

WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wretham Parish Council held on Thursday, 9 June 2022 at 7.00 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall, Church Road.

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

Absent: Councillor Jonathan Ford.

- 1 **Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** Cllr. Smith signed the declaration, which was received.
- 2 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to approve and accept the reason for submitting an apology for absence from Cllr. Jon Ford.
- 3 **Declarations of interest.** None
- 4 **Dispensations.** None.
- 5 **Public participation session.** None.
- 6 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 12 May 2022 were **confirmed**, and **signed** by the Chairman.
- 7 **Matters arising.**
 - 7.1 [9.3, Minutes of 14 April 2022] **3PL/2021/0766/F & 3PL/2021/0767/LB: Wretham Lodge, Church Road.** Conversion of outbuilding into dwelling for a live-in carer. The Applicant's Appeal against the condition which required that "the access immediately to the west of the building shall be permanently closed in" has been upheld by the Planning Inspector, who found that the condition was is not reasonable, nor necessary to maintain highway safety. The condition has now been removed.
 - 7.2 [7.1] **Peddars Way.** As predicted, the work has now been completed and the Trail re-opened. Members expressed their approval of the work that NCC has done, praising it for creating a more accessible place for residents to walk, and describing it as an impressive improvement. It was agreed that it looks rather stark at the moment, but was accepted with in a few months this will tone down.
 - 7.3 [7.3] **Grass cutting at Letchmere Corner and corner of Illington Road and A1075.** As the Clerk suspected, the land to the east of the A1075 (and outside Cherry Tree Close) is owned by Breckland, while Letchmere corner on the west is owned by NCC. Until recently, Breckland employed Serco to cut both areas (and the Parish Council employed them to cut Millennium Row at the same time) doing the NCC land on their behalf. This year NCC decided to cancel that arrangement, and will be cutting its land independently. There appears to have been some confusion as to exactly what is owned by Breckland, and although the plan showing this included the strip down to the post box at Hilda Raker Close as being Breckland's, Serco say this is not the case, and so they had stopped doing it. However, they have now told the Clerk that the crew would continue to cut this as a goodwill gesture to the Parish "for being good customers", and they have now done so. On Letchmere Corner, however, NCC say that this comes under their urban policy, which is four cuts over the season (between May and September). The first of these cuts has now taken place. They Clerk has asked Serco for a quote if the Parish were to agree to pay for this to be done regularly at the same time as Millennium Row, but the Council felt that, having seen what NCC had done to Letchmere Corner, this should prove adequate.
 - 7.4 [9.1 Minutes of 14 April 2022] **4 Manor Cottages.** The hedge erected on the verge has been reported to NCC Highways and the Engineer and a member of the Land Research team visited to take measurements. The Clerk has been advised that the conclusion is that the original rail fence was an encroachment into the highway along the full length between 4 Manor Cottages and Malbec House. As a result, NCC has written to the landowner requiring both the new and a good part of the old hedge to be removed, and

new and old fences to be repositioned to a location off the public highway. NCC will be reporting this to the Breckland Planners.

8 Correspondence. The following correspondence was received:

- 8.1 Michael Corrie, Internal Auditor: *Letter of thanks and acceptance of appointment for 2023/24.*
- 8.2 Gallagher Insurance Brokers Limited: *Confirmation of Renewal.*
- 8.3 Hiscox: *Certificate of Employers Liability Insurance.*
- 8.4 Forestry England: *Public Consultation for the revised Croxton Forest Plan 2022-2032.*
- 8.5 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Business accounts - at a glance - Your balances on 31 May 2022.*
- 8.6 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account - 30 April - 31 May 2022.*

9 Appeal letter. An appeal letter from Norfolk Accident Rescue Service was received. In accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, it was **resolved** that cheque number 100838 for £75.00 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*).

10 Planning.

- 10.1 **3PL/2022/0413/HOU: Hatchery Cottage, 1 Windmill Lane.** Extend to the side with a 1/2 storey extension to include a new garage, Games room and bedroom/Study above the garage. Planning Permission dated 18 May 2022 was **received**.
- 10.2 **3OB/2022/0035/OB: Mill Stone Green (formerly known as Stonebridge Camp), Wretham.** Application to discharge the planning obligation on 3OB/2020/0014/OB - Completion and transfer of outstanding housing units. It was **resolved** that the Council felt that, given that many of the originally agreed obligations have already been set aside. It would be wrong of Breckland to discharge this condition without being certain that all the remaining ones have been fulfilled, and at this stage the play equipment is still to be installed, the planning has not been completed as in the approved plans, and items like bat boxes and swift bricks may not be present as promised.
- 10.3 **FUL/2021/0072: Larkshall Mill, Thetford Road.** Change of use from waste transfer station/materials recovery facility to a facility for the manufacturing of carbon-negative aggregates for use in the construction industry including demolition of existing storage shed, construction of feed hopper and conveyor, curing bay shed, covered aggregate conveyor system, 7 no. silos, CO2 tank and associated site works. Re-consultation on additional/revised documents submitted. The Clerk reported that he had received a call that day from the Chairman of the applicant company, who apologised for not coming back to the Council regarding its concerns expressed previously, and again promising to do so. However, with regard to this latest consultation, it was **agreed** that the Council had no further comments to make at present.

11 Dog waste bin. It was **agreed** that, as a previous request for a bin near the Hall had been refused, and indeed, might not prevent some dog owners from using the Hall's waste bin, the most suitable location is still along the Trod, where it can be emptied easily by the Serco team. The Clerk will try to position it where it is less likely to be hit by vehicles using the lay-by to perform a U-turn, and advise Breckland that it is back in use.

12 War Memorial. Cllr. Barclay said that, while the memorial would definitely look much brighter and nicer if it were to be professionally cleaned, this had, as far as we know, been done only once in its lifetime, and that was in 2013, when it was in dire need of some maintenance work, and he questioned whether this was needed again. Since then, of course, the Memorial had been added to the Register of Listed Buildings, and so work done to it was subject to stricter control. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should make enquiries as to the acceptability of cleaning the pedestal steps with a domestic pressure washer, and report back.

13 Finance.

- 13.1 **Clerk's salary.** It was **resolved** that cheques numbered 100835 & 100836 totalling £1,134.90 (salary for 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022 £1,072.50; Homeworking Allowance

£19.50; Mileage Allowance for 4 February 2022 - 2 June 2022 £42.90) 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 100837 for £13.06 (Postage & Telephones £3.32; Stationery £7.56, VAT £2.18) to the Clerk be signed, in reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 6 October 2021 to 2 June 2022. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)

13.3 **Loan repayment.** It was **noted** that on 14 June 2022 the United Kingdom Debt Management Office PWLB lending facility will deduct £220.37 from the Council's account by direct debit, being the final repayment due on the Council's loan. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)


13.4 **Credit.** Receipt of the following credit was **noted**: HM Revenue & Customs - VAT refund - £268.29 - 11 May 2022..

13.5 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 31 May 2022 was **received**.

14 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.** None.

15 **Next meeting.** The next meeting, of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 14 July 2022, at 7.00 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall.

Confirmed:



Harold Smith (Chairman)

14 July 2022

Future Meeting dates:

Thursday, 14 July 2022	Thursday, 13 October 2022	Thursday, 12 January 2023
Thursday, 11 August 2022	Thursday, 10 November 2022	Thursday, 9 February 2023
Thursday, 8 September 2022	Thursday, 8 December 2022	Thursday, 9 March 2023

