

WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wretham Parish Council held on Thursday, 5 December 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall, Church Road.

Present: Councillors: Harold Smith (Chairman), Paul Barley, Paul Barnard.
Clerk: Julian Gibson

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was resolved to accept the reasons for absence offered by Councillors Jon Ford and Sharon Ford.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.** A member of the public said that he was not happy with the comments made by District Councillor Phil Cowen at the last meeting, as reported in *Wretham Village News*, when he advocated that further development for villages such as Wretham should be further encouraged in future iterations of the Breckland Local Plan. Concern was expressed that Cllr. Cowen, as a professional architect, had an interest in more development, and yet was an important figure in Breckland Council, which draws up policies regarding this. As Cllr. Cowen was not present he was unable to provide the member of the public with a response.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 14 November 2019 were **confirmed** and **signed** by the Chairman.
- 6 **Matters arising.** None.
- 7 **Correspondence.** The following correspondence was **received**:
 - 7.1 Breckland Council: *Breckland Town & Parish Forum - 12 February 2020.*
 - 7.2 Norfolk County Council: *Mobile Library Poetry Competition.*
 - 7.3 Norfolk Constabulary: *All Saints & Wayland newsletter - November 2019.*
 - 7.4 Norfolk Constabulary: *Breckland District Community Speedwatch Monthly Returns - October 2019.*
- 8 **Bank signatories.** An advice letter from Barclays Bank Plc confirming that they have paid £200 into the Council's account, in compensation for the various errors committed in carrying out mandate changes for this Council and those for Roudham & Larling and Whinburgh & Westfield was **received**. The Clerk has examined the emails he sent, totalled up how many related to each council, and recommended a split as follows: Roudham & Larling £40, Whinburgh & Westfield £70, Wretham £90. He said that the other two Councils had been advised and they are content with this. The recommendation was **accepted**.
- 9 **Planning.**
 - 9.1 **3PL/2019/1431/HOU: Covert Cottage, The Park, Wretham.** Removal of garage & erection of side extension. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.
 - 9.2 **3PL/2019/1447/F: The Estate Office, Larkshall, East Wretham.** Extension to existing pet food warehouse. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.
- 10 **Budget 2020/21.** The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2020/21 which was **approved**. This included the possibility of the Council purchasing the proposed 'Deer' warning sign, which would be mainly funded by grants from Norfolk County Council and other donations.
- 11 **Precept 2020/21.** It was **agreed** to fix the Precept for 2020/21 at £7,100. This represented an increase of £450 in order to ensure that the reserves were not eroded to the extent that the Council would not be able to take suitable action in case of need. However, as the number of

Band D equivalents has risen (meaning that the precept is spread across more Council Tax payers) residents will see only a minimal increase.

12 Meeting dates. A schedule of meeting dates for 2020/21 was **agreed**.

13 Finance.

13.1 **Clerk's salary.** It was **resolved** that cheques numbered 100752 & 100753 totalling £1,067.56 (salary for 1 October 2019 to 31 December 2019: £1,025.70; payment for use of home as office: £13.50; Mileage Allowance Payment for 6 September 2019 - 29 November 2019: £28.36) to the Clerk and HM Revenue & Customs be signed. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 112(2)*)

13.2 **Clerk's reimbursement.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100754 for £79.76 (Postage & Telephones: £29.96; Audit & Election Costs (Gift for Internal Auditor): £50.00) to the Clerk be signed, in reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 7 June 2019 to 29 November 2019. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)

13.3 **Other.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100755 for £40.00 to Roudham & Larling Parish Council be signed, being their share of the £200 compensation payment made to this Council's account by Barclays Bank Plc for the Clerk's time and effort expended as a result of their mishandling of the recent mandate changes. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)

13.4 **Other.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100756 for £70.00 to Whinburgh & Westfield Parish Council be signed, being their share of the £200 compensation payment made to this Council's account by Barclays Bank Plc for the Clerk's time and effort expended as a result of their mishandling of the recent mandate changes. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)

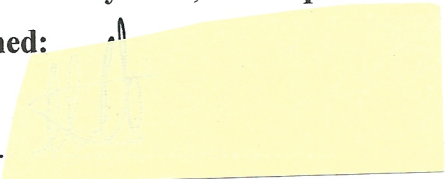
13.5 **Loan repayment.** It was **noted** that on 16 December 2019 the United Kingdom Debt Management Office Public Works Loan Board will deduct £220.44 from the Council's account by direct debit, being the repayment due on the Council's loan. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)

13.6 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 27 November 2019 was **received**.

14 Matters for consideration at next meeting. None.

15 Next meeting. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Thursday, 9 January 2020, at 7.00 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall.**

Confirmed:



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Harold Smith (Chairman)

13 February 2020

Future Meeting dates:

Thursday, 13 February 2020	Thursday, 9 July 2020	Thursday, 10 December 2020
Thursday, 12 March 2020	Thursday, 13 August 2020	Thursday, 14 January 2021
Thursday, 9 April 2020	Thursday, 10 September 2020	Thursday, 11 February 2021
Thursday, 14 May 2020	Thursday, 8 October 2020	Thursday, 11 March 2021
Thursday, 11 June, 2020	Thursday, 12 November 2020	