

**Minutes of Westhall Parish Council meeting
Monday 5th December 2016 7.30 Westhall Village Hall**

Councillors Present: Mr P Langford (Chairman), Mr C Baker, Mr K Studd, Mrs E Clark, Mrs L Studd (also as Clerk), and Mrs L McTaggart.

In Attendance: Members of the public

1. **Apologies and acknowledgment of absences:** Mr J Lickman, Cllr T Goldson.
2. **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests:** None.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Resolution passed that minutes of 7th November meeting are correct record.
4. **Chairman and Clerk's report on progress of actions from last meeting(s):** all actions completed but following noted:
Item 6 (Oct meeting) - Mr Langford reported Kier had almost completed drainage works in Locks Road. *(Post meeting Mark Kerridge reported connection to Locks Road surface water drain impossible due to presence of services, and alternative of Locks Road allotment ditch had no usable outfall. Historic ditches and outfalls had been blocked during construction of Locks Road and Bacons Green Road houses. Problem therefore passed to Suffolk Highways drainage team for further investigation.)*
Item 8 (Oct meeting) - Residents and their visitors are encouraged to use new parking bays at Mill Common. Some cars are continuing to obstruct Wangford Road, possibly believing bays are allocated to particular houses.
Item 13a (Oct meeting) - Reply received from Westhall Community Council re: future car park maintenance to be discussed in separate meeting of 'Recreation Ground' charity.
Item 13d (Oct meeting) - **Action: Mr P Langford to provide suggestions to Mr Lickman for draft Emergency Plan.**
Item 7 (Nov meeting) - Resolution passed to purchase two dog waste bins following successful application to Cllr Goldson's Locality Budget for cost of one bin. **Action: (a) Mr Langford to check whether bin at level crossing is broken as reported (b) Clerk to arrange installations by Waveney Norse at Wangford Road end of Redisham bridleway and (provided level crossing bin does not need replacing) Footpath 4.**
5. **Finance:**
 - a. Cheques signed for payments to Westhall Community Council for room hire - £150 (no VAT), Information Commissioner compulsory annual registration charge - £35 (no VAT) and Clerk for reimbursement of postage costs - £28.56 (no VAT).
 - b. Resolution passed approving 2017-18 budget
 - c. Resolution passed approving request to Waveney DC for precept payment for 2017-18 at same level as in 2016-17, ie a total sum of £2572. This represents a 0.8% decrease for parishioners in precept contributions. **Action: Clerk to submit precept request, explaining to WDC that this sum is justified by PC's 2017-18 budget, which includes appropriate reserves against unforeseen expenditure. Delegation of responsibilities to PC may, however, result in increased budgeted expenditure in future years, necessitating appropriate increases in precept requests in those years.**
6. **Correspondence:**
 - a. **Reply from CCG re: closure of Patrick Stead** - No promises about the future. Out-patient services have moved back into hospital but seems highly unlikely it will re-open for in-patient beds.

Signed (P Langford, Chairman):

- b. Halesworth Parishes meeting, Wednesday 7th December 7-9pm, Halesworth Town Council office. **Action: Clerk to attend.**
 - c. **Suffolk Rural Fund** - Grants up to £4,000 available to organisations and up to £1,000 to 'micro' projects hosted by parish councils, for development of community hubs (eg community-owned halls, shops and pubs), community self-help (eg litter collection, computer clubs, befriending schemes, lunch clubs) and charitable outreach work. Deadline 21st December 2016, but there may be further funding rounds.
7. **Reports from other organisations:** None
8. **Any items of information:**
- a. Two residents had complained to Clerk about disturbance at unsocial hours by Fox Covert poultry farm. One had written to farm's owner. **Action: Clerk to recommend other resident do likewise, and cc PC. If no response received by end December PC will review at January meeting.**
 - b. Withdrawal of Halesworth Playing Fields from proposed sale of Dairy Hill playing fields etc for new combined care home and replacement for Patrick Stead hospital. HPFA now intend to improve Dairy Hill sports facilities. Halesworth Campus therefore report intention to sell part of former Middle School site for new health facility, and to use sale proceeds to fund modest sports scheme on this site.
 - c. *(Received post meeting)* Sizewell C consultation now started. Considerable effect on highways forecast, especially A12 at Yoxford and Darsham - Public event Rifle Hall Thursday 15th December 11am-3pm.
9. **News items for Halesworth Community News:** encourage all residents and visitors to use new parking bays at Mill Common, approval of 2017-18 budget and related precept amount, new dog waste bins, Suffolk Rural Fund.
10. **Next meeting:** 7.30pm 9th January 2017.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.

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