

WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie (Jules) Challenor, Tofts Barn, Church Road, Wretham, IP24 1RL
Telephone: 07760 485472
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Minutes of the **Ordinary Monthly Parish Meeting of Wretham Parish Council** held on Thu 12th October 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 Lorna Soar (LS) and Parish Clerk, Jules Challenor (JC)

One member of the public present, John Kitson reporting on behalf of the Village Newsletter.

1. **APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE** – Cllr Jon Ford (JF) due to work commitment.
2. **TO RECEIVE DECARATIONS** - Planning Application, point 10.4 **3PL/2023/0936/HOU** – SF lives next door.
3. **DISPENSATIONS** – Ditto above.
4. **MINUTES** – The minutes of the meeting held on 21st Sep 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 – Emailed to state unable to attend, however Phil Cowen sent through a report, which is below. Action: Clerk to send copy to John Kitson.
 - 6.2 County Councillors Report - None
7. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - 7.1 **OUTSTANDING HIGHWAY MATTERS**

Road towards Croxton, large potholes from farm entrance - SF sent photos to Clerk who emailed Highways, they are investigating the problem. Action: Clerk to monitor

Sharron Rushbrook emailed Clerk stating “hedge rows around the junction of the A1075 and Woodcock Road are so wild and overgrown that the road sign is totally covered, as are the speed signs - obviously hazardous.” Clerk has reported and it has been logged as Enquiry 28545. Current turnaround for this work is approximately 12 weeks and Clerk will note in calendar and chase if necessary. Action: Clerk to monitor

New poo bin is very full – Action: Clerk will chase and monitor
 - 7.2 **ANY OTHER MATTERS**
 - 7.3.1 Deer/Speed Signs – Action: HS and Paul to resolve
8. **CORRESPONDENCE** – All correspondence sent electronically to all Councillors.

Chairmans initials



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9. FINANCE

- 9.1 Monthly Financial Report and to approve/sign payments for Oct 23. Financial Report emailed to Cllrs prior to meeting and copy attached. Noticeboards refurbishment completed - RVH Painting and Decorating – Inv No 218, sum £450. All agree payment to be made. We are hoping online banking sorted very soon and this will be paid via BACS. There are no other payments.
- 9.2 Barclays Bank – Letter sent with all signatories asking for urgent update to account. No response, however Barclays closed our account on 21st September (same date as our letter!) with no warning. Cheque received closing both accounts, sum £7,125.22. Clerk has taken steps to open an account with Lloyds (our Church hold an account here with no problems) also there is a branch in Thetford. Clerk confirmed account open and cheque paid into Lloyds on 11th Oct 23.

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 – **Decision by 24 Oct 23** – No comments from Cllrs.
- 10.3 **TRE/2023/0267/TPO** – Wretham, Oakwood House Woodcock Road - T3 Silver Birch. Structurally poor - overall crown reduction of 30% to prevent failure – **Decision by 13th Nov 23**. Received 6th Oct and TPO granted 2 years
- 10.4 **3PL/2023/0936/HOU** – Stoneacre, Hockham Road, Wretham - Rear single storey extension – **Decision by 22 Nov 23 (NB: 3PL/2023/0921/LU - Original application withdrawn)** - No comments from Cllrs.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 11.1 County Broadband still hoping to be installed by end Oct 23. Clerk reported that the Village Hall now has broadband installed via BT as unable to wait as needed for CCTV, management of heating system and solar panels
- 11.2 Slow Ways – national walking network. Clerk reported this group wishes to support organisations that want to help more people walk/wheel more and share and discover ways to make that happen. Clerk has subscribed to newsletter and we may at some point create an account and review walks and add. LS requested a copy of the email (sent electronically before she started role). Action: Clerk

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

Thetford Road – Dog training? Sign? Site becoming untidy - Clerk to investigate who to communicate with to resolve. Action: Clerk

2023 - 9th Nov, no meeting Dec 23.

2024 - 11th Jan 24, 8th Feb, 14th Mar, 11th Apr, 9th May, 13th Jun & 11th Jul 24, Aug (tba).

Chairmans initials



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District Councillor report, All Saints and Wayland Ward

October 2023

Various activities are underway at Breckland, the following are a snapshot of where these are as at the time of this report:

Finance

- Work on budget setting for the financial year 2024-25 onwards is in progress, with the first draft budget coming forward to Members in Q3-Q4.

Planning matters

- We have spoken in previous reports about the impact on housing delivery as a result of the Nutrient Neutrality challenge facing Norfolk.
- The proposed amendments to the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill by Government to seek to address the impact of Nutrient Neutrality were defeated in the House of Lords. Nutrient Neutrality remains an issue
- Breckland continues to develop solutions and local responses. Member and Director meetings of the new Norfolk Environmental Credits (NEC) were held on 10th October to agree a Business Plan, Credit Pricing Model and Credit Allocation Policy.
- Local Plan Update: Sessions with Members and Parish/Town Councils were held in September. There are drop in events being held in October in the market towns as well as a youth workshop. These are being arranged by Filigree on behalf of the Council.
- Local Plan Partial Review: Following receipt of the Final Report of the Inspector who examined the Single Policy Partial Review the Council at its meeting on 21st September adopted the Local Plan with the amended policy INF03. It is currently in its six week Judicial Review period.
- Watton: The final report into the Watton Neighbourhood Plan has been received. A referendum, which will be organised by the Council, is likely to be in early 2024.

Economic development

- We have supported Norfolk County Council in piloting a new set of activity to encourage new innovative ideas to help drive footfall and activity in market towns. A dragon's den panel was convened on 22nd September to make small grant awards, and we will report on the outcomes when known
- The Future Breckland Board – a partnership body between the Council and key local stakeholders – agreed an approach to release c. £500k of funding for local skills priorities, including investment in new infrastructure, specialist training for vulnerable people, and work with schools and employers to help young people more effectively get into education. The work to deliver this is now starting, with the majority of the funding becoming available in 24/25.

General

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Review – The Electoral Boundary Review for Breckland has begun; the first stage is to agree the Council size. A cross-party working group – set up to help shape the Council's response – is due to meet this month. The final draft response will be considered by Council later in the year, prior to formal submission to LGBCE in early January.
- Attleborough Leisure Project – planning application approved. Preparing for procurement of main contractor. Detailed design work for 3G pitch ongoing.
- Chairmans Recognition Awards - The Chairman is seeking nominations for his 'Invisible heroes. recognition award' which can be sent to chairman@breckland.gov.uk

Councillors Sarah Suggitt and Philip Cowen

Chairmans initials



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Wretham Payments Agreed on Thu 12th Oct 23

The following payments were authorised on Thu 12th Oct 23, the payments were signed off by the Chair

Current Account *****675 balance to statement 18 Sep 23 £1,560.79

Total Income

Total after Direct Debits and Income £1,560.79

Cheques/Bacs/DD	Description	Total
	RVH Painting & Decorating - Refurb both noticeboards	
	Invoice No 218 SUM £450.00	
	This payment will need to be made when we have an new	
	bank account with opened with Lloyds	

Total for Cheques / BACS/DD/PAYMENTS £0.00

Current Community A/C No *****675 balance to statement 18 Sep 23 £1,560.79

Business Savings A/C No *****897 balance to statement 18 Sep 23 £5,564.43

Total in Parish Accounts £7,125.22 *

Current Community A/C No *****675 **BARCLAYS CLOSED ACCOUNT WITH NO NOTICE** £1,560.79

Business Savings A/C No *****897 **BARCLAYS CLOSED ACCOUNT WITH NO NOTICE !** £5,564.43

Outstanding payments to go through bank £0.00

Balance - always match balance marked * £7,125.22 *

CHEQUE RECEIVED FROM BARCLAYS SUM £7,125.22

CLERK IN PROCESS OF OPENING AN ACCOUNT WITH LLOYDS BANK

Signed _____

HAROLD SMITH

CHAIR OF WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Dated: 12th Oct 23