

GREAT & LITTLE WHELNETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at Community Centre on 13th September 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present

Cllrs Peter Royce (Chairman) PR
 June Attwood JA
 Terry Clements Borough Councillor TC
 Karen Soons County Councillor KS
 Diane Everitt Parish Clerk DE
 Others - 1 member of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Kath Parkin KP Head Teacher
 Howard Singh
 Stephen Smith
 Tonie Armstrong
 Clifford Dive (resignation received)
 Tim Webber

Meeting not quorate

2. Public Question time.

A member of the public raised the issue of the overgrown footpath on the A134, this was also raised at the last meeting in July. It has been reported to the County Council who say they are only responsible for the verges not the overhanging trees and shrubs. This is the responsibility of the land owners. Both the Chairman and Clerk have also reported this issue. There has not been any reply from the County Council as to who owns this land.

3. County Councillor report – Karen Soons

Report filed with minutes, this included details of the route for the recent Tour of Britain Cycle race. Also, the continued rise in the number of GCSE and A Level passes in the County. The County Council are also trying to cut back to statutory obligations around school transport, as previously they have supplied a more comprehensive service. This is proving controversial. There was also an update re the energy efficiency grants for local businesses in Suffolk. KS is due to go out with Anthony Smith Community Engineer Suffolk County Council to view potholes/verge deterioration around Stanningfield, Nowton and Whelnetham later in the week, and will pass any details back.

Chairman's Report – Peter Royce

There are parking issues at the School again now that the new term has started. A meeting has been held between the School and County Council, this did not include the Parish Council. PR has also provided the School with a booklet re advice and legal issues for parents, to try and address the issues. The buffer zone signs re not currently in place as requested by TC.

Borough Councillor report – Terry Clements

TC updated the PC re the above-mentioned buffer zone signs for the school, which he had arranged before he stood down from the County Council, but are not currently in place yet. There is due to

be a planning committee decision on the new waste hub for West Suffolk on Thursday 21st September. There is some controversy around this application. The proposed fundraising event for his Mayoral year which was due to be held in the village has been postponed, due to people not being able to make the date. He has been visiting various schools during his year and he also gave an update on his mental health involvement.

4. Minutes of previous meeting dated 12th July 2017 to be agreed (any matters arising to be discussed during course of meeting)

Minutes from previous meeting not agreed as not quorate, to be carried over to next meeting 8th November 2017. **Meeting not Quorate**

5. Declarations of interest. None

6. Police Matters

Sgt Anna Whybro attended meeting and gave an update on local Policing policies. Due to all the PC's Annual meetings being within the space of a couple of weeks they are not able to attend all, but will attend other meetings during the year. She gave details of the crimes recorded during the year. There was only 1 burglary dwelling, vehicle tampering/crime was the most common offence with some common assault/domestic violence issues. In general, this is a low crime area, which is reflected in the figures. Parking on pavements in Raynsford Road and at the School were discussed, these are issues that affect many Villages

7. Updates

7.1 Planning – DC/17/1618/HH 25 St Thomas's Way Porch to front elevation, no concerns. The Parish Council receives monthly updates re the Erskine Lodge development, these are displayed around the village. There were no further updates on Fenton Farm.

7.2 Gt Whelnetham School and Parking - KP Head Teacher not at meeting. Email update received. A nominated School Governor Rob Ireland has offered to have a separate committee to deal with parking and road issues so that KP can concentrate on moving the school forward. In the future, he could attend Parish meetings with KP for updates.

7.3 Railway line – The current rules to be observed by all users need to be updated as they go back to 1983. Councillors have been emailed with these and asked for thoughts around any updates. Contact has been made by a house owner asking to put a gate at rear of garden leading on to the railway line. Several houses have already done this so president been set.

7.4 Transport and VAS Speed signs – No update as SS not at meeting.

7.5 Lights Tutelina Road – There was an issue with one light in Tutelina Road as this was now shining directly into one house, this has now been sorted out.

7.6 Proposal to avoid double election costs – Currently with NALC, and was raised at SALC AGM by HS on 14th November 2016. There is no update.

7.7 Playground report/fence, playground equipment replacement seats and maintenance – The latest Playground report has been circulated to all Councillors; there is nothing outstanding and it is

minimal risk. It has been noted that the fence is in a poor state and the gates do not close properly. Catalogues have been obtained to source possible new equipment.

7.8 Improving Local Communities – TA not at meeting.

7.9 Membership update, co-option of additional Councillors – Clifford Dive has resigned as Councillor.

7.10 Battle Over Beacon – TA not at meeting.

8. Correspondence

Thankyou letters received from both churches for the £150.00 donations sent. Letter re heating oil club, this to be taken to next meeting.

9. For Consideration

9.1 Budgeting ideas for 18/19 – For Parish Councillors consideration- **meeting not quorate.**

9.2 Councillor training programme dates – Date set 14th of October 2017 starting 9.30. Other Parish Councils have been invited. A nominal charge of £20.00 to be charged for visitors.

9.3 Possible crossing by Post Office where buses stop also the extension of the layby outside the Post Office – PR put this forward for discussion

10. Finance

10.1 Payments since last meeting and bank reconciliations- As attached on bi monthly accounts. Balances current account £14893.16 Instant Access account £1133.57 total in bank £16026.73 less cheques to be presented as below £193.99.

Meeting not quorate

10.2 Payments for approval- Clerk £85.99 expenses, Ensors Accountants £108.00.

10.3 Review of Financial Regulations and current Standing Orders – Copies have been given to all Councillors.

10.4 Complete Bank Mandate for change of signatory due to resignation – PR to be added as signatory on the account with HS and SS.

11. Any other Business

None

Meeting finished 9.15pm

Next meeting 08th November 2017 at 7.30pm

Signed Chairman Date