

WRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wretham Parish Council on Thursday, 8 December 2016 at 7.00 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall, Church Road.

Present: Councillors, Harold Smith (Chairman), Sharon Ford, Jean Foster.
Julian Gibson (Clerk)

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reasons for apologies for absence offered by Councillor Schofield and Councillor Townsend.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.** None.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 10 November 2016 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 6 **Matters arising.**
 - 6.1 [8.2, Minutes of 8 September 2016] **Stonebridge Camp.** The Clerk asked Breckland Council Planning whether they had agreed to the leylandii trees along the A1075 side of this site and around the boundary fences being removed, because they were shown as to be retained on both the planning applications which have received Permission, and those still awaiting a decision. They were not aware, but have now raised this matter with the applicants and advised that any scheme for the site would need to include satisfactory replacement planting, in particular along the site frontage. It may be that they can get some improvements in terms of native species or species of more local provenance. The Clerk has spoken with the contractor, who says that he understands the developer is intending to retain the existing wire fence, but to erect 2m fencing on the inside and then plant a new hedge inside that.
 - 6.2 [12] **SAM2.** After a considerable amount of chasing, the Clerk was told that Aviva has agreed to pay out on the insurance claim and the sum of £2,800 (the cost of a replacement device less the £250 excess) has now been credited to the Council's account. He has therefore placed an order for a new sign with Westcotec. In response to a question from the Chairman he said he would try to find a padlock which was more resistant to bolt cutters, in an effort to stop the replacement being stolen.
 - 6.3 [13] **Speeding past Hilda Raker Close.** The Clerk has now been assured that the recommendations of the Constabulary Traffic Management Officer have gone to Norfolk County Council and their response is awaited.
 - 6.4 [18.3] **BT.** Ms Truss, MP, has written to BT supporting the Council's view that the account should be in its name, and their response is awaited.
 - 6.5 [11 Minutes of 6 October 2016) **Precept Consultation principles.** As reported previously, the Clerk had submitted a Freedom of Information request to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to ask how many residents of Wretham had contacted it expressing concerns about increases in the Parish precept. There must have been some concerns expressed by some people in order to support the statement made by the Government that "it is aware that increases in these precepts continue to concern local tax payers and is therefore prepared to consider extending referendums to all parishes." Initially the DCLG failed to respond within the timescale dictated by the Freedom of Information Act, 2000, so the Clerk registered a complaint with the Information Commissioner. The DCLG has now responded saying that the data is not held. Following the Clerk raising the matter at a Norfolk Association of Local Councils meeting, the National Association has also

lodged a FOI request asking for the data for the country as a whole, but it seems inevitable that this will receive the same response. No doubt the National ALC will cast appropriate doubt on the Government's original contention.

7 Correspondence. The following correspondence was **received**:

- 7.1 War Memorials Trust: *Bulletin* - November 2016.
- 7.2 Citizens Advice: *Appeal letter*.
- 7.3 Norfolk Constabulary: *Minutes of the Attleborough Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) Meeting* - 18 November 2016.
- 7.4 BT: *Your new Direct Debit*.
- 7.5 HM Revenue & Customs: *Paying your Pay As You Earn (PAYE)*.
- 7.6 Wretham PCC Secretary: *Letter of thanks for grant*.
- 7.7 The Pensions Regulator: *Act now: the law on workplace pensions has changed*; advising that the Council's staging date is 1 April 2017.
- 7.8 Campaign to Protect Rural England: *Fieldwork* - Winter 2016.
- 7.9 Campaign to Protect Rural England: *Countryside Voice* - Winter 2016.
- 7.10 UK Debt Management Office: *Loan Payment due 14 December 2016*.
- 7.11 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account statement* - 1-30 November 2016.
- 7.12 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account statement* - 1-30 November 2016.

8 Planning.

- 8.1 **3PL/2016/1318/F: Plot C at Manor Farm Church Road.** Application for Re-design 3-bed detached dwelling with attached garage on plot 5. It was **noted** that the Clerk has responded "No objections" using delegated powers.
- 8.2 **3PL/2016/1133/F: Manor Farm, Church Road, Wretham.** Proposed Development of three detached dwellings. (Revised scheme). Planning Permission dated 16 November 2016 was **received**.
- 8.3 **3PL/2016/1204/HOU: Peddars, Keepers Corner, Wretham.** Erection of single storey extension following demolition of existing outbuildings. Notice that the Applicant has withdrawn the application dated 24 November 2016 was **received**.
- 8.4 **3OB/2016/0007/OB: Stonebridge Camp, Thetford Road, Stonebridge, Wretham.** Variation of S106 on 3TL/2011/0030/TL (Revise affordable housing obligations). Planning Permission dated 25 November 2016 (suspending the affordable housing obligations on condition that the development is completed by 23 November 2019) was **received**

9 Meeting dates. The schedule of meeting dates for 2017/18 was **agreed**.

10 Finance.

- 10.1 **Clerk's salary.** It was **resolved** that cheques numbered 100647 & 100648 totalling £877.34 (salary for 1 October 2016 to 31 December 2016: £817.86; Mileage Allowance Payment for 1 September 2016 - 29 November 2016: £59.48) to the Clerk and HM Revenue & Customs be signed. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 112(2)*)
- 10.2 **Clerk's reimbursement.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100649 for £6.52 (Postage & Telephones £6.38, VAT £0.14) to the Clerk be signed, in reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 2 September 2016 to 29 November 2016. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)
- 10.3 **Training.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100650 for £120.00 to the Norfolk Association of Local Councils be signed, being the cost of the Chairman attending *Chairing and Leadership* training on 28 January and 4 February 2017. (*Local Government Act 1972 s.111*)

10.4 **Telephones.** The Clerk reported that although he was unclear of the reason, the recently received Bill reference N007 QL showed that BT have credited the Council's account with them with £117.71 (£104.76 + £12.95 VAT), leaving the account £28.63 in credit. No action was therefore necessary.

10.5 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 30 November 2016 was received.

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

12 **Next meeting.** The next meeting will be on **Thursday, 12 January 2017, at 7.00 p.m. in Wretham Village Hall.**

Confirmed:



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Harold Smith (Chairman)

9 February 2017

Future Meeting dates:

Thursday, 12 January 2017
Thursday, 9 February 2017
Thursday, 9 March 2017
Thursday, 13 April 2017
Thursday, 11 May 2017

Thursday, 8 June 2017
Thursday, 13 July 2017
Thursday, 10 August 2017
Thursday, 14 September 2017
Thursday, 12 October 2017

Thursday, 9 November 2017
Thursday, 7 December 2017
Thursday, 11 January 2018
Thursday, 8 February 2018
Thursday, 8 March 2018