

WANGFORD WITH HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8 January 2008 at Wangford Community Centre

PRESENT:

In the Chair	Cllr P Hayes				
Councillors	Cllr N Bryson	Cllr P Blades	Cllr S Farrands	Cllr I Godbold	
	Cllr R Miller	Cllr S Smith	Cllr G Rush	Cllr M Ryland	Cllr M Tait
Clerk	Mrs M Clark				
	County/District Councillor W Mawer				
	Lynne Lodge, Deputy Chief Executive of SALC				
	One member of the public				

1. **OPENING** – the Meeting opened at 20.00 hours. Action
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – none declared
3. **APOLOGIES** – none.

The meeting was addressed by Lynne Lodge, Deputy Chief Executive of SALC. She explained the background to applying for Quality Council Status. She said obtaining accreditation demonstrates that high standards and expectations of a Parish Council have been achieved. The benefits are that the community can see the Parish Council is acting correctly and District and County Councils have confidence in the level of its performance. Quality Status requires a qualified clerk, good communication with the electorate and financial accountability. A Code of Conduct must be adopted. A fee is payable for application and a portfolio of evidence must be submitted. The qualification lasts for four years. Suffolk has its own accreditation panel; there are currently 10 Quality Councils in the County. Chairman Cllr Hayes thanked Mrs Lodge for her advice and for coming to the meeting.

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT - Cllr Mawer said Waveney District Council is currently being examined by an Audit Commission team who will be there until the end of March. There are four areas under scrutiny - planning, asset management, performance and customer service. A Change and Improvement Team is identifying problems; there are already improvements in communications with the introduction of an enquiry call centre. There have been changes in senior management; Deborah Cadman has been appointed interim Chief Executive. WDC's Core Strategy document is to be signed off on 25 February, Site Specific Allocations will be submitted in October/November. Cllr Mawer gave details of future closing times of the Bascule Bridge in Lowestoft. On 24 January the Waveney Prospectus will be launched at the Cut, Halesworth, when the regeneration plan will be presented. The Blyth Estuary Strategy is still being challenged; the consultation period has been extended to 31 January. A consultation with stakeholders on the School Organisation Review will shortly take place. There will be a public consultation in September with changes implemented in 2012.

4. **MINUTES** – It was proposed by Cllr Bryson seconded by Cllr Farrands and agreed by all that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2007 be signed as a true record of that meeting.
5. **REPORTS**
 - a. **Memorial for WW2 pilots** – Cllr Rush put forward the name of an alternative builder to construct the plinth.

- b. **Bus Shelter in Church Street** – nothing to report. Action
- c. **Housing survey** – Cllr Farrands said she had been in contact with Nigel Brett of Suffolk ACRE and a meeting will be arranged in the near future.
- d. **Repairs to playground** – replacement steps to the slide are still to be fitted. A verbal quotation had been received from G & G Fencing to supply and fit self closing mechanisms to the three gates in the play area for the sum of £220.00 + VAT per gate. Section 106 money can be used to pay for this work; there is currently £2570.12 in the fund. Chairman Cllr Hayes proposed the work should be carried out, Cllr Ryland seconded his proposal and the meeting agreed.
- e. **Installation of gate in playground fencing** – the gate has been fitted.
- f. **Lights in multi-games area** – Chairman Cllr Hayes and Cllr Godbold had attempted to adjust the lights but the wind had been too strong. Final adjustments will be made as soon as possible.
- g. **Parking in High Street** - Jason Skilton of the Highway, Safety and Improvement Team, Suffolk County Council, had submitted a bid to the Quality of Life fund to pay for provision of parking bays in the High Street. The bid was unsuccessful. Mr & Mrs Powell to be informed. Clerk
- h. **Waveney Community Forum** – Martyn Burnside of the Waveney Community Forum hopes to speak to the Parish Council at February's meeting regarding the invitation to join Rural Community Partnership

6. **FINANCE** - three-quarterly accounts for year 2007/08 were accepted.

a. **Expenditure**

Cleaner	£40.00
Clerk's salary and expenses	£131.21
Donation to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service	£50.00
<u>Invoice received after Agenda was produced</u>	
Diesel, weed killer and bark mulching.	£152.75

b. **Income**

None

It was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Ryland and agreed by all that all four cheques are signed

c. **Bank Balances – Community Account - £1702.45**

Business Reserve Account - £4164.54

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Waveney District Council Grant Organisation Review. Chairman Cllr Hayes said the Parish Council is no longer a recipient following the end of the Christmas lights grant. Information circulated.
- b. Waveney District Council – advising that four new dwellings on land between 67 and 79 Norfolk Road, Wangford are to be known as 69, 71, 73 and 75 Norfolk Road, Wangford. The Parish Council had not formally been advised of the granting of planning permission for these new dwellings. Permission had been granted under Waveney District Council's delegated powers. Cllr Mawer explained that there are no longer Rural and Urban Planning Committees, but the new style Planning Committee should be visiting rural areas.
- c. Suffolk Coast & Heaths Annual Report 2006-07 – circulated.
- d. Involve – Town & Parish Bulletin – circulated.
- e. Waveney District Council – request for views on Planning Enforcement. The document was discussed and a response agreed.
- f. Suffolk County Council – information on waste in Suffolk – circulated.
- g. SALC – information on Post Office closures – circulated.
- h. SALC – copy letter to Environment Agency challenging proposals for the Suffolk Estuarine Strategy – circulated
- i. Waveney District Council – information on Area Forum – circulated.
- j. Suffolk View - Suffolk Preservation Society's newsletter – circulated.

- k. Suffolk Coastal District Council – invitation to Stakeholder Consultation meeting on 27 February in respect of the Shoreline Management Plan. Chairman Cllr Hayes said he hoped to attend. Action

Correspondence received after Agenda was produced

- l. Suffolk Preservation Society – letter explaining a new approach to working with the Campaign to Protest Rural England – circulated
- m. Suffolk County Council – Suffolk Bus and Rail Strategies – circulated.
- n. Letter from organisers of the Latitude festival regarding complaints of noise and disturbance during the early hours of Monday 16 July 2007. The letter explained that the organisers did not know of complaints at the time and so could do nothing. Noise levels will be monitored during Latitude 2008 and the Parish Council was invited to visit the site beforehand to discuss any potential problems.

8. **QUALITY COUNCIL STATUS** – the meeting discussed the application. One of the main requirements to obtain accreditation is demonstration of good communications. Cllr Bryson said a lack of communication was highlighted by the fact that not all of the food caddies had been collected from the Community Centre. Waveney District Council had not delivered these to people’s homes as had been done in other parishes and WDC had not informed residents where the food caddies could be obtained. It was agreed WDC should be written to on this issue. Chairman Cllr Hayes said the Parish Council has a good standard of communication; it informs residents of its decisions and actions via the minutes which are displayed on the notice board and published in the Messenger and Lowestoft Journal. Cllr Smith said a web-site which will also include the minutes will be up and running in the near future. After further discussion, Cllr Farrands proposed applying for Quality Council Status, Cllr Blades seconded her proposal and the meeting agreed.

Clerk

9. **PLANNING**

Planning Applications approved:

Application DC/07/1808/FUL – reconstruction of boundary wall, Wangford Farm Barns, Mardle Road, Wangford.

Application DC/07/1828/FUL – first floor rear extension, 2 Millfields, Wangford.

Application DC/07/1829/FUL – two storey rear extension, 1 Millfields, Wangford.

Application DC/07/1877/ROC – removal of condition 15 DC/07/1245/OUT – Holiday occupancy restriction, proposed development of Henham Hall, Henham Park Estate, Henham.

Application DC/07/1920/FUL – construction of a garage on land adjacent to the Community Centre, Millfields.

Application DC/07/1936/FUL – siting of a residential caravan, Hill Farm Cottage, Hill Road, Wangford

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – Cllr Bryson reported that a vehicle without lights had been seen driving around the back of the Community Centre at night. A resident of Millfields had reported the matter to the police.

11. **CLOSE** – there being no other business the meeting closed at 21.20 hours. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 12 February 2008 at 20.00 hours in the Community Centre.

Signed..... Date

PHILIP HAYES - CHAIRMAN