.

Clerk can report the Poo Bin is now registered for regular collection.

### 7.2 ANY OTHER MATTERS

7.3.1 Deer/Speed Signs – Cllr PB + HS have changed the battery for the speed sign. The Deer sign is to be moved to Stow Bedon and this will be arranged in due course.

Chairmans initials



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8. **CORRESPONDENCE** – All correspondence regularly sent electronically to all Councillors.

9. **FINANCE**

- 9.1 Monthly Financial Report and to approve/sign payments for Nov 23. Payments to be made in Nov 23 - Royal British Legion donation, sum £75. Salary Clerk 3 months Sep–Nov 23, sum £1222.26. Mileage Clerk Jun–Nov 23, sum £101.70. Breckland Council elections 4<sup>th</sup> May 23 Admin Fee, sum £75.00 – Precept received £4,123 and the balance in the account, sum £9,324.26
- 9.2 Lloyds Bank – our new Treasurers Account is up and running and we have online access. Moving forward all payments will be made on line with two signatures on all invoices prior to payment.

10. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – new planning applications, planning decisions and correspondence, and to decide on comments to be made where necessary.

- 10.1 **ENF/271/22/PAR** – 4 Manor Cottages - Appeal ongoing & Breckland Council managing.
- 10.2 **3PL/2023/0815/HOU** - Larkshall House Thetford Road- First floor extension over previously approved single storey extension – **REFUSAL**
- 10.3 **3PL/2023/0936/HOU** – Stoneacre, Hockham Road, Wretham - Rear single storey extension – **APPROVED**

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 11.1 County Broadband (CB) – resident contacted Cllr JF about different compensation packages within villages. Cllr JF wrote to CB and was told compensation offers to customers depends on the package/service they have signed up for. Nothing more can be done, we just need to hope it will happen.
- 11.2 Thetford Road - site with Dog Training Facility – ongoing – *Action: Clerk investigate.*
- 11.3 Norfolk ALC promotes D-Day 80 – 6<sup>th</sup> June 24 – It was agreed not to participate as these events can be costly.

**EXTRA AOB DISCUSSED**

Cllr HS informed that he had checked the defibrillator and Clerk to report online all ok.

Cllr PB informed that OCO Technology had contacted him inviting the Parish Council to visit the site in Jan 24. Cllr PB has given the clerk@wrethamparishcouncil email address to make contact and it was agreed to also invite John Kitson. OCO also noted that we had not sent a letter of support for their latest planning application. We did support their initial planning submission and OCO would like to get as much backing as possible so could we support. Cllr JF said we did initially and Cllr HS said we have not received anything new for us to reply to. *Action: Clerk investigate*

12. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING(S)**

Contingency planning for the role of Parish Clerk. With what happened to Julian last year, it was discussed moving forward that an instruction manual was needed. *Action: Clerk*

**MEETING DATES 2024**

11<sup>th</sup> Jan 24, 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, 14<sup>th</sup> Mar, 11<sup>th</sup> Apr, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 13<sup>th</sup> Jun & 11<sup>th</sup> Jul 24, Aug (tba), 12<sup>th</sup> Sep, 10<sup>th</sup> Oct, 14<sup>th</sup> Nov, Dec 24 (tba).

Chairmans initials



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