

WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wretham Parish Council on Thursday, 14 April 2016 at 7.00 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall, Church Road.

Present: Councillors Will Townsend (Chairman), Sharon Ford, Jean Gray, Ann Schofield, Harold Smith
Julian Gibson (Clerk)

- 1 Apologies for absence. None.
- 2 Declarations of interest. None.
- 3 Dispensations. None.
- 4 **Public participation session.** A member of the public very graciously apologised to the Council for misleading it about the ownership of the plot of land south of the Manor Farm development. He said that building on one plot at least had now started. The Clerk also reported a phone call he had received expressing concerns about HGVs continuing to use Illington Road as a short cut, during which she had said that they appeared to be travelling between the business at the northern end of Woodcock Road and Wymondham. The Council asked him to write to the parishioner at Woodcock Road to ask if he would instruct/ask the drivers to respect the "Unsuitable for HGV" signs.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 10 March 2016 were **confirmed and signed.**
- 6 **Matters arising.**
 - 6.1 [6.3 minutes of 7 January 2016] **STANTA tour.** At the time of writing 47 of the 57 seats on the coach for the tour on Wednesday, 25 May 2016 have been taken. Anybody else interested (seats cost £10.00 each, which includes a donation to military charities, and the coach will depart from Wretham Village Hall at 5.00 p.m. sharp) should contact the Clerk as soon as possible.
 - 6.2 [6.6 Minutes of 11 February 2016] **Clean for the Queen litter-pick.** Sixteen parishioners turned out and collected nearly 40 sacks of litter in 90 minutes (plus 40+ bottles which went into the bottle bank). Afterwards refreshments were kindly supplied by Councillor Ford at Station House. One item removed from the verge was the information sheet about the pingos in the field behind the A1075 lay-by south of Church Road, which had come off its notice-board. The Clerk has contacted Breckland Growers Limited (who's website address was on the board) and enquired about the possibility of it being replaced.
- 7 **Correspondence.** The following correspondence was **received:**
 - 7.1 The Pensions Regulator: *Act Now: the law on workplace pensions has changed.*
 - 7.2 The Pensions Regulator: *The essential guide to automatic enrolment.*
 - 7.3 Norfolk County Council: *Recycling Credit Scheme* - The rate for glass has increased from £53.62/tonne to £55.23/tonne for 2016/17.
 - 7.4 Barclays Bank Plc: *A change to the way we pay interest on your Active Saver account.*
 - 7.5 Norfolk Constabulary: *Minutes of the Attleborough Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) Meeting* - 11 March 2016. Councillor Ford expressed an interest in attending these meetings if they happened to occur on a day when she was available, and the Clerk agreed to pass on any messages he received.
 - 7.6 Norfolk County Council: *Remittance advice.*
 - 7.7 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Spring Conference* - 28 April 2016.
 - 7.8 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Subscription Form 2016/17.*

- 7.9 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Services Leaflet*.
- 7.10 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *LAI51388 - Planning Changes*.
- 7.11 Norfolk County Council: *Electronic Consultation for Planning Applications*.
- 7.12 Joint Practitioners Advisory Group: *A Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices to be applied in the preparation of statutory annual accounts and governance statements*.
- 7.13 Joint Practitioners Advisory Group: *Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England*.
- 7.14 Joint Practitioners Advisory Group: *Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities in England - Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2016 - PROOF*.
- 7.15 Came & Company: *Council Matters* - Spring 2016.
- 7.16 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account Statement* - 1-31 March 2016.
- 7.17 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account Statement* - 1-31 March 2016.
- 7.18 Campaign to Protect Rural England: *Countryside Voice* - Spring 2016.
- 7.19 Campaign to Protect Rural England: *Fieldwork* - Spring 2016.
- 7.20 Breckland Council: *Precept remittance advice*.
- 7.21 Norfolk County Council: *Highway and community Ranger visit* - w/c 16 May 2016.

8 Planning.

- 8.1 **3PL/2016/0248/VAR: Grove Farm Nurseries, Thetford Road, Wretham.** Application for Erection of dwelling and garage block (revised scheme). It was **noted** that the Clerk has responded using his delegated authority saying that, on the condition that this would mean that the planning permission for application 3PL/2007/0096/F would be cancelled, and providing this new application was made subject to a similar Section 106 agreement linking its occupation with the business, the Council had no objection.
 - 8.2 **3PL/2015/1446/LB: Dog and Partridge Public House, Watton Road.** Application for listed building consent to Create disabled access to the dining room. Notice that this application has been referred to the Planning Committee on 4 April was **received**. The Clerk explained that, as the applicant had appealed failure to determine the application within the time limit to the Planning Inspectorate, power to take the decision has passed away from Breckland Council to the Inspector. However, the Inspector had asked Breckland what their decision would have been, had they been able to determine, and that at the Planning Committee meeting the members decided they would have refused permission.
 - 8.3 **3PL/2015/0157/A: Grove Farm Nurseries, Thetford Road.** Erection of two wooden hoardings both non illuminated. The Council had expressed no objection, but Breckland Council refused Planning Permission, and the applicant appealed the decision. **To note** that the Planning Inspector has allowed the appeal concluding that the signs strike an acceptable balance between meeting the advertising requirements of the nursery business and alerting road users to its location, whilst safeguarding the character and appearance of the site and the rural area. He further concluded that the proposal is not inconsistent with the objectives of the relevant development plan and national planning policies that seek to protect visual amenity.
- 9 **New Notice Boards.** It was **noted** that the Council's application for a grant from Awards for All to cover the cost of new notice boards was refused.
- 10 **Broadband.** The Clerk reported that he had received an acknowledgement of his letter to the Chairman of the *Culture, Media & Sport Committee* and confirmed that this was meant to be treated as formal evidence to the inquiry, and will be published on the Committee's website. He also mentioned a consultation launched by the Government into a proposal for a Universal Service Obligation of no less than 10Mbps broadband speed to every household,

and he had also been approached by Mr Middlehurst of Woodcock Road, who had expressed an interest in getting businesses together to support bringing superfast broadband to the area. Councillor Ford confirmed that he husband had been speaking to him on the matter.

- 11 **Play & Sports funding.** An advance copy of a Breckland Council Press Release concerning some £310,000 which it has received from housing developers as funding to help improve local play and sports facilities was **received**. This funding has been ring-fenced for use in the parish or surrounding area from which the contribution was sourced, and there is £20,600 available for use in Hockham, Stow Bedon & Breckles, Shropham and Wretham parishes. Unfortunately the Council does not own any land where this money could be used to provide facilities.
- 12 **Receipts & Payments Account.** The Receipts and Payments Account for the year 2015-2016 was **approved** and **signed** by the Clerk and the Chairman. The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit had now been completed, and the Auditor's Report and Annual Return would be on the agenda of the next Meeting.
- 13 **Electors' rights.** It was **confirmed** that the 30 working day period during which electors' rights to inspect the accounts may be exercised will commence on 3 June 2016 and end on 14 July 2016, and that the date appointed for the exercise of electors' rights to question the auditor or make objections is 15 July 2016.
- 14 **Clerk's hours of employment.** It was **agreed** that the hours the Clerk is paid be increased by two hours/month, to 22 hours, to take account of the time involved with the required compliance with the Transparency Code. The Council used this figure when applying for the Transparency Fund grant and will do so again when it applies to the Fund for grants to cover this work in 2016/17 and 2017/18.
- 15 **Finance.**
 - 15.1 **Subscriptions.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100619 for £35.00 to the Information Commissioner be signed, being the renewal of the Council's required registration under the Data Protection Act for the year ending 19 April 2017. It was also **agreed** that a direct debit be set up to ensure that this is renewed annually in future. The necessary form was **signed**. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111(1)*)
 - 15.2 **Venue hire.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100620 for £56.25 to Wretham Village Hall be signed, for hire of the Hall for meetings during the financial year ended April 2016. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 132*)
 - 15.3 **Subscriptions.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100621 for £104.74 to Norfolk Association of Local Councils be signed, being the Annual Subscription for 2016/17. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 143*)
 - 15.4 **Coach hire.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100622 for £290.00 to Simonds Coach & Travel be signed, in payment for the hire of a coach for the STANTA Tour on 25 May. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111(1)*)
 - 15.5 **Subscriptions.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100623 for £34.80 (£29.00 + £5.80 VAT) to the Clerk be signed, in reimbursement for his paying Speednames for the renewal of the Wretham.net domain name for the year commencing 2 May 2016. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)
 - 15.6 **Grant.** In accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, it was **resolved** that cheque number 100624 for £75.00 to MAGPAS be signed as a grant, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 137*)

15.7 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 31 March 2016 was received.

16 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.** Annual Return, etc.

17 **Next meeting.** The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, on **Thursday, 12 May 2016, at 7.15 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall.** (The Annual Parish Meeting will commence at 7.00 p.m.)

Confirmed:

W. J. Townsend

W. J. Townsend (Chairman)

12 May 2016

Future Meeting dates:

Thursday, 12 May 2016*	Thursday, 11 August 2016	Thursday, 8 December 2016
Thursday, 9 June 2016	Thursday, 8 September 2016	Thursday, 12 January 2017
Thursday, 14 July 2016	Thursday, 6 October 2016	Thursday, 9 February 2017
	Thursday, 10 November 2016	Thursday, 9 March 2017

* Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council