

WIMBOTSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8th September 2020 at 7.00pm, held remotely via Zoom.

In Attendance: Councillors: Ian Cable (Chair), Simon Bates, Dean Chilvers, Anne Smith
Frances Rayner (Alive West Norfolk) Clerk – Pippa Winson

40/20 To consider apologies for absence.

Apologies received from J Squires, S Mingay, D Fendley, Borough Cllrs C Rose & V Spikings.

41/20 To Consider Requests for Dispensations from the restriction on participating in the discussion or voting on a matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.

No dispensation requests.

42/20 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 28th July 2020.

Having been circulated prior to the meeting and amended, the minutes were agreed, and to be signed, as a true and accurate record by all present at the meeting.

43/20 To record Councillors' declarations of interest on Agenda Items.

None.

44/20 Public Speaking.

- (i) Borough Councillors Report. Colin Rose sent an email update: Tall trees cutting out light and non-agreement by neighbours. If you are not aware the BC can act on such for a fee of £150, this is the lowest in Norfolk. Records and photos regarding such should be sent after contacting the BC and paying the fee. This fee is supposed to stop spurious complaints but in all the instances I have come across it involve pensioners or the disabled who have also faced abuse, intimidation or cannot afford the fee. Alexa Baker the current Monitoring Officer and a local government solicitor from Eastlaw has agreed that it would be something to bring up to one of our panels so that the Cabinet can reconsider their 2005 decision and exclude the above. There are currently no exclusions. The BCKLWN has yesterday looked into to Standing orders at CPP, prior to going to Cabinet. One unresolved question was should an unelected Chief Executive take decisions in an emergency? Also presented to CPP was the right to consider planning applications just out of the agreed boundaries if they would fit in, especially for self-build and smaller developments. BC's readiness to support Custom and Self build that is being looked at by the C&SB task group.

- (i) No members of public present.

45/20 Community Development

Frances Rayner from Alive West Norfolk introduced herself. She said that things are slow at the moment due to Covid. She lives in Downham Market so is local and is familiar with the village. She said that this is a brand-new role and she has been in the post for the last 8 weeks. It is a stand-alone role and is all about getting people more active. A survey conducted 18 months ago indicated that 60% of adults do 150 minutes of exercise a week, which is the recommended amount. This means that 40% are not doing it. The aim is to get people moving rather than taking part in strenuous exercise. The role encompasses all groups and as an example she said that she had been at a care home today, but has also looked at children and their outdoor play. There has been an increase in ASB and long-term action is required in respect of the youth groups. She said that she is aware of Wimbotsham Recreation Ground and was advised that there are not specific activities there. The Village Hall holds yoga, dance-fit, keep fit, short mat bowls, tai chi and zumba dance. The PC occasionally organise a village walk. She said that it would be useful to have someone in the village as a designated Village Sports Co-ordinator. There is a campaign to recruit them and there is a £300 payment available per year. If no-one wants to take on the role then they could be a representative instead. It was suggested that an article is written for the next newsletter. September 23rd is National Fitness Day. It was felt that not enough time to arrange an event. A walk is planned so this will be on the next agenda.

46/20 Matters arising for items not covered elsewhere on the agenda – info only.

None.

47/20 New Village Hall Working Group

A Smith advised not much of an update. The architects have contacted the Church and the Recreation Ground Trustees, so they have all the information that they need now. They are waiting for the final report and a feedback form has been received so the group will meet to discuss.

48/20 Correspondence

Clerk & Councils Direct

Email received regarding noise from The Chequers when they have music on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 9pm. S Bates have raised concerns with them but it does not appear that they have done anything. Others said that it was audible elsewhere in the village. It was suggested that the matter should be referred to the Borough Council as they would investigate whether there is a Statutory Nuisance and also whether there was any breach of their licence. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the pub in respect of the noise complaints and to ask them to be mindful of neighbours. It was advised that this has been an issue for some months. It was also mentioned that customers are parking on the small village green, so this will also be mentioned.

Various – by email

49/20 Highways

a Update and Issues to be reported

Footpath to the A10 needs cutting back and edging.

Public footpath sign leading to the allotments has fallen over.

b Parish Partnership Scheme

Volunteers are needed to be trained on the new SAM2. Article can be put in the next newsletter.

Suggested locations which need to be agreed with the Local Highway Officer are West Way, as you go out of the village and near the shop, and opposite Turners Close on Church Road.

50/20 Wildflower Planting

The BC have done service checks and have advised that Turners Close and Chapel Lane grassed areas are owned by the Borough, so are suitable to cultivate. They have requested that the Parish Council email them for permission to cultivate giving proposed sizes, dimensions and diagrams of areas proposed to cultivate. It was suggested that this could be looked at on planned walk. S Mingay had suggested some areas at the Recreation Ground and it had previously been agreed that the small Village Green would be suitable. Once areas have been identified, as well as consent from the Borough Council, seed costs and the costs of works to prepare the soil and plant also need to be identified and agreed.

51/20 Parish Boundary Walk

D Chilvers agreed to email round some proposed dates to agree a date.

52/20 Representatives Reports – to receive any updates.

Recreation Ground – S Bates advised that he had cut some of the Willows.

Village Hall – Most groups are now back. Risk assessments need to be completed by users.

Village Green – Some cars parking on the small village green.

Footpaths – All look ok. PROW between Tinkers Lane and Millers Lane should have been cut by NCC in July but it was missed so they are chasing up their contractor. Trods need siding out, to be added to the Rangers list. If they can't do it then Holly Landscapes to be asked. Agreed that a letter to be sent to Holly Landscapes thanking them for the footpath maintenance.

100-Acre Trust – No update.

Allotments – Nothing to report. I Cable advised that they look good and productive.

53/20 Maintenance

Fingerpost sign on the small village green needs scraping and re-painting, Rangers to be asked to do this. At the end of the small village green, the wires have foliage overhanging, believed to be responsibility of UK Power Networks, D Chilvers will email clerk with photos. Request received from a group wishing to restore the bench on the village green and place a memorial plaque on it dedicated to their friend Stewart Willis. All agreed to accept their proposal. I Cable will contact J Squires and arrange a date for the walkaround in the next few weeks.

54/20 Newsletter

Nothing to report. Will be out in the next few weeks.

55/20 Planning

No applications to discuss.

56/20 Finance

(a) The following payments were agreed at tonight's meeting:

Lady Rose Hare (Allotment Rent) - £830.00, Holly Landscapes (July & August Maintenance) - £438.68 x 2, Glasdon (Replacement Bin Liner) - £62.47.

(b) Accounts to 31st August 2020 agreed and to be signed.

(c) Internal Auditors Report reviewed and recommendations agreed.

57/20 Councillors concerns and items for next meeting agenda.

Complaint received regarding the removal of the noticeboard; it was suggested that this is reviewed on the walkaround.

58/20 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 27th October 2020 starting at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.07pm.

Chairman:

Date

DRAFT