

WANGFORD WITH HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting held in Wangford Community Centre Committee Room at 7.30pm Tuesday 13th December 2022

Present: Chair Cllr A Smith, Cllrs T Carter, S Farrands, S Ives, R Miller, G Pepper, S Smith, E Utting, R Waters.

Also in attendance: District Cllr. N Brooks and Gemma Fraser (Communities Team – East Suffolk Council).

Parish Clerk, Greg Radcliffe taking minutes.

Declarations of Interest – None.

Receipt and acceptance of apologies – Cllr R Miller.

PUBLIC FORUM –to include COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

None present.

Cllr Brooks introduced Gemma Fraser who works in the Communities Team for East Suffolk Council.

Third bridge crossing - Cllr Brooks advised that the third bridge crossing in Lowestoft is going quite well. There has been a six week delay due to problems with a cofferdam which has affected a major lift operation and the specialist crane required is not available for 2 – 3 months. Costs for the crossing have escalated hugely, but this is still within the overspend. The crossing is scheduled to open early 2024.

New council tax budgets - The district council has set council tax budgets – Cllr Brooks was unable to say what the new budgets are, but he said that there were no big increases.

Ease the Squeeze – Gemma Fraser told all assembled about the Ease the Squeeze initiative run by East Suffolk Council. Gemma explained that it is designed to help people with problems due to the big increases in the cost of living and that it is available across the district. She continued that it provides crisis support, a food bank, financial advice, warm rooms in the community, winter fuel payments, community grant scheme, a limited supply of bus/fuel/food vouchers and a handyperson service. Gemma added that the aim is to build long term resilience projects to help people in need. There was a general discussion around social isolation and the issues with transport along with the fact that volunteers are difficult to get and keep on board. Gemma was advised that Wangford does not have a food bank, but St Margaret's church in Reydon collects items for the food bank. Gemma told the councillors that she would like to arrange points where people can come locally to get food. Referrals to Ease the Squeeze can be made via the East Suffolk Council website or contact East Suffolk Customer Services by telephone (0333 016 2000). Gemma will email the clerk information about East the Squeeze. It was agreed to ask Sue Taylor to put information about Ease the Squeeze and the need for volunteers in The Messenger. Cllr Brooks and Gemma Fraser were thanked for attending the meeting and for their helpful information - they then left the meeting.

Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting Held 8th November 2022 – Cllr S Farrands proposed, 2nd Cllr G Pepper, All In Favour (AIF).

Matters Arising from The Minutes of Previous Meetings

Bus stops – There was a general discussion about the issue. Cllr Dunning has been in touch with Wangford PC by email, however there has been no change. Cllr A Smith advised that the best plan is to keep in regular contact with Cllr Dunning to ensure that action will be taken.

MUGA – Cllr S Smith had a quote from Trevor Clark for repairs which was £3,225. This would be to put new boards (where needed) round the tennis court. After a brief discussion it was decided that the matter should be kept on the agenda and discussed at each future meeting. Ben Cook had provided a quote of £4,343 to provide an electricity supply to the shed. Pearce & Kemp quoted £2,168 for the same work. Cllr S Smith suggested that Paul Peck could be hired to use his digger to put the electric cable in and that this would cost around £1,500.

Cllr S Smith added that he had received an Eon bill for £19.08 for electricity. Cllr A Smith commented that he had received a summons from CST for £190.57 for an outstanding Eon electricity bill – it is thought that the error occurred due to the bills not being passed on by the previous clerk. Cllr A Smith will contact CST to explain what has happened and advise that the PC will pay the amount of £190.57.

Any Other Councillor Reports

Reports on:

Police Report sourced from Suffolk Constabulary website – the website was last updated in September 2022 and there were 6 reported incidents (not necessarily in Wangford as the area covers a wide radius).

Finance

Accounts for Payment	COST	VAT	TOTAL
Clerk's salary for November 2022	£225.00	-	£225.00
Clerk's travel, 34 miles at 45p per mile	£15.30	-	£15.30
Stationery purchased by clerk	£10.66	-	£10.66
Barry Dewing (goal post removal & ground Maintenance)	£320.00	-	£320.00
Eon	£190.57	-	£190.57
Total			<u>£761.53</u>

Proposed for payment Cllr S Farrands, 2nd Cllr R Waters, AIF.

Accounts already paid - None

Receipts:

Bank Statement Figures -

Current Account: £7,968.75

Business Account: £7,250.74

Latitude Ticket Sales Account £18,756.43

Correspondence – None.

Planning

a. Applications received: Email from Sue Hosking to ask whether it would be possible to have a "Community Centre" sign with an arrow pointing to the centre erected on the corner of Norfolk Rd & Millfields as people are saying they cannot find the centre. Cllr A Smith will have a look at the area then report back at the January 2023 PCM.

b. Decisions received: None

Any Other Business –

PC email address – There had been an issue with the clerk accessing PC emails, but this has been dealt with now.

PC laptop – The clerk said he cannot get the PC Dell laptop to work as it comes up with the message “No bootable devices found” and will not do anything else. There was a brief discussion and it was agreed to look into the cost of a replacement laptop.

Training – Cllr A Smith said that now Covid is over the new councillors will need to complete any necessary training. The clerk said that he had been in touch with SALC about the CILCA training qualification but had been advised that he cannot complete it until he has been in post 12 months. However, he can complete the introductory PC clerk training and it was agreed that he should book this.

Lucy Cooke – Cllr A Smith advised that Lucy has begun her volunteering role.

Car park fencing - Cllr Utting advised that Cllr Miller had asked who is responsible for repairing/replacing the fencing around the car park? Cllr A Smith replied that it is the responsibility of the PC.

Water bill - Cllr Utting raised the issue of the community council water bill as the meter also covers the allotments. Cllr Utting queried whether there will be a pro-rata cost for sewage too? Cllr A Smith replied that this will be looked at when the bill arrives.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Website: www.wangfordwithhenham.onesuffolk.net

Next meeting Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7.30pm.