

**Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held Monday 2 December 2019, 7pm at the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs Mrs E Aldred, D Brown, Mrs E Cain, Mrs C Estcourt, Mrs S Gibbs, C Harvey (Chairman) and B Lacey. County and District Cllr A Stringer and four members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Mrs A Arnold, T Alston, Mrs H Green and M Pease.
2. **To receive Declarations of Interest relating to items on the agenda**  
Cllr Mrs Estcourt – 18.2.
3. **To receive the following reports:**  
Police – report available online – no comments were raised.  
County Council – Cllr Stringer presented his written report (copy attached to the Minutes). No questions were raised.  
District Council - Cllr Stringer reported the thousands of responses to the draft Local Plan consultation were being dealt with and whether any parishes wanted amendments to the draft. The draft document would be available to view on the Mid Suffolk website.  
Cllr Lacey raised the highway flooding along Station Road. There were no signs that the road was flooded which appeared to be due to blocked roadside gullies. Cllr Stringer would chase the Floods Team to expedite the work.  
Footpaths – Footpath 19 to Pitman’s Corner was not marked.  
Trees – Cllr Mrs Aldred was pleased to report 150 small trees had been delivered and 70 had already been distributed. All recipients were very pleased to receive the trees and had commented on their good quality.
4. **Minutes of the meeting held 4 November 2019**  
Cllr Mrs Gibbs proposed acceptance of the Minutes, seconded Cllr Mrs Aldred and agreed.
5. **Matters arising from the Minutes for report** – none.
6. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
Village Hall – the repair contractor, Mr Estcourt, reported that all work quoted was complete. The work had revealed some other potential repairs that the council may need to consider: a crack on the main roof, weatherboard pulling away from the building, some render at the rear of the building falling away - Mr Escourt had carried out a temporary repair using expansion foam. The guttering had been repaired but the downpipe was also in need of repair. Replacement of any of the windows would cost approx. £500 for the window itself. The Chairman thanked Mr Estcourt for the information provided and for completing the repair works to date and stated the architect engaged to assess the building had prepared plans for refurbishment of the whole building. These were as yet to be considered when the future of the building had been agreed.
7. **To consider planning applications for recommendation to MSDC**
  1. DC/19/05102: Land adjacent The Laurels, White Horse Corner – erection of two 2 storey dwellings with associated detached garage buildings, parking and access. Having considered the application a recommendation of support was proposed, seconded and agreed.
  2. DC/19/05478: The Airfield, Norwich Road – outline planning permission for erection of 3 warehouse units with new access from Norwich Road. Following consideration of the application a recommendation of refusal was proposed and seconded on the following grounds:  
Although in principle in favour of the 3 Warehouse Units the access should be via one of the two existing accesses and not through the creation of a new third access from the site on to the A140. There was already one main access and a second access in the middle of the site. The public right of way required clarification. 4 in favour, 2 objections. Proposal carried.
8. **Planning Decisions received from MSDC**
  1. DC/19/04515: Maple Bungalow, Park Green – removal of condition 3 Agricultural Occupancy on permission OL/160/91. **Planning Permission Granted.**

9. **Planning Correspondence** – none.
10. **Wetheringsett Village Hall report**
1. General report from Cllr Mrs Gibbs:  
 The increased insurance cover for the Hall of £500,000 had resulted in an increased annual premium to be met from Village Hall funds.  
 The hot water heater in the ladies wc required repair.  
 Condensation in both wc's required investigation.  
 Some of the Hall heaters were in need of replacement – Cllr Mrs Gibbs investigating.  
 A doormat had been obtained at no fee and a new wide broom had been purchased.  
 A new vacuum cleaner was required. Cllr Mrs Aldred proposed the Parish Council purchased a vacuum cleaner up to the value of £300, seconded Cllr Mrs Gibbs and agreed.  
 There had been a further request from the school that the wooden floor was sealed. It was reported this would be detrimental to the floor as sealing would not allow the wood to breathe. Details of waxing surfaces to be obtained.
  2. Surrender of existing licence and new School Licence – as yet to be finalized.
  3. Arrangements for Cheese and Wine evening 10 January 2020  
 Cllrs Pease and Mrs Green had agreed to take over publicity. Provision of the cheese and wine to be agreed.
11. **Use and maintenance of current hall – medium term plan for village hall** – deferred.
12. **VAS speed awareness report**  
 The Chairman reported no data was available at present. The A14 was due to be closed at night over the next two weeks with traffic diverted via the A140.
13. **Play Area Report** – no further report
14. **Proposed Neighbourhood Plan report**  
 The Chairman read out a brief report from the working group which was still in its very early stages. It was queried whether a neighbourhood plan would be relevant to the size of a village such as Wetheringsett.
15. **Wetheringsett Cycle Route** – deferred.
16. **Cemetery and Play Area grass cutting** – Cllr Lacey stated work had come to an end for the current grasscutting season.
17. **To consider provision of additional dog waste bin**  
 A further dog bin (green) at Blacksmiths Green sited at the end of Joe's Road was suggested. This would cost in the region of £150 to purchase. Cllr Brown proposed the above, seconded Cllr Mrs Gibbs and agreed.
18. **Finance**
1. To consider s.137 donation requests – none.
  2. Accounts for Payment

Sustrans re. Cycle Route	£50.00
Clerk sal/expen Nov 2019	£282.22
New Heights Renovations – village hall	
Repairs	£1051.19

Cllr Mrs Aldred proposed payment of the above accounts, seconded Cllr Mrs Gibb s, 5 in favour, 1 abstention.
  3. Approval of Formal Precept Request upon Charging Authority form  
 Following approval of a precept request of £8,850.00 for the financial year 2020/21 the formal request form was signed by the chairman and two councillors and countersigned by the clerk.
19. **Clerk's report/correspondence**  
 SALC councillor training – dates of 13 or 27 January 2020 had been put forward by SALC. Date to be confirmed by councillors via email.
20. **Chairman's urgent business** – none.
21. **Any other business for information exchange/agenda requests**  
Brockford Street - Cllr Mrs Cain reported a section of the pavement near the Old Griffin had been crushed by a lorry. She had reported this to Suffolk CC via the reporting tool.

Knaves Green - The speed of vehicles travelling from the Memorial via Knaves Green to the A140 was raised. The Chairman stated it would not be possible to use the VAS machine at that location due to the lack of clear visibility for the equipment.

22. **Date of next meeting: Monday 6 January 2020, 7pm at the Village Hall.**

Meeting closed 9.15pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date: