

WANGFORD WITH HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Wangford Community Centre Committee Room at 7.30pm Tuesday 12th September 2023

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

Also in attendance: County Cllr. A. Dunning and District Cllr. Paul Ashton

Members of the public: Mr William Seymour, Mr Gary Price, Ms Carol Wood and Mr David Brunton.

Temporary Parish Clerk, Mrs Sallie Smith taking minutes.

Declarations of Interest – None

Receipt and acceptance of apologies – None.

PUBLIC FORUM –to include COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- County Cllr Dunning was in attendance and provided her report – and spoke about Lion Link, formerly known as Euro-Link. An electricity cable linking the Netherlands with the UK via an offshore wind farm in the North Sea. The cable will reach land at a site yet to be confirmed. Meetings and webinars have been arranged for Reydon, Walberswick and Leiston, but nothing for Wangford. There would be disruption if the route used came via Reydon. Annette has yet not been able to obtain a map to show the exact location but said there would be a lot of disruption and can't understand why the site can't be further south nearer to Sizewell. If landfall was at Reydon it would involve a long and convoluted route across the A12 towards Brampton and down to the proposed converter station near Friston. Three meetings are planned for members of the public to attend. Reydon 22nd Sept. Walberswick 23rd Sept. and Leiston 6th Oct. Annette is meeting with a representative of Wangford Quarry on Thursday to discuss the extension of licence. Cllr Farrands will email Annette with an objection from the PC prior to the meeting. The bus signs and routes should be in place shortly as the 90-day period for making sure all complies will shortly be up. She will chase Highways about the report and survey that was supplied by Cllr Waters regarding repairs to pavements and potholes within the village. There is a climate action conference to be held from 29th Sept. – 1st Oct. in Halesworth.
- District Cllr Ashton reported how the tour of GB has been through Suffolk and what a success it appeared to be. Also, the quarry have some funding which they would like to give to the village to help with any projects. Rural England Prosperity Fund (east Suffolk) up to £30k.
He also reported that Highways are behind with grass cutting and weed killing this summer. They are no longer using Glyphosate anymore as it may have carcinogenic properties, so they are now using acetic acid to control weeds. He also stated that anyone using Lowestoft college and having transport issues need to let him know.
- Ms C Wood stressed the importance of recycling batteries and will put something in The Messenger asking people to take them to the village store where they will hopefully soon have a recycling box. She also commented on repairs to the MUGA and had found two possible opportunities for obtaining a grant. Tesco and Sizewell. Cllr A Smith has already applied for a grant from Sports England but will look into

alternatives if the application is unsuccessful. Carol is happy to conduct a survey of the public to see what improvements they would like to see in the village, she will run this by Cllr A Smith before finalising. She will also be looking into trying to get volunteers to help tidy footpaths and verges as Suffolk Highways have cut back on the times they cut and tidy. Ms Wood also asked whether it would be a good idea to create a Village Plan, this will be added to the agenda and discussed at a future meeting. Mr Seymour said that he was present regarding the letter from Mr Marfleet and would be happy to volunteer his services if and when required.

Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting Held 13th June 2023 –

The draft minutes for 11th July 2023 were agreed.

Proposed, Cllr R Waters, Cllr T Carter 2nd All in Favour (AIF).

Cllr A Smith offered condolences to Cllr S Ives and her family for their recent loss of George Ives.

Matters Arising from The Minutes of Previous Meetings

- Letter from Mr Marfleet – circulated to all Cllrs. Cllr A Smith responded to Mr Marfleets letter and the suggestions have been taken on board and are being acted on.
- Bus stops – As mentioned, the 90-day period for the bus company to approve and adopt the works has nearly expired so hopefully the buses will be re-routed shortly. Cllr Dunning will chase this on the PC's behalf.
- Parking on pavements – the problem has eased slightly now that the holiday period is over but still remains a problem as there are villagers still not complying. The clerk will write a letter to the holiday home companies to ask that their clients are more considerate when parking. A note regarding the problem will also be included in The Messenger.
- Open structure – quotes and designs for an open structure are in progress and the potential siting will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Pavement repairs – 3 areas for repair have been rejected by highways as it was felt that they weren't bad enough. Pothole in Church Street repaired. Cllr Waters will submit and chase the remaining pavement issues.
- Rat Infestation – there have been a number of complaints from residents in Church street regarding more rats from the allotments. Cllr S Smith has asked Spurdens Pest Control to put more bait down, but the problem is where chickens are being scatter fed. The rats will then take this food and leave the bait. Clerk to write to allotment holder to ask that chickens are feed in more confined areas.
- Shrubs overhanging - Old Priory Gardens and Church Street, opposite the surgery. Cllr Ashton will speak to the council regarding these issues. Cllr Waters will also report these issues online on the East Suffolks reporting tool.
- Overgrown hedge- Church Street. A letter has been sent to the owner of the property to ask them to cut back the hedge which is encroaching over the highway.
- Road registration and Insurance for lawn tractor – It was decided that registration and insurance for the tractor is needed as there will be times in the future when areas around the village will need more attention. This will also bring in potential income.
- CCTV advise and quotation – Broadland security have assessed and a quote for the installation of CCTV to the community centre should be available shortly. Cameras could be sighted on all corners to cover the garages, MUGA etc.
- Quote for small mower – It was agreed that a smaller mower be purchased for use on the play area, the community garden and war memorial. Leaving grass cuttings on the rubber matting in the play area is unsightly and causes damage to the rubber material.
- Gateway signs to village entrance – Cllr A Smith is to meet Wayne Saunders from Suffolk Highways to discuss siting and cost of installation for two signs at the village entrance just off the A12. Hopefully a quote will be supplied for discussion at the next meeting. He will also ask him about potholes, overgrown hedges etc.

- Village Sign – Mr Dewing has been asked to remove the overgrown conifers from around the village sign, clear the weeds and re site the rubbish bin as soon as possible. Cllr Pepper has suggested that a more manageable and in keeping hedge can later be planted.
- Accountant/Bookkeeper – It was agreed that Cllr S Smith looks into finding an accountant/bookkeeper to help with vat returns and audits until a permanent clerk is in place.
- Parish Clerk vacancy – we are still actively advertising for somebody to fill this role.

Any Other Councillor Reports

Cllr Farrands will write an email from the PC to Cllr Dunning for Cllr Dunning to present to the representative of the quarry at their meeting regarding the planned extension. The PC object to any further extension which will have a huge impact on the environment.

Cllr Pepper reported that there has been no further vandalism to the book exchange. There are however a large number of books missing but hopefully they will be returned.

Finance

Accounts for Payment	COST	VAT	TOTAL
Uncontested election bill (East Suffolk)	£100.98	-	£100.98
Annual Audit SALC	£213.00	£42.60	£255.60
Wicksteed Playground repairs	£1706.02	£341.20	£2047.22
Temp Clerk – August	£225.00	-	£225.00
Anglia Surface Care MUGA	£250.00	£50.00	£300.00
S. Smith water & elec. Project	£23.48	-	£23.48
Church booklet - Coronation	£14.40	-	£14.40
Waveney Norse bin emptying	£52.00	£10.40	£62.40
Grass seed	£43.36	-	£43.36
EON elec.	£32.55	-	£32.55
Digger hire & labour water/elec. Project	£405.00	-	£405.00
Diesel for grass tractor	£240.96	-	£240.96
TOTAL			<u>£3750.95</u>

Proposed for payment Cllr R Waters, 2nd Cllr R. Miller, AIF.

Accounts already paid –

S Smith grass cutting	£30.00
C Latham grass cutting	£30.00
Memorial Cottages grass cutting	£80.00
Total	<u>£140.00</u>

Receipts:

Bank Statement Figures -

Current Account: £7,155.47

Business Account: £7,087.74

Latitude Ticket Sales Account £24,997.37

Correspondence – None

Planning

a. Applications received: None

b. Decisions received: None

Any Other Business – None.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Website: www.wangfordwithhenham.onesuffolk.net

Next meeting Tuesday 10^h October 2023 at 7.30pm.