

WORTHAM & BURGATE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wortham & Burgate Parish Council at Burgate Hall on Tuesday Sept 12th 2017 at 7.30pm

Councillors (Cllrs) present: S Rash (Chair) J Bradley (Vice Chair) M Odams, C Williams, S Wright, J Lloyd and D Ling

In Attendance: Netty Verkroost (Clerk) and 1 member of the public

1. **To consider accepting apologies for absence** – Cllr Cole , family commitments, Cllrs Breen and Piper prior holiday arrangements.
2. **To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting/s**
PC Meeting June 2017 – Approved
Commons Committee - Approved
Playing Fields Committee - Approved
3. **To record declarations of Interest from members in any item to be Discussed** - None
4. **To consider dispensations from members in any item to be discussed** – None
5. **To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation – 7.32pm**

5.1 To receive reports from District & County Councillors

5.1.1 **Cllr Fleming** report contained the following items:

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Suffolk's New Strategic Priorities – The new Council agreed the following three priorities at its July meeting – Inclusive Growth, Healthcare and Wellbeing, and Efficient and Effective Services. The administration has established relevant cross-party Cabinet Committees to take these initiatives forward into the next 4-year term of council business.

Highways. The new transformation arrangements started this month, Wortham & Burgate will be served from the Rougham centre near Bury. Suffolk Highways will communicate with parishes about details of these changes, there will be a presentation at the next Mid Suffolk Area SALC meeting (21st Sept. in Eye). If needed the Customer Service Centre telephone number 0345 606 6171 is available or preferably please continue to use the websites; please contact me if you have difficulties:–

<http://highwaysreporting.suffok.gov.uk>

School Transport – The County Council's plans to make changes to school transport in response to planned funding reductions will be put out for consultation in October. I urge anyone with school aged children to pay close attention to this consultation as it affects the Thurston CC and Ixworth FS. A final decision would not be made until early 2018 after the consultation results are available. Please contact me if you have concerns about School or Post-16 Discretionary transport changes.

Consultation announced for A12 four village bypass - Suffolk County Council is inviting comment on proposals to build a single lane OR duelled by-pass (or other options) for the 4 villages of Farnham, Stratford St. Andrew, Little Glemham and Marlesford. The consultation starts on September 12th and will run for six weeks until Wednesday 25th October. Full details of the proposals can be viewed at www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations.

5.1.2 **Cllr Kearsley** - None available

5.1.3 **Police Report** - None available

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6. To reconvene the meeting - 7.35pm

7. To receive the Chairman's Report - The chairman attended a meeting in Wortham Village hall regarding Fibre Optic Broadband provision for Wortham and Burgate. The meeting was also attended by Jo Churchill MP and a representative of Better Broadband Suffolk. Work is progressing with the provision of Fibre Optic Broadband for the parish but it cannot be guaranteed that every property will have this service., especially those in an isolated location. A booster station is to be installed at Spiers Hill to aid provision of the service to properties at Magpie Green. It is hoped that the Burgate area will be connected in 2018. Concerns were raised that overhead wires in the area are in poor repair so speeds may not be as high as advertised. For information on the provision of Fibre Optic visit www.betterbroadbandsuffolk.com

8. To receive Clerk's report & o/s actions from last meeting: (For Information only)

The Annual Fire Inspection has been carried out at the Sports Pavilion Wortham and all items checked have passed. Inspection of play area was carried out with PFC along with visits to other play areas to look at equipment for younger children.

Contractors were contacted and quotes requested for works to commons, Winter 2017/18

9. To consider, agree and /or note new planning applications:

9.1 To receive an update on removal of existing garage at South View , Furze Way - Although the garage has been removed the driveway and lighting remain.MSDC Planning Enforcement are taking no further action. Clerk to contact Suffolk Legal Team and Cllr Fleming

9.2 To receive an update on planning issues at Oak Trees Farm, Burgate- MSDC Enforcement Officer has visited the site and MSDC are now in process of progressing an application for an injunction against the owners and occupiers of the site to compel compliance with the Notices.

9.3 New Application- DC/17/04141- Walnut Tree farmhouse, Long Green, Wortham - No comment

10. To receive an update on the purchase of Common land and track from Mr Holt Wilson - Slowly progressing through the solicitor.

11. To consider and agree on a response to Land Registry Application

SK 378183 and SK375501. - There were no objections to these applications

12. To discuss the Neighbourhood Plan Public Event - this is still under consideration.

13. To receive an update on the dumping waste at a property in Burgate- Clerk contacted the Environment Agency who have inspected the site and confirmed that there was no illegal waste dumped at that time.

14.To receive and discuss items from Committees/ Working Groups

14.1 Playing Fields Committee (PFC) - It has been reported that rabbits are again digging up the recreation field making the playing surface of the football pitch hazardous. It was agreed that the rabbit population needed to be controlled by using ferrets. Several councillors confirmed that they would follow up on this with local contacts.

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14.2 Commons Committee - Meeting has been held and Cllr Williams appointed as chair.

14.3 Finance Rep - Meeting was held with the clerk to check the accounts and bank statements and all found to be correct. The recent request for additional information from BDO also discussed and response agreed.

14.4 Employment - Nothing to report

15. Account Balances as at 02/09/2017

15.1.1	Current Account		£1127.04
15.1.2	Reserve Account		£22228.60
15.1.3	Commons Account		£3987.14
15.2			
15.2.1	Netty Verkroost	Salary Sept	£366.34
15.2.2	Netty Verkroost	Expenses August	£86.94
15.2.3	Niki Hinton	Salary August	£17.00
15.2.4	Niki Hinton	Salary Sept	£82.86
15.2.5	Firesite Eastern	Servicing Sports Pavilion	£190.80
15.2.6	EON	Electricity	£152.20
15.2.7	Safe & Sound	Moles - August	£48.00

15.3 Account Receipts- None

16. To receive and discuss items / reports from Committees, Groups and councillors:

16.1 VHMC - None

16.2 Rights of Way - Cllrs Williams & Grocott replaced the wooden post for the Dog Waste Bin adjacent to the Tennis Courts

16.3 Councillors - A request was made for the Clerk to contact highways about the signage of the A143. Although we are to coordinate with the new Service Delivery Centre in Rougham we have not been given details of who the contact would be at this centre. Clerk to follow up.

17. Correspondence received - A resident of Wortham has emailed the clerk regarding potholes appearing in the track past Wortham Village Hall. Clerk to contact Waterfields.

18. To receive items for the next agenda:

Purchase of Common Land

Neighbourhood Plan Event

19. Date & Time of next Meeting : Oct 24th at 7.30pm Burgate Hall
Meeting Closed at 8.20pm

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