
Wentworth Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held 27th January 2020

Present Cllr E. Atkins,
Cllr D Lee (Chairman),
Cllr L. Sargeant
Cllr B Ashdown
Cllr D Edwards
1 Parishioners

Locum Clerk: Diane Bayliss

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

3. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A request was received from a parishioner asking if she could place a bird box on a tree at the junction of Main Street and Church Road. The councillors had no objection if the box does not cause an obstruction to the visibility splay, and so long as there is no objection from the Highways Department.

4. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 16th DECEMBER 2019

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th December are approved and signed by the chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING/REPORTS FROM CLERK AND OR COUNCILLORS

None.

6. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

It was **proposed** by the Chairman that this item should be brought forward.

It was proposed by Councillor Atkin, seconded by Councillor Sargeant and resolved that Mrs Belinda Ashdown is co-opted to the council.

Both Mrs Belinda Ashdown and Mrs Diane Edwards signed their declaration of acceptance of office in the presence of the clerk.

7. PARISH CLERK'S VACANCY

The advert for the clerk's vacancy was discussed by the councillors, and it was agreed to advertise the post at a minimum of four hours per week with the pay scale in the LC1 range, according to experience and qualifications.

Action: Locum clerk to submit advert to CAPALC.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

The report from the County Councillor had been circulated by email and was acknowledged by councillors.

9. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

The report from the District Councillor had been circulated by email and was acknowledged by councillors.

10. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a. Councillor Ashdown had been concerned about the number of vehicles parking on a verge along Main Street. The issue had been reported to Highways and a reply had been received stating that they did not have the finances to reinstate the verges. They suggested that the matter could be reported to the police as anti-social behaviour. Councillor Ashdown had contacted the letting agent who had

visited the property and spoken to the residents who had blamed the traffic entering and leaving the building site over the road for the condition of the road.

It was resolved that the council should write letters to the letting agent and to Highways, making an official complaint about the state of the verge due to the parking of a large number of vehicles causing other vehicles to mount the verge on the other side of the road.

Action: Locum Clerk to write a letter to the letting agent and to the Highways Department. Mr Chris Swallow, David Burr Estate Agents, Bury St. Edmunds.

11. PLAY AREA AND CHURCHYARD MATTERS

Councillor Ashdown reported that there have been several incidents of dog-fouling in the churchyard. It was **resolved** that a flyer should be distributed around the village.

Action: Councillor Sargeant to prepare a flyer.

12. PLANNING MATTERS

a. Planning applications

19/01713/FUL Mandalay Church Road, Wentworth, Increase in roof height and first floor extension, installation of gates and associated works. **There were no comments on this proposal.**

20/00079/OUT Corner Bays Ely Road, Witcham Toll, Ely. Outline application for single storey 3 bed dwelling. **There were no comments on this proposal.**

19/01720/FUL Land on the North Side of Grunty Fen. Change of use of the land to Gypsy and Traveller residential use with the siting of one touring caravan and the provision of a dayroom/utility block, hard-standing and a widened access. **This application is not in Wentworth Parish**

b. Planning Notifications

19/01444/VAR Land Adjacent to 2 Main Street, Wentworth. To vary conditions of previously approved 18/00965/FUL for construction of 5-bedroom two storey dwelling with double garage.

13. STREET LIGHTING UPDATE

- a. The UMS certificate has not yet been received from UK Power Networks. Once this has been received the clerk will seek quotations from 3 electricity suppliers.

A correspondence had been received from the County Council asking about progress on this matter; the clerk will send them an email explaining the current situation.

It was proposed by Councillor Lee, seconded by Councillor Sargeant and resolved that the council delegate the decision on which quotation to accept to the clerk in conjunction with the chair and councillor Sargeant

Action: Clerk to obtain quotations and write to the County Council.

14. FINANCIAL MATTERS INCLUDING PAYMENT OF OUSTANDING ACCOUNTS

- a. **It was proposed by Councillor Lee, seconded by Councillor Ashdown and resolved** that the bank reconciliation is approved.
- b. A decision on transferring bank accounts to Unity Trust was deferred until the next meeting by when it is hoped a new clerk will be in place.
- c. A decision on obtaining an optimum cash card was deferred until the next meeting by when it is hoped a new clerk will be in place.
- d. **It was proposed by Councillor Atkin, seconded by Councillor Ashdown and resolved** that the December payments are approved and paid.

Payments		Net	VAT	Total
Mr G Lowes	Website	£19.98	£4.00	£23.98
Mrs A Lowes	Microsoft Package	£105.37	£0.00	£105.37
Mrs Sandra Thompson	Gross Salary and Holiday Pay			£903.39
Red Shoes Accounting	Run Payroll	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
Mrs Diane Bayliss	Clerks Expenses	£16.00	£0.00	£16.00

Action: Clerk to make payments

15. TRAINING EVENTS

None of the new councillors are available to attend the new councillor training day in February or March.

Action: Locum Clerk to advise councillors of training dates when they become available.

None of the councillors are available to attend the East Cambs Parish Council Conference 2nd March 2020.

16. CORRESPONDENCE MATTERS

Councillor Sargeant agreed to be the 'dropbox' for responses to the ECDC Consultation about bus, cycle and walking Routes in East Cambridgeshire.

There was no response to the letter from Little Downham Parish Council about the Great Ouse Tidal River System and Strategy Ouse Washes: Section 10 as the councillors agreed it did not apply to Wentworth.

17. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Councillors to contact the clerk with any matters for inclusion on the next agenda.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

TBA March/April 2020

Meeting Closed at 9.08pm

Signed..... Dated.....