

WORLINGWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

All Councillors are reminded of their obligations under the Code of Conduct Regulations.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 17th April 2019 at the Community Centre.

| | | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Attendance | Brian Smallcombe (Chair) (BS) | Carol Garrett (CG) | Jackie Quinton (JQ) |
| | Juliet Pierce (Vice-Chair) (JP) | Andrew Nunn (AN) | Richard Quinton (RQ) |
| | Michael Howard (MHo) | Adrian Smith (AS) | Victoria Alexander (VA) |

Public present at the meeting: 1

Public Contributions

None

WPC 19-04-01 Update from County & District Councillor

The County Councillor's April & Annual Reports had previously been circulated to the Council and has also been posted on the village website www.worlingworth.onesuffolk.net and on the Parish Noticeboard.

WPC 19-04-02 Apologies for Absence

There were none.

WPC 19-04-03 Declaration of Interests

JQ and RQ declared interest in item WPC 19-04-08 a) i) as the householders of the property concerned.

VA declared interest in item WPC 19-04-08 a) iii) as the householder of the property concerned.

WPC 19-03-04 Minutes of previous meetings

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th March 2019 as a true and accurate record, were proposed by JP, seconded by CG and **WERE SO RESOLVED**. The Minutes were signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

WPC 19-03-05 Matters Arising and Action Points

- 5.1 Newsletter item – highlight the online reporting tool can be used for footpath issues as well as road problems. DISCHARGED – It was agreed to run this item again in the next newsletter as it had been foreshortened during editing.
- 5.2 Re-organise village noticeboard to have two sections for Parish Council notices. DISCHARGED
- 5.3 Organiser a professional sign to explain significance of the Worlingworth Celebrates Montage and arrange for the names of those included in the montage to be passed in confidence to the Village Recorder for archival purposes and obtain quotes for cost of work. DISCHARGED
- 5.4 Liaise with volunteers regarding the preparation and repainting of the main noticeboard, with all materials being provided by the Parish Council – awaiting better weather. ONGOING – It was agreed to double-check with White Cottage site contractor that the noticeboard is in the final place, as concerns had been raised about whether it was now right in front of the newly built house, also BS will look into the cost of refurbishing the corkboard and report back at the next meeting.
- 5.5 Buy new display boards for Parish Council. DISCHARGED
- 5.6 Contact website hosting to see if there is any method of setting up a system that automatically notifies subscribers to updates. DISCHARGED, unfortunately this is not possible.
- 5.7 Contact Environmental Health at Mid Suffolk District Council or the Environment Agency to enquire about the use of land for washing out spraying equipment. To be discussed later in meeting.
- 5.8 Contact Nick Cooke about the Water Lane Roadside Nature Reserve Signage and copy in Matthew Hicks to arrange for funding to be released from the locality budget. ONGOING – At the moment temporary signs have been put in place by Nick Cooke and CG has made contact with the team who look after Roadside Nature Reserves at the District Council.

- 5.9 Annual Parish Meeting preparations – Newsletter items/Annual Report/Village Organisation Reports /Refreshments/ Display Boards. DISCHARGED
- 5.10 Contact District Councillor to request funds from Locality Budget towards the cost of the kissing gate installation. ONGOING – due to the election moratorium period the Locality Budget is closed for applications until 2nd May.
- 5.11 Newsletter item – highlight installation of defibrillator. DISCHARGED
- 5.12 Arrange to publicise defibrillator awareness/first aid training (including making contact with local newspapers). To be discussed later in meeting.
- 5.13 Liaise with parishioner about tree planting near the site at Home Farm, Newtown. ONGOING
- 5.14 Arrange for a memorial plaque to the Sappers who lost their lives alongside PC Whiting. DISCHARGED, AS reported that the plaque is due to be delivered in the next few days, he has also applied a coat of Sadolin to the fencing and weed-killed the area, so that the memorial can be seen from the road.
- 5.15 Publicise Village Spring Clean in all available ways. DISCHARGED
- 5.16 Contact Christmas Carol on Tour team and explain Council's decision. DISCHARGED
- 5.17 Arrange to report to What's On in Worlingworth on a quarterly basis. DISCHARGED
- 5.18 To distribute payments as detailed on March 2019 Payment Schedule. DISCHARGED
- 5.19 To arrange return of Direct Debit mandate for the Data Protection registration. DISCHARGED
- 5.20 Provide response to the Planning Department for DC/169/00272. DISCHARGED
- 5.21 Newsletter item – police email contact information. DISCHARGED

WPC 19-04-06 Parish Council Activities

- a) Response to Babergh & Mid Suffolk Joint Area Parking Plan – BS opened discussion, it was agreed that the parking plan was not relevant to Worlingworth at the moment, although there may be issues in the future with new developments that have taken place in the village.
- b) Policy for Tree Warden – VA asked that the Council consider adopting a formal policy of how to spend the money that has been allocated to the tree planting scheme. The original plan was just to get people to plant a tree to improve the local area, but recent developments have seen the possibility of larger scale involvement. VA drew particular attention to the re-routing of the footpath at the chicken farm in Newtown, that is being carried out formally through Suffolk County Council to ensure the right of way is protected. VA has been in discussion with the contractor and they are keen to see new trees planted on the site, but it is unclear exactly how much will be required and questions were asked about how much the Parish Council should contribute. VA will draw up a list of costs for this site and another at Stanway Green Farm along with a draft policy for consideration by the Council at the May meeting.
- c) Response from MSDC about spraying-off fields – VA has spoken to the Environment Agency and shared parishioner's concerns. The Environment Agency have spoken to the landowner, who has stated that the area is being sprayed off in preparation for a wildflower meadow, this is part of a Countryside Stewardship Grant. VA will monitor the situation and report back to the Parish Council if necessary.
- d) Defibrillator Awareness Training/First Aid Course Update – RQ reported that Red Cross are only ones that were willing to come out to Worlingworth and had received a quote of £700. The Council agreed that this seemed a bit high. RQ reported that he is waiting to hear back from Community Heartbeat Trust regarding the Awareness Training and will see if they can also offer First Aid training. If not then RQ will make contact with First Responders in area to see if any could offer training instead.
- e) ACV Status of The Swan – The Clerk had received notification that unless the Parish Council applied to extend the Asset of Community Value Status for The Swan, the protected status will expire on 16th June 2019. Advice from the Communities Officer at the District Council was that unless The Swan was actively in use as a pub it was unlikely that a re-application would be successful, however, the normal planning restrictions regarding change of use would still apply to the property.

After discussion JP proposed that the Parish Council re-apply for ACV Status for The Swan, JQ seconded and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. JP will liaise with the Save Our Swan group to progress the application. The Clerk will forward the link for the application to JP, along with files from the previous application process.

- f) Improving Parish Council involvement with Young People – BS opened the discussion asking for thoughts from all about ways to engage young people.

It is clear that parishioners would like to see a return of the Youth Club, but it was disbanded due to the lack of volunteers who were willing to come forward, a similar situation had occurred with the Football Club. Home-Start run play sessions within the village which engages pre-schoolers and children up to the end of Primary School age, but the high school age range had no such facility within the village. Replies received from the What Worlingworth Wants survey indicated that older children either go to the local Baptist Church for youth club related activities, or link up with online activities.

The play area at the Community Centre is well used, but JQ stated that older children feel that the equipment is aimed at the younger age group. Older children have indicated that they would like a round-about, so that they can sit and chat, another suggestion had been to have outdoor gym equipment installed. As the play area is maintained by the Community Centre Committee this would have to be put forward to them for consideration.

The Parish Council does have a link with the Primary School, but many parents are unaware of this, so JQ will make extra effort to engage with parents and try to find out what they would like to see in the village, whilst as VA will assist JQ to raise awareness of Parish Council links through the contact VA already has with governors at the school. At present, however, there is no such link with the High School and it is this age range that is difficult to connect with. AN asked if there was information available on how many 11-18 year olds are actually living in the village, stating that it is difficult to know what they may want to see as facilities as this age group often have little 'free' time after returning from high school or college and completing homework.

CG believed that the age group that really need to be engaged by the Parish Council was the broader age range of 16-30 as this group had failed to respond in any significant numbers to the What Worlingworth Wants survey. The issue of engaging young people is a recurring theme that has been discussed at Parish Council level on a number of occasions over the years and without actually getting feedback from the people concerned it was virtually impossible to move forwards, young people need to come up with the ideas as they are generally resistant to having ideas imposed upon them.

The Parish Council had recently run a piece in the village newsletter asking for people to come forward with ideas for activities, with funding available to help new groups get up and running. This had garnered little response, but could be done again, in the meantime CG and VA will work on getting something together for the Parish Council stall at the village fete to encourage more of the target age group to come forward with what they would like to see provided in the village.

WPC 19-04-07 Finance

- a) To review the Financial Statement for the month - The Clerk had previously circulated the Financial Statement for April, there were no queries.
- b) To approve CIL Statements for 17/18 and 18/19 for submission – The Clerk explained that pro-forma statements had been prepared for Parish Council's to submit due to low submission rates during the first year of localised CIL payments, therefore two statements were required for this year. The recommendation from the District Council is that CIL monies are kept ring-fenced in reserves to allow for easy reconciliation in future years. The statement for 17/18 was proposed by RQ, seconded by VA and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The statement for 18/19 was proposed by CG, seconded by JP and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The Chair and Clerk signed both statements and the Clerk will arrange for submission. Newsletter item.
- c) To consider applications for funding - None had been received
- d) To agree payments as detailed on the Payment Schedule
JP proposed authorisation, CG seconded and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The Clerk will issue cheques accordingly.

WPC 19-04-08 Planning

- a) To consider planning applications that had been submitted since the last meeting:
i) DC/09/01175 – Change of use of amenity land to garden for the enjoyment of annexed residential curtilage at 2 Jessop Close, Worlingworth.

Councillors had all studied the application in advance of the meeting. After discussion it was decided to submit **NO COMMENT** to the application as the Council believe

- ii) DC/19/01663 – EIA Scoping Opinion for 12 proposed poultry sheds, land to the East of Woodlane Road, Southolt.

Councillors had all studied the application in advance of the meeting. Following a query from the Clerk about why Worlingworth Parish Council had been requested to comment on this matter, the District Council had explained that as the application is sited near the boundaries of several Parish's (Redlingfield, Athelington and Worlingworth) all neighbouring parishes were being consulted in addition to Southolt out of courtesy, but there is no obligation to comment if the Parish Council feel it to be unnecessary. After discussion it was decided to submit **AN OBJECTION** to the proposal, based on the following points:

- 1) The roads around the proposed site are very narrow and not suitable for heavy vehicles to use in the numbers and frequency that would be required by such a unit.
- 2) The proposed 5 am start for working times would have a severe impact on the well-being of local residents, as we already have a poultry unit working within our parish it is noted that the agreed working times are often exceeded, starting earlier and finishing later than supposed to, so there is no reason to believe that this would not occur at another similar, but much larger, site.
- 3) The 'low risk of flooding' stated within the application is disputed, as local residents are aware that flooding is a regular problem around the proposed site.
- 4) The odour and noise generated by such an industrialised unit would again severely impact the well-being of local residents. Using the existing poultry unit in our parish as an example, there is often unpleasant odours emanating from the site, which is smaller than that proposed in the application, cleaning is also a very noisy process and during hot spells fans run 24 hours a day, which causes constant noise pollution.
- 5) A large industrialised unit of this nature is completely out of keeping with the quiet rural setting and would undoubtedly have a negative impact on local wildlife.

- iii) DC/19/01512 & 01513 – Reinstatement of First Floor Window (and attendant listed building consent) for Barn Meadow Farm, Swan Road, Worlingworth.

Councillors had all studied the application in advance of the meeting. After discussion it was decided to submit **NO COMMENT** to the application as the Council believe

- b) Updates and Outcomes on previous planning applications:
None to report

WPC 19-04-09 Feedback from External Meetings & Additional Reports

BS reported that at a recent Community Centre meeting the issue of planning for the annual bonfire and fireworks night had been raised. The Community Centre Committee have been quoted around £600 for insurance to cover the one night, due to new regulations about the vicinity of thatched properties and the risk of fireworks landing in other people's gardens. The Parish Council want to support the event where possible and would await to see if the Community Centre Committee submit an application for funding.

WPC 19-04-10 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council

MHo raised the issue of parking outside the White Cottage site, with contractors parking on the road again. The Clerk will make contact with the contractor to remind workers about the availability of parking at the Community Centre.

WPC 19-04-11 Items for the May Agenda

- Co-option to fill upcoming vacancies on Council
- To approve the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements for 2018-2019
- Review of Parish Council Website
- Revisit Action Plan for Worlingworth Survey

There being no further business requiring the attention of the Parish Council, the meeting was closed at 9.16pm. The next meeting is set for **Wednesday 15th April 2019** at 7.30 pm at the Community Centre.

Sarah Clare
Parish Clerk

Brian Smallcombe
Chair