

WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie (Jules) Challenor, Tofts Barn, Church Road, Wretham, IP24 1RL

Telephone: 07760 485472

Email: clerk.wrethamparishcouncil@gmail.com

Minutes of the **Ordinary Monthly Parish Meeting of Wretham Parish Council** held on Thu 10th August 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 Jonathon Ford (JF) and Parish Clerk, Jules Challenor (JC)

One member of the public present, John Kitson reporting on behalf of the Village Newsletter. Also District Councillor Phil Cowen. Both welcomed by Cllr Harold Smith.

1. APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE - None

2. TO RECEIVE DECARATIONS – None

3. DISPENSATIONS - None

4. MINUTES – The minutes of the meeting held on 13th Jul 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

6. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

6.1 District Councillors Report attached. In addition Phil Cowen informed the following:-

- S106 drawdown application from the Village Hall Committee has been signed off for the full funds for the renovation of the VH.
- Millstone Green. Breckland officers are meeting next week to establish what powers they, as the planning authority have, that they can use and to ascertain any information on the road from NCC to determine its status as to adoption or not. A report/statement will be released as soon as possible so that residents have a clear understanding of what action Breckland is taking and what actions residents may have to take themselves.
- 4 Manor Cottages: this is subject to an appeal and Breckland is following due process as is required in these circumstances.

6.2 County Councillors Report – No report from Fabian Eagle.

7. MATTERS ARISING

7.1 OUTSTANDING HIGHWAY MATTERS – HS asked did highways every replace Wretham sign near JF – JF confirmed it was replaced but the chevron is still outstanding. Clerk to investigate. JF reported Illington Road getting very dirty again – washes off from fields.

7.2 COUNCILLOR VACANCY – We have received an application from Lorna Soar who lives at Mill Stone Green. All Councillors have seen sight of her application prior to the meeting and were in agreement of Lorna joining the Parish Council. **Action:** The Clerk to send a Declaration of

Chairmans initials SF.

Wretham Parish Council Meeting 10 Aug 23

Acceptance of Office form, which needs to be signed, and a Declaration of Interests Form. Once the Declaration of Interests form is signed, it needs to be sent to the District Council (within 28 days), Laura can then join our council as a fully-fledged member and attend meetings.

7.3 ANY OTHER MATTERS

- 7.3.1 Deer/Speed Signs moved – The previous Clerk used to move and agreed too heavy for new Clerk. HS to sort with help.
- 7.3.2 Dog Bin placement – PB to sort next week with neighbour. As of Mon 14th Aug, PB has confirmed sorted. Matter Closed.

8. CORRESPONDENCE –All correspondence sent electronically to all councillors.

9. FINANCE

- 9.1 Monthly Financial Report – Aug 23 - one payment to authorise, Clerk Salary 1Jun-30Aug23, sum £1222.26 cheq no 100861 – agreed by all cllrs.
- 9.2 Noticeboards x 2 Refurb – Original quote received is competitive and work to commence shortly.
- 9.3 Barclays Bank – Update moving to online banking – HS to phone Barclays to investigate delay.

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

- 10.1 **3PL/2023/0460/F** - Sunnycreeks Hockham Road Proposed agricultural storage barn dated 9th May 2023 - Status Undecided - **Decision extended to 1 Sep 23**
- 10.2 **TRE/2023/0187/TCA** - 2 Keepers Corner. Remove/reduce Sycamores in garden. **No Objection**
- 10.3 **ENF/271/22/PAR** – 4 Manor Cottages - Appeal ongoing & Breckland Council managing.
- 10.4 **3PL/2023/0694/VAR**– 4 Manor Cottages – Variation – Replace approved brickwork for new coloured render to match rest of house – Status Undecided – **Decision by 1 Sep 23**

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 11.1 County Broadband – JF received an update from CB stating finishing work during Sep 23 and then up to 12 weeks before connected.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

JF reported about the recent “military battlefield illuminations.” A resident has had 3 light fire parachutes land in their property. JF reported they do not need to be operating this close and the reasons given, ie wind is not acceptable. If there was a thatched roof on a property it could cause a fire.

We should receive a formal letter warning the village of battlefield, parachutes, illuminations etc also when the tour takes place. Previously a Monthly Range Calendar was provided and the Clerk has not seen sight of this. NB: HS reported that the tours were cancelled for this year.

Action: Clerk to obtain Monthly Range Calendar and draft a letter to Wretham Camp, councillors to be emailed a draft and, all agree before sending.

JF gave his apologies for 21st Sep, he has a full Governors Meeting at his school and as Head, he has to attend.

Scheduled next meeting(s):-

2023: **21st Sep**, 12th Oct, 9th Nov, 14th Dec 23 (tbc).

2024: 11th Jan, 8th Feb 24

Chairmans initials SF.

Wretham Parish Council Meeting 10 Aug 23

District Councillor report for August 2023

Report of Phil Cowen and Sarah Suggitt

Despite August being perceived as a holiday month, work at Breckland Council continues without interruption to provide help and support to residents and businesses and to undertake the various statutory and discretionary services with which the Council is both charged to provide and which we have agreed will provide communities across Breckland much needed assistance.

We have spoken in the past about the local plan, its status and the steps we are taking to prepare the next incarnation that will reflect the changing face of life not only in the country but also across Breckland. Part of this looks at the requirement for us to have a 5 year housing land supply to meet the projected demand for housing across the district and at the planning committee meeting in July this was reported to be 6.6 years meaning that we meet this target with some headroom to spare. The planning team are also engaged in logging and analysing all the data that has been submitted following the 'call for sites' and 'issues and options consultation'. Given the sheer volume of data being examined this process is not yet complete.


As a council we own and operate many car parks in the district that cost in the region of £750,000 to manage and maintain on an annual basis. We have recently undertaken a survey of how these are used so that we can be better informed, for example in responding to questions raised by town councils as to their usage and in some cases perceived misuse.

Looking ahead to the third quarter of the year, officers and members are working towards the preparation of budget proposals that will be reviewed through discussion and dialogue at various committee meetings before being sent out to public consultation towards the end of the year.

If you have any questions or matters with which you may need assistance from Breckland, please email either of us and we will endeavour to provide answers or at least signpost you to a more appropriate source.

Phil Cowen and Sarah Suggitt

August 2023

Chairmans initials 

Wretham Parish Council Meeting 10 Aug 23