

WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wretham Parish Council held on Thursday, 11 March 2021 at 7.00 p.m. This was a virtual on-line meeting.

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

Absent: Councillor: Jon Ford.

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reason for absence offered by Cllr. Jon Ford.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.** None.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 11 February 2021 were **confirmed**, and **signed** by the Chairman.
- 6 **Matters arising.**
 - 6.1 [4.1] **Leaking pipe in Church Road.** The promised trench has now been dug, so any further leaking water should go straight into the drain rather than onto Church Road. The Clerk confirmed that he had thanked the landowner for his assistance.
 - 6.2 [10] **A1075 Thetford to Dereham - Proposed Amendments to Speed Limit.** Regarding reducing the limit between Stonebridge and Breckles, the Highways Engineer has said that the latest route safety study indicated that the proposed measures (centreline hatching, raised rib edge-lines and verge hardening) should mitigate against the causes of 20 of the 26 "killed or seriously injured casualties" on this sector of the road in the past six years. They are, therefore, not able to recommend a speed limit reduction. County Cllr. Fabian Eagle, Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council and Hockham Parish Council have been similarly advised.
 - 6.3 [11] **Maintaining the option of virtual meetings.** The Chief of Staff to Liz Truss MP has responded that, "a number of parish councils have contacted Liz in relation to virtual meetings and she has raised this with ministers at MHCLG."
 - 6.4 [13.2] **Defibrillator.** The defibrillator has been installed at the Village Hall and the Eastern Ambulance Service has added it to their database, so it has gone 'live'. The Clerk has started the weekly checks, and also added it to the Asset Register. The Chairman offered to provide cover when the Clerk is away.
- 7 **Correspondence.** The following correspondence was **received**:
 - 7.1 Breckland Council: *Textile Bank Payments 2020-2021* - "... lower rate of £59.30 per tonne for textile recycling this year."
 - 7.2 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your account is overdrawn.* The Clerk explained that he had omitted making a transfer from the Council's Active Saver account to cover the payments agreed at last month's meeting, and so the account had slipped overdrawn for a few days, and apologised for this. He had made a transfer to correct the position as soon as he was made aware.
 - 7.3 *Clerks & Councils Direct - March 2021.*
 - 7.4 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Business accounts - at a glance - Your balances on 26 February 2021.*
 - 7.5 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account - 30 January - 26 February 2021.*
- 8 **Planning.**
 - 8.1 **3PL/2021/0250/F: Wretham Camp, Cricket Ground Road.** Construction of 1 x Accommodation block and 1 x Administration block with associated external works. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.

8.2 **3PL/2021/0256/LB: Old Dog and Partridge Public House, Watton Road, Wretham.** Proposed internal works, remove existing staircase replace with new staircase, new windows to rear elevation, removal of some first-floor walls and rebuilding to create useable bedroom space. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.

- 9 **Dog waste bin.** The Clerk reported that the Officer at Breckland Council responsible for authorising collections from dog/waste bins had indicated that a request for one on Church Road is unlikely to be successful, because of the proximity to the one on the Trod that they were currently emptying. The Council agreed with the Officer's comments that the main problem on Church Road was that a very few irresponsible dog owners were not picking up after their pets, and provision of an additional bin would have no impact if they continued to act in this inconsiderate manner.
- 10 **Fly-tipping on land south of Illington Road.** The Clerk reported that he had tried to get Breckland Council to remove the pile of DIY-type waste which had been dumped on the plot east of the end of Cherry Tree Close, but as this was on private land they were unable to help. The waste had included an estate agent's sign, so he had contacted them, hoping that this might be a way of identifying where it came from. The agent was unable to suggest who might have been responsible, but was grateful and subsequently recovered his property. The Clerk then made a search at the Land Registry, and was able to find the name of the company in whose name the plot was registered, and thence the company's accountants, who he telephoned to ask for the rubbish to be removed. Subsequently he received a call from the brother of the company director, saying that this would be arranged. Cllr. Barnard said that this had not yet happened, and the Clerk said he would chase when appropriate. The report was **received**.
- 11 **OCO Technology Limited.** Letters to members from OCO Technology Limited advising that they had taken a long lease of the old recycling plant at Larkshall were **received**. The company is proposing to set up a Liaison Group, and it was **agreed** that Cllr. Barnard should be put forward as the Council's representative on this.
- 12 **Asset Register.** The Asset Register was **reviewed** and the valuations for insurance purposes **agreed**.
- 13 **Risk Assessment.** The Council's Risk Assessment was **reviewed** and amendments **agreed**.
- 14 **System of Internal Control.** The Council **reviewed** and **approved** its system of internal control.
- 15 **Finance.**
- 15.1 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 28 February 2021 was **received**.
- 16 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.** None.
- 17 **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Thursday, 8 April 2021**, at **7.00 p.m. via video link**.

Confirmed:



Harold Smith (Chairman)

8 April 2021

Future Meeting dates:

Thursday, 8 April 2021	Thursday, 12 August 2021	Thursday, 9 December 2021
Thursday, 13 May 2021	Thursday, 9 September 2021	Thursday, 13 January 2022
Thursday, 10 June 2021	Thursday, 14 October 2021	Thursday, 10 February 2022
Thursday, 8 July 2021	Thursday, 11 November 2021	Thursday, 10 March 2022