

Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wortham & Burgate Parish Council at Wortham Village Hall on
Tuesday February 23rd 2016 at 7.30pm

Councillors (Cllrs) present: J Bradley (Vice Chair) C Williams, I Haywood, C Grocott, M Breen, P Burd, J Piper, B Cole

In Attendance: 3 Members of the public

1. **To consider accepting apologies for absence** – Cllr Rash – Prior Business Commitment, Cllr King - Family Commitment
2. **To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting/s:**
2.1 Parish Council Meeting Jan 12th 2016 – 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 7.33pm

5.1 To receive reports from District & County Councillors

5.1.1 County Councillor Fleming sent a report on the following matters:

Community Transport – The list of successful tenderers for the new community transport contracts is now published and will begin in June. Aspire Together working with the Royal Voluntary Service will cover the Mid Suffolk and Ipswich area, TVN (The Voluntary Network) will service the Bury area. It is expected that the Rickinghall Botesdale Good Neighbour Scheme run by Gordon Lawrence will continue to serve the local area more or less as it does now.

Police and Crime Precept and Changes - The County Council Police & Crime Panel has approved the Commissioner's proposal to increase the precept by 1.958% in 2016-17. Changes to the Suffolk Police service include extra staff in the rural and cyber crime teams, reduction in community support officers but adding 30 new constables, reduction in public access desks with Ipswich, Bury and Lowestoft retained, and more focus on schools.

Highways – I have met with Josh Kerridge this week and discussed the Wortham 20's Plenty scheme and proposed new layout for the A143. A work order for the traffic island removal is being put in this week. The work will involve a linear ghost island and additional 20's Plenty road markings. A proposal will be sent to the parish council before it is put in place which will be done in summer 2016 along with road surfacing work. It will be done at night with two way light control. Gully cleaning on the A143 Bury Rd, Wortham is booked in w/c 29 February for two weeks.

Green Lanes - if you have noticed abuse of green lanes and by-ways by off-road vehicles please let me know. Dam Lane Mellis (and ? within Burgate) has been particularly over-used this winter.

Gypsy and Traveller Sites – The call for sites has concluded with very few of the sites put forward found suitable upon first review. An additional second stage review is taking place now. At this time there are no plans to put proposed sites out for public consultation.

Great East Swim Open for Entries - Olympic Silver medallist and open water swimming champion, Keri-Anne Payne visited Ipswich to launch the 2016 Great East Swim, back for the eighth year at Alton Water Reservoir on Saturday the 18th June. To enter or get involved please visit greatswim.org/east

5.1.2 District Councillor Kearsley – No Report

5.1.3 To receive the police report statistics -:

Crime Stats: Wortham – 2 cases of antisocial behaviour.

Burgate – No Crimes

A review of the number of Safer Neighbour Teams will take place on April 4th.

All information regarding Safer Neighbourhood Team visit www.suffolk.police.uk

5.2 To invite and receive items from members of the general public –

- 5.2.1 A member of Wortham Football Club asked the PC whether they could return to Wortham and use the Sports Pavilion and Playing Fields. It was agreed that this

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was possible on the condition that the rent of £25 paid per match was paid when due and the facilities were left in good condition after each match. The PC also agreed that outstanding rent of £60 would be written off as a bad debt as the present team did not incur this.

5.2.2 A resident enquired who owned the lane, which runs behind the School House, Wortham. The owner of the track was present at the meeting and to liaise with the resident.

5.2.3 Mr T Holt Wilson reported to the Parish Council on the abuses to common land within the Parishes, especially Little Green, Burgate. He felt it very important that these infractions on Common Land do not go unchallenged and the Parish Council confirmed that these issues are taken very seriously and investigated. It was suggested that Mr Holt Wilson contact Cllr Flemming to discuss the matter further. He is to provide information gained from Open Spaces to the Commons Committee, which he felt, would be useful.

Mr Holt Wilson also informed the PC that he is considering selling the remaining common land in his ownership along with the Lord of the Manor for Wortham & Burgate title. A map confirming the land to be offered will be sent to the clerk and it will be discussed at a future meeting.

6. **To re-convene the meeting – 8.17pm**

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. - No update.

7.2 To receive an update on planning issues at Oak Tree Farm, Great Green- report has been prepared by MSDC Enforcement Team and will be forwarded to 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.

7.4 To consider, discuss and comment 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 – Deferred.

7.5 To consider, discuss and comment on new application 3620/15 Erection of Stable Block at Dinsdale, Mellis Road, Wortham. IP22 1PY- Permission Granted.

7.6 To consider, discuss and comment on new application 4189/15 Removal of existing redundant chimney to west elevation gable at Southmore Cottage, Long Green, Wortham, IP22 1PU – Permission Granted

7.8 To receive an update on Listed Building Consent application 3185/15 and 3184/15. Erection of replacement conservatory to rear & side elevation. Ellesmere House, Church Road, Wortham, IP22 1PT – Permission Granted

8. **To receive the Chairman’s report-** None

9. **To receive the Clerk’s report & o/s actions from last meeting:**

Waterfields have cleared the rainwater drains on the track to the post office in Wortham.

Many thanks to Cllr Jessica Flemming for her donation of £500 and Cllr Diana Kearsley for her donation of £250 towards the cost of repairs to the the Village Hall Track.

Confirmation has been received from MSDC that the Sports Pavilion Wortham has been given discretionary Rates Relief for 2016/17

A letter was sent to Mrs Matthews regarding the planting of a commemorative tree on the common.

The opening of new bank accounts is still ongoing.

10. **To consider, discuss and agree on a request from Wortham Lawn Tennis Club to install a phone line in the Pavilion –** Agreed. WLTC to pay for any costs involved.

11. **To consider and discuss the issue of abuses of common land, including Dog Fouling Signs at the play and the Pavilion.** – Cllr Burd has produced a draft commons leaflet. He invited councillors for their comments and will revise as necessary. Clerk to enquire if any external funding is available for the printing.

12. **To consider and agree on any donations to be made.** – Held over until next meeting.

13. **To review and agree on the annual maintenance contract for grass cutting around the Play Area and the Pavilion –** to be discussed at next Commons Committee meeting,

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14. **To consider, discuss and agree on the Opt in or Opt out of External Audits for Smaller Authorities.** – Agreed to Opt In.

15. **To receive and discuss items from Committees / Working Groups:**

15.1 Playing Field Committee (PFC)- Cllr Haywood & Cllr Odams have cleared the gutters and down pipes at the Wortham Sports Pavilion. The PC agreed that this should be contracted out in the future. Clerk to get quotes.

15.2 Commons Committee – Next Commons Committee Meeting April 7th at 7pm Wortham Sports Pavilion

15.3 Finance Representative - None

15.4 Employment Committee – Employment Review Meeting was held on January 26th for PC Employees. Committee to report at next PC Meeting.

16 **Finance**

16.1 Accounts Balances as at

16.1.1	Current Account	29/1/2016	£229.94
16.1.2	Reserve Account	31/12/2015	£18312.48
16.1.3	Commons Account	14/12/2015	£3508.53

16.2 Account payments

16.2.1	N Verkroost	Salary March	£316.40
16.2.2	N Verkroost	Expenses Jan & Feb	£167.94
16.2.3	N Tacey	Salary March	£62.83
16.2.4	Wortham Village Hall	Hall Hire Jan 2016	£22.00
16.2.5	Safe & Sound	Moles - Nov	£48.00
16.2.6	EON	Electricity	£33.56
16.2.7	MSDC	Annual Playground Inspection	£54.78
16.2.8	Heart Beat Trust	Defib Burgate	£1224.00

All payment unanimously agreed for payment

17 **To receive and discuss items / reports from Committees, Groups and Councillors:**

17.1 VHMC – Cllr Piper None

17.2 Rights of Way – Cllrs. Grocott (Wortham) & Williams (Burgate) – Confirmed that Gislingham has presented a walk for Gislingham Ward. No action to be taken by Wortham & Burgate.

17.3 Councillors – Cllr Bradley reported that Parish Councils are being asked to light their Village Beacon on April 21st to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday. The Wortham Village Beacon was last lit for the Millenium Celebrations .in conjunction with the Dolphin Public House, Wortham. It was agreed that it was a good idea and Cllr Bradley to contact The Manor House (Previously The Dolphin) to confirm if they were interested in a joint project.

Cllr Bradley also reported that there is a Village Litter Pick on March 4th.

18 **Correspondence received** – Letter from Land Registry.

19 **To receive items for the next agenda** - Donations, Better Broadband Update, Purchase of Common Land

Date & time of next meeting April 5th at 7.30pm in Wortham Village Hall

Meeting Close – 9.22pm

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