**WETHERINGSETT CUM BROCKFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held 5 June 2017, 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Wetheringsett**.

Present: Cllrs Mrs E Aldred, Mrs A Arnold, C Harvey, B Lacey and J Leadbetter. County Councillor A Stringer, District Councillor G Horn and six members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs R Anscombe, T Alston, Mrs E Cain, Ms S Payne and Miss J Canham. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman Cllr Mrs Aldred proposed Cllr Leadbetter chaired the meeting, seconded Cllr Mrs Arnold and agreed.
2. **Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda –** none.
3. **To receive the following reports**:

 Police – monthly report available online. No comments were raised.

 County Councillor – see item 6 below.

 District Councillor – Cllr Horn stated he would take part in the public session debate on the Town Lane

 issue and also recorded his thanks to the Middy for their invitation to the opening event.

 Public Rights of Way- Cllr Mrs Aldred reported that all paths appeared to be in good order. Cllr Mrs Arnold reported on a dog fouling problem on the footpath running alongside the Middy railway line towards The Lodge. It was suggested a note was included in the parish magazine reminding dog owners to clear up after their dogs on all public rights of way and footpaths.

1. **Minutes of the meeting held 8 May 2017** – Cllr Harvey proposed acceptance of the Minutes, seconded Cllr Lacey and agreed.
2. **Matters arising from the Minutes for report** – none.
3. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

 Regarding Town Lane Cllr Stringer stated he was indebted to parishioners for the traffic logs. Due to

 the discrepancy between figures produced by the County Council the written data had been very

 helpful. The warning signs for the road bends should be installed this month. Following its investigations, the County was now proposing :

1. A one-way HGV system, turning right at Mickfield to access the site and left on leaving.
2. Officers were looking into the cost of upgrading and widening Town Lane and upgrading the A140 junction to accommodate the increased traffic. Parishioners raised their objections to this option.
3. The possibility of a through road through the existing industrial estate.

 Cllr Horn went on to report that although there were environmental issues arising from the site there

 were no breaches of planning consents, the lorry park and distribution were permitted.

 Parishioners stated there were now over 100 lorries per day accessing and leaving the site. The meeting went on to discuss the impact the situation was causing to Town lane including a number of near accidents where parishioners driving in Town Lane had been confronted by an HGV on the wrong side of the road resulting in the verges being churned up and the road surface was full of potholes. These coupled with the environmental issues were having a detrimental impact on parishioners and a long-term solution was urgent. Cllr Stringer explained that the Suffolk CC objections had been overruled as an operators licence was only concerned with the site and not the highway. Cllr Stringer stated he would aim to report on the options put forward for the next parish council meeting on 3 July and Cllr Horn stated he would share the contents of the Mid Suffolk Environmental Report as soon as it was available. In the meantime parishioners would continue to log movements in and out of the site.

 Additional queries raised with Cllr Stringer included repairs required to Station Road and Town Lane. Cllr Stringer stated these were already in the reporting system. Visibility along Cedars Hill due to overgrown grass verges. Cllr Stringer stated he would arrange for the verges to be cut back.

 Mr Tony Hammond raised the siting of the VAS equipment and whether the current sites were the most appropriate. Cllr Stringer stated the current positions could be changed if necessary and he would forward the paperwork required for return to County Highways for approval. In the meantime Cllr Harvey to consider alternative sites.

7. **Town Lane Haulage Site report**

 Two residents had responded to the Parish Council notice in the parish magazine to date. It was agreed these were forwarded to Traffic Commissioner in support of the highway objections. Notice to remain in the parish magazine.

**8. To consider planning applications for recommendation to MSDC** – none received. The Mid Suffolk Light Railway application no. 1262/17 – variation of condition 6 of Planning Permission 2955/11 to allow 30 steam events per year and removal of requirement to notify details of special event days was raised although not an agenda item**.** An explanation of the application had been received from MSDC planning as follows: *The application was effectively to allow the bar and associated facilities to be open to 11p.m. throughout the year (at the moment it should be closed to public access from  5p.m. like the rest of the museum). The description is because it is to vary a condition which itself contains a reference to the 30 ‘event’ days, but the proposed change would not affect them*. Members agreed there were no further comments to be made on the application.

**9. Planning decisions received from MSDC**

 1. 0899/17: The Old Trowel & Hammer – change of use of outbuilding to a commercial workshop for

 upholstery work. **Planning Permission Granted.**

 2. 0912/17: The Old Forge, Mendlesham Road – erection of summerhouse. **Planning Permission**

 **Granted.**

10. **Village Hall report**

 Cllr Leadbetter reported a balance of £770.11 in the village hall account. Pest Control has been called out to deal with a bee’s nest. Curtains Up were continuing to use the Hall regularly, their next performance being in October and the Yoga group had a regular booking. The Hall had been booked by MSDC for the Polling Station on 8 June, a Breakfast was being hosted for Barney Vingoe 18 June and hosting the Village Fete on the 1 July. Shaun Easter was due to carry out the maintenance work and Cllr Leadbetter would be meeting with the caretaker, Mrs Sue Stannard, to discuss general improvements to the hall

11. **Proposed New Village Hall report** – deferred

12. **Report on VAS speed awareness equipment**

 Cllr Harvey reported he was continuing to gather data and suggested that a different location was considered for Hockey Hill and Park Lane. Due to the number of excessive speeds recorded it was agreed members would need to discuss how to take the data report forward. Members thanked Cllr Harvey for the data information.

13. **Request for extension of speed limited – Station Road**. Deferred pending outcome at Town Lane.

14. **Defibrillator community training day**

 This would be taking place on Saturday 8 July 10am – 12noon at the Village Hall organized and run by

 Mr Mark Baker.

15. **Report on Grasscutting** – awaiting report on meeting with Mymow from Cllr Alston.

16. **Play Area Report**

 A note had been received from Cllr Mrs Nickson stating there were no issues with the equipment but one of the fencing posts required replacement. Cllr Leadbetter offered to speak to Shaun Eastern regarding replacement.

17. **Wetheringsett Emergency Plan** – deferred.

18. **To consider a Wetheringsett Neighbourhood Plan** – deferred.

19. **Finance**

 1. To consider s.137 donation requests

 As in previous years, Cllr Harvey asked whether the council would be agreeable to supporting the Village Fete. Cllr Mrs Aldred proposed a sum up to £250, seconded Cllr Mrs Arnold and agreed.

 2. Accounts for Payment

 Mymow – grasscutting Play Area & Cemetery £200.00

 Clerk’s salary/expenses May 2017 £254.56

 Suffolk Preservation Society – subscription £30.00

 Cllr Mrs Arnold proposed payment of the above, seconded Cllr Mrs Aldred and agreed.

 3. To consider and approve Parish Council accounts to year end 31.3.17

 The accounts had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Mrs Arnold proposed approval of the

 accounts, seconded Cllr Harvey and agreed.

 4. To consider and approve Annual Return for the year end 31.3.17

 Members went through and considered Section 1 , the Annual Governance Statement, of the Annual Return. Cllr Mrs Arnold proposed approval, seconded Cllr Mrs Aldred and agreed.

 Members considered Section 2, Accounting Statements, of the Annual Return. Cllr Mrs Aldred

 proposed approval, seconded Cllr Mrs Arnold and agreed.

20. **Clerk’s Report/correspondence**

 MSDC – Boundary Review meeting 13 June 2017 at Bildeston – Cllr Alston had confirmed attendance.

 Cllr Mrs Arnold stated she would also like to attend.

 MSDC – Parish Liaison Meeting 27 June at Brome/Oakley Village Hall 10am or Mid Suffolk Council

 Offices 6.30pm. Noted.

 Mid Suffolk Light Railway Museum – annual report circulated.

21. **To consider Twitter items** – none.

22. **Chairman’s Urgent Business** – none.

23. **Any other business for information exchange/agenda requests**

 Cllr Lacey reported the attack on a sheep in the Lampits Farm area by a dog running loose. A request

 that dog owners keep control of their dogs and kept on a lead if necessary be included in the parish

 magazine.

 Meeting closed 9.40 pm

 Signed: Chairman Date: