

Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wortham & Burgate Parish Council at Wortham Village Hall on Tuesday May 17th 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, 5 Members of the public and Netty Verkroost (Clerk)

1. To elect a Chairman & Vice Chairman

Cllr Stephen Rash elected as Chair

Cllr Jacky Bradley elected as Vice Chair

2. To consider accepting apologies for absence - None

3. To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting/s:

Annual Parish Meeting – April 5th- Approved

Parish Council Meeting – April 5th - Approved

4. To record declarations of Interest from members in any item to be discussed – Cllr Cole – Item 14- non-pecuniary interest. School; Governor of Wortham Primary School.

5. To consider dispensations from members in any item to be discussed - None

6. To consider to co-opt councillors to fill 3 vacancies on the Parish Council.

Janice Lloyd and Jacqui Saunderson both of Wortham have been co-opted onto Wortham Parish Council.

7. To appoint the Committees/Sub Committees /Working Groups

Planning Committee:

1.Cllr Cole

2.Cllr Williams

3. Cllr Breen

4. Cllr Burd

5. Cllr Piper

6. Cllr Lloyd

Commons Committee

1. Cllr Grocott

2. Cllr Williams

3. Cllr Cole

4. Cllr Bradley

5. Cllr Odams

Playing Fields Committee

1, Cllr Bradley

2. Cllr Piper

3. Cllr Cole

4. Cllr Odams

5. Cllr Saunderson

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Employment Committee

1. Chair – Cllr Bradley
2. Cllr Breen
3. Cllr Burd

Rights of Way Officers

1. Wortham – Cllr Grocott
2. Burgate – Cllr Williams

Village Hall Committee Representative – Cllr Piper

Finance Representative – Cllr Lloyd

8. To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation: - 7.50pm

8.1. To receive residents questions or comments

A Wortham resident reported to the Parish Council that they were interested in purchasing a piece of Common Land adjacent to their property. The resident confirmed that they had contacted the owner of the Common Land to express their interest.

Mrs Flatman – Head mistress of Wortham Primary School requested that the Parish Council might consider purchasing the Common Land adjacent to the school. The school would like to continue to use the area for car parking at peak times, enabling children to be dropped off and collected in a safe environment. The School are also happy to maintain the area at their cost.

The Parish Council informed both parties that until the owner of the Common Land has established a price for the common Land for sale it cannot proceed.

8.2. To receive reports from District & County Councillors

Cllr Kearsley informed the Parish Council that there is to be a Parish Liaison Meeting on June 9th. Councillors are invited to attend.

Walking Festival – Gislingham PC are looking for support in suggesting Thornham Walks as a walk of interest with good facilities.

Cllr Flemming reported on the following:

The new Community Transport system will be introduced at the District Council offices, Dove Room, Needham Market on Wed. 8th June at 10.30 a.m.

Suffolk Master Composter volunteers will be holding free workshops across Suffolk to help beginners make their own compost. As a thank you for coming, attendees will also get a free home compost bin delivered to their home to launch their composting adventure!

The compost events will be held at the following locations:

- Saturday 18 June 10am-12pm People's Community Garden, Ipswich, IP2 8LJ
- Monday 4 July 3pm-5pm Red Gables Community Centre, Stowmarket, IP14 1BE
- Thursday 14 July 2pm-4pm Southgate Community Centre, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2PJ

8.3. To receive the police statistics - none

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9. **To re-convene the meeting** – 8.14pm
10. **To receive the Chairman’s report-** Cllr Rash gave thanks to Cllr Bradley and her family for all their hard work in connection to the Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations. The lighting of the beacon on May 21st was a great success. The Manor House Pub was thanked for their generous donation of the fireworks.
11. **To receive the Clerk’s report & o/s actions from last meeting: (For information only)**

The Clerk met with Emma Quick of Natural England to look at the alien plant in a ditch on Long Green. Emma advised the Clerk to purchase weevils and introduce them into the ditch. The weevils should eradicate the plant over the summer months.

A bank account has now been opened at HSBC. And the account switch should be complete by the end of May 2016.

The Clerk has contacted MSDC several times regarding a Post Code for the Sports Pavilion. MSDC in turn are waiting for notification from the Post Office.

A revised Tennis Court lease has been received and Gudgeons Prentice Solicitors have been informed of mistakes. A revised lease will be sent to the clerk in the next few weeks.

A scanner /printer has been purchased with the transparency funding secured via SALC.
12. **To consider, agree and/or note new planning applications:**
 - 12.1 To receive an update on Erection of garage at South View, Furze Way, Burgate and agree on a reply to Land Registry regarding adverse possession. – It was agreed that the clerk would send a letter confirming:
 - a. The Parish Council wish to object to the application
 - b. The objection is based on the fact that Adverse Possession cannot be claimed on Common Land through illegal occupation.
 - 12.2 To receive an update on planning issues at Oak Tree Farm, Great Green- case prepared and ready for court.
 - 12.3 To consider and agree on comments to be sent to the Planning Inspectorate regarding an appeal for a variation of condition 3, planning permission for 23 holiday lodges on land at Honey Pot Farm, Bury Road, Wortham – a report was prepared by the planning committee. The Parish Council agreed to send the report to the Planning Inspectorate.
13. **To consider and agree on the contractor to be used to carry out repairs to the track at the village hall.** - It was agreed that Waterfield & sons were to be appointed to carry out the repairs. Clerk to contact Waterfield & Soon ASAP. The owners of properties along the track have agreed to contribute £2000 towards the cost of the repairs.
14. **To consider, discuss and agree on the purchase of common land from Mr Holt Wilson.** - To be held over until more information received at next meeting.
15. **To consider and agree on the appointment of a 3rd signatory for the bank account.** - It was agreed that Cllr Cole would act as a 3rd signatory on the HSBC Bank Account.
16. **To receive and discuss items from Committees / Working Groups: None**
17.
 - 17.1. Playing Field Committee (PFC) – Meeting date to be agreed by the committee.
 - 17.2. Commons Committee - None

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- 17.3. Finance Representative - None
- 17.4. Employment Committee - None

18. Finance

18.1. Accounts Balances (29/04/2016)

18.1.1.	Current Account	£628.26
18.1.2.	Reserve Account	£23556.35
18.1.3.	Commons Account	£4694.99

18.2. Account payments

18.2.1	Netty Verkroost	-	Salary May	£334.25
18.2.2	Netty Verkroost		Expenses April	£231.74
18.2.3	Netty Verkroost		Underpayment of wages	£193.52
18.2.4	N Tacey		Salary May	£64.00
18.2.5	Safe & Sound		Moles March	£48.00
18.2.6	East Anglia Air Ambulance		Donation	£100.00
18.2.7	Community Action Committee		Welcome Pack	£100.00
18.2.8	SALC		Subscription	£345.00
18.2.9	Anglian Chemicals		Cleaning Materials	£21.32

To consider any additional payments prior to meeting.

18.2.10	Wortham Village Hall	Hall Hire	£22.00
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It was agreed that the SALC subscription would be taken out for another year.
All payments unanimously agreed for payment.

19. To receive and discuss items / reports from Committees, Groups and Councillors:

- 19.1. VHMC – None
- 19.2. Rights of Way – Cllr Burd expressed concern regarding blocked and unmarked rights of way. These need to be reported to the appropriate Rights of Way Officer, who will in the first instance contact the landowner. If landowners ignore the request to re instate the right of way this will be reported to the Rights of Way Officer at Suffolk CC.
- 19.3. Councillors - None

20. **Correspondence received** – 2 letters from WLTC. The first regarding the poor state of repair of the Village Hall Track and the second regarding the high level of water in the ditch which runs along the Tennis Court boundary.

A letter of thanks from Betty Garnham thanking the Parish Council for the flowers sent to her on her 90th birthday.

21. **To receive items for the next agenda** – The purchase of Common Land.

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22. **Date & time of next meeting** – 21 June 2016 at 7.30pm in Burgate Village Hall

23. **Meeting Close 9.28pm**

Ammendments:

12.3 remove “to the”

13 Typo ‘son’ now “ sons”

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