

**Westhall Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on**  
**Monday 2 November 2015 at 7.50pm in Westhall Village Hall.**

**Members Present:** Mr J Lickman (Chairman); Mrs L McTaggart; Mrs L Palin; Mr P Langford  
Mr K Studd and Mrs E Clark. .  
**In Attendance:** Mrs M Rogers (Clerk); Mr T Goldson (SCC) and PC S Green (Suffolk  
Constabulary)  
**Public Attendees:** Mr G Harvey.

1. **Apologies:** Mrs L Studd, Mr T Goldson and Sargent E Vincent (Suffolk Constabulary).
2. **Declaration of Interests:** Mr Langford declared interest in Emergency Planning.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Mrs Clark proposed, seconded by Mrs Palin that the minutes of the October meeting be accepted and signed.
4. **Matters Arising from previous meeting minutes that are not included in the agenda.**  
  
**Locks Road Allotment Gate** – Ongoing. Mr Lickman had talked to Mr Darch who will carry out the work before Christmas

5. **Correspondence and Actions.**

1. WDC – Off-Street Parking Places Order 2016
2. Suffolk Accident Rescue Service Funding
3. Waveney Local Plan
4. Winter Gritting Workshop
5. LAIS updates 151015
6. SALC AGM Reminder
7. Community Action Suffolk Annual Review
8. Planning Application DC/15/3957/LBC Alarms for St Georges. Mr D Empey
9. SALC Government Devolution Bill – LAIS 1383
10. SALC Parish Councils Right of Appeal in the Planning Process
11. HMRC VAT Repayment
12. Mrs L Miller Email update on Wind Turbines
13. Planning Permission Certificate for Summerhouse Vicarage Cottages
14. WDC Budget Meeting reminder.
15. Centurion Traffic Management – Road Closure.
16. PCSO Vincent – email report
17. Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine.

6. **Finance.**

- a) **Clerk.** Proposed payment for November by Mrs Palin, seconded by Mr Langford. Cheque 100633 for £90.00 signed. No PAYE
- b) **VAT Claim** for £122.01 covering 2014/15 has been received. £50 has been transferred to the Car Park Fund as this VAT amount was paid on Read Invoice for Car Park pothole repairs.
- c) **Viking Invoice.** Printer paper and toner obtained. Propose payment Mrs Clark, seconded Mr Langford. Cheque 100635 for £124.43 signed.

- d) **Village Hall Invoice.** Proposed payment Mrs Clark, seconded Mrs Palin. Cheque 100634 for £157.50 signed.
- e) **Budget Pre-amble.** Copies of Ledger and estimated Budget for 2016/17 were issued and discussed. Largely as 2015/16 but if SCC services are charged and WDC are also looking at charging for some services it would have an impact. RFO considered we had sufficient funds to carry extra costs for one year but precept would have to be increased next year and in larger councils precept would normally be set at estimated budget at least. Final budget will be presented and precept will be decided next month.

## 7. Planning.

DC/15/3957/LBC Mr D Empey, St Georges, Mill Common, CCTV and Alarms. After short discussion considered a necessity all agreed and approved.

## 8. Topics for discussion.

- a) **Mill Common Parking.** Ongoing.
- b) **Grass Verges Cutting.** Ongoing - awaiting Definitive Map. This was discussed at the Halesworth Parishes Meeting where Derek Oldham Highways firstly explained activities which PCs would not be involved with for example – No excavation work, No carriageway (highways) work. A core document covering ancillary works which parishes would be asked to cover was being prepared, this will include works which they will complete but parishes will pay for. For instance SCC Highways would continue to cut verges on A and B roads twice a year but C and U roads only once in the summer, for any additional cutting at junctions then PCs would either pay SCC for or arrange themselves. PCs will now be responsible for Local grass cutting, vegetation on pavements and footpaths clearance, litter clearance, signage cleaning, hedge cutting, snow clearance and salting from grit bins. There followed a discussion on personal injury insurance cover as SCC only hold a public liability but no personal injury to volunteers. This was being investigated. It was generally thought that rural parishes could liaise with local farmers for snow clearance, hedge cutting and any additional grass verge cutting and vegetation clearance; volunteers would be asked for to clean signs, litter clearance and use of grit from grit bins.
- c) **Emergency Planning.** Mr Langford attended a course on gritting and flooding. This highlighted that there should be nominated persons within the village to carry out junction gritting. He asked if additional grit bins were required, after discussion it was thought School Road as water froze here before reaching any ditch, top of Church Lane and Bacons Green at the far end which was not part of the SCC gritting route. Clerk will obtain prices although SCC Locality Budget may be able to contribute towards these.
- d) **Green Energy.** Ongoing.
- e) **Allotment Gate.** See matters arising.
- f) **Bernard Matthews Fund.** Investigations into the fund has proved negative. Extracts from both the Non-Technical Statement and Environmental Statement Vol 2 page 416 supplied with the original planning application quoted that BM will provide £10,000 per annum towards local community's activities for the overall life of the windfarm. Mr Harvey suggested that after consultation with BM any Community Fund should be set up similar to that at Weston Longville. Letter will be to BM.

## 9. Vacancies. None.

**10. Roads & Footpaths.**

- a) **Moles.** Moles are causing a problem on the playing field, pleasure ground and millennium green. The Community Council are willing to arrange for all areas to be treated at the same time. The invoice will be paid by the PC to enable VAT to be reclaimed.

**11. Reports from SCC/WDC/Suffolk Police.**

**Police.** PC Green stated that Police were withdrawing from Town and Parish Council meetings. Police reports, objectives and information would be available on a new website. Since his last visit there had been only three crimes in Westhall, burglary and garage theft in July and damage to a parked vehicle in March. A new response officer, PC Richard Warne had been allocated to our area. With regard to the VAS equipment sited in surrounding parishes he considered A145/146 essential.

**12. Any Other Business.**

**Newspaper recycle bin** has been emptied but the company left a lot of debris. Thank you Mr McTaggart for clearing this. Mrs Palin proposed all agreed that we should investigate Mr Goldsons suggestion that we install our own paper waste bin. Any income could be used for the village.

**Neighbourhood Plan.** Mr Lickman will be attending a meeting in Halesworth to discuss the NP. PC still needed to document all concerns with regard to lack of infrastructure; identify all areas requiring protection as conservation areas; and state our preference with regard to new build for inclusion in WDC new Local Development Plan.

**13. Summary of Newsletter for Publication.** General summary of meeting.

**14. Date and Time of next meeting.** – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.