

# Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wortham & Burgate Parish Council at Wortham Village Hall on  
Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7.30pm

**Councillors (Cllrs) present:** S Rash ( Chair) J Bradley (Vice Chair) C Williams, C Grocott, M Breen, P Burd, J Piper, B Cole, M Odams

**In Attendance:** County Councillor J Flemming, District Councillor D Kearsley ,4 Members of the public and Netty Verkroost ( Clerk)

1. **To consider accepting apologies for absence** – None
2. **To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting/s:**
  - 2.1 Parish Council Meeting Feb 23rd 2016 – approved
  - 2.2 Commons Committee 7<sup>th</sup> March - approved
3. **To record declarations of Interest from members in any item to be discussed**  
Item 7.1 Cllr Piper – Resident of Howards Close
4. **To consider dispensations from members in any item to be discussed** –None
5. **To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation:** at 7.45pm

## **5.1 To receive reports from District & County Councillors**

### **5.1.1 County Councillor Fleming reported on the following matters:**

**Community Transport** –This will now be managed by MSDC who inform the public who the transport provider is in due course.

**Police Stations**- Many of these have been or will be closed soon as part of a re-organisation of Neighbourhood Policing. Eye Station will remain open and have one member of staff but there will be no counter open to the public. The majority of officers covering this area will work from the Stowmarket Police Station.

**Grass Cutting of Verges** – There will be one cut this year commencing June 6<sup>th</sup> 2016

**Recycling** – The recycling centre at Brome is planned to be open by the end of April. Charges will be made for certain types/quantities of materials.

### **5.1.2 District Councillor Kearsley reported on the following matters:**

**Councils** - Babergh & MSDC are working together as much as possible but keeping their own identities.

**Planning** – Oak Tree Farm, Wortham – this is with the legal team at MSDC

**Recycling** – Brome Recycling Centre soon to be open. A change in charges to be announced.

### **5.1.3 To receive the police report statistics -: None**

All information regarding Safer Neighbourhood Team visit [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk)

### **5.1.4 To invite and receive items from members of the general public –**

**5.1.4.1** A resident of Howards Close reported to the Parish Council that he had not been given the opportunity to attend a planning meeting at MSDC, regarding the application for Affordable Housing at Howards Close. The resident asked Cllr Keasley to explain why this had happened, despite receiving a communication from her stating that the public may have the opportunity to do so. It was explained to the resident that following normal procedure, not all planning applications, where there are objections, come before a planning committee. It is often the case where the Parish Council objects to a planning application, that the application is then approved without further consultation. In this instance, MSDC did not feel that the reasons for opposing the application were robust or numerous enough to call it before the Planning Committee.

6. **To re-convene the meeting** – 8.10pm

7. **To consider, discuss, agree and/or note new planning applications/items:**

7.1 To receive an update on application 3929/15. Erection of 8 No. Affordable housing units consisting of 2 No. Dwellings, 2 No. Bungalows and 4 No. Flats on Land at Howards Close, Wortham. – Permission Granted

7.2 To receive an update on planning issues at Oak Tree Farm, Great Green- With Suffolk Legal Team.

7.3 To receive an update on Erection of a garage at South View, Furze Way, Burgate EN/14/00136 and Adverse Possession Claim. – Case with Suffolk Legal Team. Correspondence from Land registry noted.

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7.4 To receive an update on new application 4226/15. Variation of condition 3 of planning permission 2689/15 “ use of land for the stationing of 23 Holiday Lodges” to permit extended occupation of lodges at Honey Pot Farm, Bury Road, Wortham IP11 1PW – Variation Refused.

8. **To receive the Chairman’s report-** None
9. **To receive the Clerk’s report & o/s actions from last meeting:**  
Funding of £101 from has been secured Salc in the form of a grant. This is to purchase a scanner / printer.  
The returning officer has been contacted regarding the resignations of Cllrs Young, Haywood and King. Official notices regarding the vacancies have been posted in the parish.  
There is an invasive alien plant in a ditch on the Long Green Common. Clerk to investigate how to eradicate.  
The Post Office has issued an incorrect postcode for the Sports Pavilion. Clerk has contacted MSDC and a new code to be provided.  
Gudeons Prentice have been contacted regarding the lease for the tennis courts.
10. **To receive an update on a commons leaflet. – The new design for the leaflet was shown to councillors.** 3 quotes for printing were received from the clerk and the PC approved both the design and to order the leaflets from Vista Print at a cost of £67.78.
11. **To consider, discuss and agree on the purchase of common land from Mr Holt Wilson –** Mr Holt Wilson is to meet with the Clerk to produce a map showing the exact pieces of land offered for sale. A price for the land offered is also to be confirmed to the PC at the next meeting.
12. **To consider and agree on any donations to be made. –** A donation of £100 to be made to the Community Action Group for the production of a welcome pack for new residents of the parishes. A donation of £100 is to be made to East Anglian Air Ambulance
13. **To receive, discuss and approve the end of year accounts for 2015/2016 – approved**
14. **To receive an update from Better Broadband Suffolk-** Jonathan Chown to arrange a visit to Wortham & Burgate as part of a countywide programme to update parishes.
15. **To receive an update on the repairs to the track to the Village Hall Wortham –** 3 quotes have been received. John King to be contacted to liaise with the residents regarding the quotes to establish their preferred contractor.
16. **To receive and discuss items from Committees / Working Groups:**
- 16.1 Playing Field Committee (PFC)- Cllrs Cole and Williams to adjust the tension on the Zip Wire.
- 16.2 Commons Committee –Clerk to contact Natural England re the alien weed in the ditch
- 16.3 Finance Representative - None
- 16.4 Employment Committee – Employment Review has been carried out for Netty Verkroost and Nicola Tacey. It was agreed that the Clerk would be paid according to SCP Band 19 of £9.551 per hour and Nicola Tacey would be paid £8.00 per hour as of April 5<sup>th</sup> 2016.

### 17. Finance

#### 17.1 Accounts Balances as at

17.1.1	Current Account	29/2/2016	£354.28
17.1.2	Reserve Account	31/12/2015	£18312.48
17.1.3	Commons Account	11/3/2016	£4694.99

#### 17.2 Account payments

17.2.1	N Verkroost	Salary April	£316.40
17.2.2	N Verkroost	Expenses March	£143.45
17.2.3	N Tacey	Salary April	£62.83
17.2.4	Wortham Village Hall	Hall Hire Feb & Cleaning 2016	£82.00
17.2.5	Safe & Sound	Moles – Feb 2016 & Aug 2015	£96.00
17.2.6	EON	Electricity	£578.89
17.2.7	Firesite Eastern Ltd	Annual Pavilion Inspection	£102.00
17.2.8	Came & Company	Annual Insurance	£854.09
17.2.9	Wortham Village Hall	PAT Testing	£15.00
17.2.10	Safe & Sound	Moles – March 2016-04-27	£48.00

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All invoices unanimously agreed for payment

### **18. To receive and discuss items / reports from Committees, Groups and Councillors:**

18.1 VHMC – Cllr Piper None

18.2 Rights of Way – Cllrs. Grocott (Wortham) & Williams (Burgate) – Walk Leaflet in Progress. 3 walks so far, the routes to be tested by volunteers

18.3 Councillors – Cllr Bradley reported on the arrangements for the lighting of the Wortham Village Beacon on April 21<sup>st</sup> to celebrate the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Betty Garnham to be invited as the guest of honour since she is also celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 21<sup>st</sup> April. A risk assessment has been carried out. Four councillors volunteered to attend as stewards and Cllr Rash to light the beacon. The Manor House, Wortham has donated £200 for the purchase of fireworks. Clerk to advertise the event by posters and through WOBUL.

**19. Correspondence received** – Telephone call from WLTC regarding the poor state of the track to the Sports Pavilion and the water in the ditch along side the tennis court.

### **20. To Receive items for the next agenda –**

The repairs to the track at Wortham Village Hall

Purchase of Common Land

**21. Date & time of next meeting** May 17th at 7.30pm in Wortham Village Hall Annual Parish Council Meeting.

**Meeting Close – 9.25pm**

*Netty Verkroost*

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