

WANGFORD WITH HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 12 February 2008 at Wangford Community Centre

PRESENT:

In the Chair Cllr P Hayes
Councillors Cllr N Bryson Cllr P Blades Cllr S Farrands Cllr M Tait
 Cllr R Miller Cllr S Smith Cllr G Rush Cllr M Ryland
Clerk Mrs M Clark
 County/District Councillor W Mawer
 Mr Martyn Burnside of the Waveney Community Forum.
 Two members of the public

1. **OPENING** – the Meeting opened at 20.05 hours. Action
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – none declared.
3. **APOLOGIES** – none received.
4. **MINUTES** – It was proposed by Cllr Bryson, seconded by Cllr Farrands and agreed by all that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2008 be signed as a true record of that meeting.
5. **REPORTS**
 - a. **Memorial for WW2 pilots** – the builders, T & S Clarke, have agreed to erect a new plinth for the plaque which should be completed within a week.
 - b. **Bus Shelter in Church Street** – Cllr Ryland reported that work should commence when the weather improves. The wood can only be re-painted in dry weather.
 - c. **Housing survey** – Cllr Farrands reported that she had had a meeting with Nigel Brett of Suffolk ACRE regarding the survey. A decision needs to be made on when the questionnaire is to be issued and how many copies are needed. The survey needs to be advertised by means of posters and a notice put in the Messenger. Uggheshall and Frostenden Parish Councils could be invited to participate, as they are small parishes who would find it difficult to support a survey on their own. The wording for the questionnaire and covering letter must be decided on and also a date when the survey is to be returned. Suffolk ACRE's current funding is due to end in April, but it is hoped further funding will be available after that date. A return rate of 25% for the questionnaires is regarded as good, but 40% could be achieved if they are hand collected. It was agreed that Cllr Farrands and Cllr Ryland would meet with the other sub-committee members, Mr David Wernham and Mr Malcolm Woolnough, so that detailed decisions can be made, the Parish Council Chairman and Vice-Chairman could also attend the meeting. Cllr Farrands suggested the survey is put on the Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting in May. S.F.
M.R.
 - d. **Repairs to playground** – Cllr Smith reported that the replacement steps to the slide have been fitted. The Clerk reported that the self closing mechanisms for the gates had been put on order.
 - e. **Food Waste Caddies** – the Clerk had written to Waveney District Council to enquire why food waste caddies had not been delivered to individual houses in the Parish. WDC had replied by saying they had written to rural parishes asking if caddies could be collected from one central point and had subsequently spoken to Chairman Cllr Hayes about a suitable collection site. Chairman Cllr Hayes told the meeting that the caller from WDC had said if the caddies weren't delivered to one central point, they wouldn't be delivered at all which is why he had arranged for them to be left at the Community Centre. Chairman Cllr Hayes will respond to WDC's letter. 400 caddies had been delivered but only about 200 have been collected by residents. Cllr Farrands said she would contact holiday letting agencies in the village so that caddies can be collected for use in their properties. P.H.
S.F.

f. **Quality Council status** – Chairman Cllr Hayes reported that he had recently chaired the panel assessing a Quality Council application in his capacity as SALC Chairman. He said some matters needed attention before the Parish Council’s application could be submitted; he and the Clerk had already gone through the application form. Action

6. **FINANCE** – Clerk reported that Barclays Bank had confirmed the new mandate which includes Cllr Smith as a signatory is now in place. The Audit Commission has advised that BDO Stoy Hayward LLP have been appointed as external auditor to the Parish Council.

a. **Expenditure** –

Cleaner, including refuse bags	£43.00
Clerk’s Salary and Expenses	£122.60
Installation of gate in play area	£229.13 including £34.13 VAT

b. **Income** None

It was proposed by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed to by all that all three cheques are signed.

c. **Bank Balances – Community Account - £1076.39**

Business Reserve Account - £3164.54

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a. Communities and Local Government – Consultation on Orders and Regulations relating to the conduct of Local Authority Members in England – circulated. The regulations apply to members of District, County and Unitary Councils.

b. Suffolk Preservation Society – copy letter regarding Waste Issue Report October 2007 which is the first stage of the Core Strategy of the Waste Development Plan - circulated.

c. Local Works – information on Sustainable Communities Bill which has become law and is now an Act of Parliament – circulated.

d. SALC – Local Councillor newsletter – circulated.

e. Suffolk Highways partnership newsletter – circulated.

f. Waveney District Council – information on Planning presentation to be held on 4th March at Lowestoft Town Hall. Another planning information event is also planned for 25th June at Wangford Community Centre.

g. Waveney District Council – confirmation of change of road name to Wangford Hill

h. Waveney District Council – What is the Local Development Framework? Leaflets circulated. Cllr Ryland advised the meeting that details of WDC’s Core Strategy can be found on the WDC website, there is a 6 week consultation period.

i. Carlton Colville Parish Council – asking if the Parish Council would be interested in attending meetings with other South Lowestoft parishes. Clerk to respond to get details of meetings. Clerk

j. Environment Agency – change of deadline to 29th February for comments on the draft Blyth Estuary strategy. Information can be found on the website www.suffolkestuaries.co.uk. Councillors should send any comments via the Clerk.

Correspondence received after Agenda was produced

k. Waveney District Council – Council Tax Base information 2008/09 - precept divided by the number of Band D equivalent dwellings in the Parish is £18.99.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.40 hours.

PUBLIC FORUM – Mr Carter, a resident of Henham, asked the Parish Council if they could try and improve road safety at the Sotherton Crossroads on the A145. Several deaths have occurred there due to road traffic accidents, two people have died in recent weeks. Chairman Cllr Hayes said Suffolk County Council will be written to on this issue and request made that a speed limit be introduced. County Cllr Wendy Mawer will also be asked to pursue the matter. Clerk

PRESENTATION ON THE RURAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP - Mr Martyn Burnside, Chief Executive of the Waveney Community Forum, addressed the meeting. He said the Waveney Community Forum is a local charity working to support voluntary organisations and the Rural Community Partnership was set up 2 years ago as part of the Forum to focus on the area outside Lowestoft. Funding came from Suffolk County Council, Waveney District Council and the East of England Development Agency. Three part time officers now work in the 4 towns area (Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Southwold) on various projects and help to develop local initiatives. The focus is on issues raised by local people, and in some cases the Partnership re-enforces work that is already going on. A very successful web-site has been set up to bring attention to local activities and it is hoped the web-site will expand to include smaller rural parishes. Details of the Partnership are included in the new Waveney Prospectus and funding has been obtained for the next three years. The cost of joining the partnership is £500 which goes towards staffing and inclusion on the web-site. Chairman Cllr Hayes thanked My Burnside and said the matter would be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting. Action

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Cllr Wendy Mawer advised the meeting that a Parish Plan discussion and presentation will be held at Westhall Village Hall on 25th February at 7.30pm. She then gave details of Suffolk County Council's budget setting process which will go before the full council on 21st February. She explained that 60% of the budget funding comes from the Government, 15% from other organisations and 25% from council tax. More can be spent on services as a result of savings made in the past; care and support for the elderly, vulnerable and young are to be a priority. Spending on Highway Maintenance is also to be increased.

The Chairman re-opened the meeting at 21.14 hours.

8. **LATITUDE FESTIVAL** – the organisers of the Latitude Festival have offered the Parish Council 75 day tickets (25 for each day, Friday-Sunday) to sell to residents of the parish at a reduced rate of £20 each. Income from the ticket sales must go to a local project. Ticket buyers must produce photo identification and proof of residency within the parish when entering the festival. The meeting agreed to take up this offer. Clerk to allocate tickets on a first come/first served basis. Dates of the festival are 18th, 19th and 20th July. Clerk
9. **SALC TRAINING** –SALC had supplied information on forthcoming councillor training courses to be held in the evenings. The cost will be £90 per Councillor. Any Councillor wishing to attend to contact the Clerk.
10. **SALC QUESTIONNAIRE** – the Meeting answered a SALC survey on volunteer work which is undertaken by Councillors within the Parish.
11. **PLANNING** –
Application DC/08/0033/FUL construction of a replacement house, Hill Farm Cottage, Hill Road, Wangford. After discussion, Cllr Bryson proposed acceptance of the application, Cllr Farrands seconded the proposal and the meeting agreed.
Application DC/08/0067/FUL conversion of garage to holiday let, 1 Barnaby Green, Wangford. After discussion, Cllr Ryland proposed acceptance of the application, Cllr Farrands seconded the proposal and the meeting agreed.

Planning Applications approved:

Action

Application DC/07/1084/FUL – construction of two houses on land between 67 & 78 Norfolk Road, Wangford.

Application DC/07/1086/FUL – construction of two houses on land between 67 & 78 Norfolk Road, Wangford.

(Application W19655/1 – outline application for construction of three terraced cottages on land between 67 & 78 Norfolk Road, Wangford has now been withdrawn.)

Application DC/07/2009/FUL – erection of storage barn Hillside Farm, Wangford.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS –

Chairman Cllr Hayes informed the meeting that the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 6th May and not 13th May. The change is due to the Clerk’s holiday.

Cllr Ryland reported on the Hedgerow Survey. A training day will be held on 17th May at Thornham Magna. Two more co-ordinators are needed. Chairman Cllr Hayes and Cllr Miller said they may be able to help.

Cllr Farrands said she had attended the last Neighbourhood Watch meeting and a litter pick in the village has been requested.

Chairman Cllr Hayes reported that a man has been sleeping in a car in Mardle Road, the police have been informed.

Cllr Smith asked when the adjustment of the flood lights in the multi games area would be complete, Clerk to contact Cllr Godbold regarding this.

Clerk
I.G.

13. CLOSE – before the meeting closed the death was announced of Mr Cyril Dean, who had served on the Parish Council for many years. The meeting then closed at 21.45 hours. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 11 March 2008 at 20.00 hours in the Community Centre.

Signed..... **Date**

PHILIP HAYES - CHAIRMAN