

WANGFORD WITH HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting held in Wangford Community Centre Committee Room at 7.30pm Tuesday 10th January 2023

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.

Parish Clerk, Greg Radcliffe taking minutes.

Declarations of Interest – None.

Receipt and acceptance of apologies – None.

PUBLIC FORUM –to include COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Brooks attended the meeting, but advised that he did not have much to report.

New council tax budgets - The district council has approved council tax budgets and sent to Cabinet. Cllr Brooks said that there is an increase, but they have tried to keep it to a minimum.

Refuse collection – An agreement has been reached with refuse collectors so they will not go on strike now. The refuse collection services will be moving to a new company in April which will be more cost effective. There will be no difference in the provision – Cllr Brooks added that hopefully there will be an improvement in service.

Third bridge crossing - Cllr Brooks advised that the third bridge crossing in Lowestoft should be completed in around 12 months time. He added that there is a small amount of money over from the current year's budget if anyone has any small projects they would like funding for.

Dead trees - Cllr Carter raised the subject of dead trees on the A145 – he said that they could be a danger and asked who is responsible for them? Cllr Brooks answered that they are the responsibility of Suffolk County Council (Highways department) unless they are outside the curtilage of the main road in which case they are the responsibility of the land owner. Clerk to write to the Highways department regarding this issue.

Speeding – Cllr Carter advised that cars are speeding along the A145 (from Brampton church to the A12) and some are coming off the road which is very dangerous. Cllr Carter asked Cllr Brooks if the speed limit could be changed? Cllr Brooks replied that part of the road is already 30 mph along there and it is also the responsibility of the drivers themselves to stay within the speed limit. He continued that A roads are the responsibility of the County Council and that the council can be asked to look into the matter. Cllr A Smith added that this issue was reported to the Council a few years ago - a Highways worker came to look at the problem and said that nothing could be done. A short debate followed regarding scarce resources (Cllr Brooks said there is currently tremendous pressure on budgets) and the responsibility of drivers to remain within speed limits. Clerk to write to the Highways department regarding this issue.

Hospital waiting times – Cllr Farrands said that there are problems with waiting times at the James Paget hospital. When Southwold hospital was closed a local 6 bed unit was promised for patients, but this has never materialised. After a brief discussion Cllr Brooks advised that the issue falls within the remit of Cllr Mary Rudd. It was decided that the Clerk should write to Cllr Rudd about this and Cllr Brooks said that he will also raise the issue with her. Cllr Brooks then left the meeting and was thanked for attending.

Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting Held 13th December 2022 –

Cllr Farrands mentioned that Wangford village does not have a food bank, but St Margaret's church collects items for the local food bank. Cllr Farrands also advised that for accuracy of the minutes her surname has a double "r". The Clerk will amend the draft minutes accordingly. Proposed, Cllr G Pepper, 2nd Cllr S Farrands. All In Favour (AIF).

Matters Arising from The Minutes of Previous Meetings

Bus stops – Nothing to report.

MUGA – Nothing to report.

Trainline – The Clerk told everyone that he had received an email from Helen Sheldon at Trainline asking if Wangford would be interested in having a Trainline link on the Wangford Travel Information Links. After a short discussion it was felt that this would not be of great benefit as most people use apps on their mobiles for travel information. Clerk to write to Trainline to say no thank you.

Headway mobile charity shop – The Clerk said that Headway (Helen Fairweather) had been in touch to ask whether Wangford would be interested in having their new mobile shop visit the village on a regular basis. He added that the shop would sell items and refreshments and also give advice on neurological problems. The councillors present agreed that this could be a good thing on a monthly basis. Clerk to write to Headway to say yes and ask when they are proposing to visit.

Caloo - Caloo had emailed to ask if the PC was planning and outdoor play or fitness projects that they could offer a quote for. The councillors agreed that this is covered at present and the Clerk will reply to Caloo with that information.

Village hall funding – An email was received from SALC Admin regarding capital grants to enhance and upgrade village halls to help bring communities together. It was agreed that the Clerk should forward this email to the Community Council.

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). There was a general discussion about this as it covers a large area and is not representative of what happens locally.

Damaged bollard – Cllr Farrands advised that one of the lit bollards near the entrance to Wangford has been broken and is currently lying on a verge. Clerk to contact Highways department about this.

Coronation celebrations – Cllr Farrands raised the subject of coronation celebrations for the village. Other councillors felt that this might not receive much support. Clerk to add it to the February PCM agenda for further discussion.

Finance

Accounts for Payment

	COST	VAT	TOTAL
Clerk's salary for December 2022	£225.00	-	£225.00
Clerk's travel, 14 miles at 45p per mile	£ 6.30	-	£ 6.30
Clerk's training (Finance & Cilca)	£ 67.20		£ 67.20

Total

£298.50

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: None

b. Decisions received: None

Any Other Business –

Cllr Pepper asked if there is anyone on the garage waiting list and Cllr A Smith answered that currently there is not.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Website: www.wangfordwithhenham.onesuffolk.net

Next meeting Tuesday 14th February 2023 at 7.30pm.