



## WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

# Minutes

**of the meeting of Wrabness Parish Council which commenced at 7:09pm following the Annual Parish Assembly on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at Wrabness Village Hall.**

**Present:** Councillors Mr Harry Adams, Mr Gary Bowers, Ms Alice Cole, Mr Richard Colley (Chairman), Mr Francis McGowan (Vice Chairman), Mr Rob Southall-Edwards, Mr Graham Watkins and Juliet Attrill Parish Clerk.

**Apologies:** District Councillor Tanya Ferguson

### **3517. Declarations of Interest: None**

**4. Public Forum:** There were 3 members of the public present.

- A member of the public expressed their concerns over the condition of a pedestrian footbridge on the coastal footpath near 'Strandlands'. A plank has come loose and dropped away meaning the bridge is now narrower. This issue has been reported 3 times by residents directly to Essex County Council. The bridge is likely to see more use in the warmer months.

- Public Forum Closed -

**3518. Approval of Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025 were approved as true record and signed.

### **3519. Matters arising and actions:**

**a.** Parish Council requests to Local Highways Panel – (3505a)

*i:* Review Speed Limits: No updates received on this issue.

*ii:* Update on Harwich Road pavement repair: FM has been in contact with CC Guglielmi over the incomplete footpath repair and has supplied photographs. LHP are now aware and plan a site visit to assess.

**b.** North Essex Parking Partnership – Parking issues: WPC has made a request for NEPP review supported by photographic evidence supplied by residents. WPC is awaiting a response from NEPP.

**c.** Demolished wall at crossroads reported to Essex County Council – (3505b): No further update.

**d.** A120/Primrose Lane Junction - request for Highways England review and safety improvements (3505c): No further update.

**3520. Highways (3506):** consideration of new requests for highway maintenance and improvements: A list has been compiled of the issues put forward at the February meeting including 'What3Words' links for clarity on locations. It was agreed to keep this list up to date until LHP are accepting requests. It was noted that there are other road signs down near Wheatsheaf Lane which have already been reported multiple times.

**3521. Manningtree Museum and Local History Group:** Replacement of historic Harwich Turnpike Road Mile Stone & Post No 65 at Wrabness (3507): The Turnpike Road Milestone Marker No 65 at Wrabness is now in place. The Manningtree Museum and Local History Group requested WPC adopt the marker onto the Asset List with a suggested value of at least £1000. It was agreed to adopt the marker.

**3522. Parish Litter Pick:** Thank you to Harry Jones and Nick Pullen for organising the Spring Litter Pick, to the many parishioners who helped and to Fi Caslake and Gary Bowers for providing the light lunch for participants. As usual the rubbish collected from the verges and byways made a large heap in the Village Hall Car Park for later collection and disposal by Viola, the TDC contractors.

**3523. Network Rail/ ECC:** Diversion of Wheatsheaf Footpath Route and related signage (3508): It was noted that one of the new road signs on tall poles subject of complaint has been re-sited westwards along Church Road. It was agreed WPC will continue to push for the signs to be lowered in the AONB landscape. It was mentioned that the rest of the signage in the village is worse for wear; especially the footpath markers.

**3524. Parish and Town Council Resilience Meeting and Emergency Plan - update:** RC attended a TDC briefing. Local councils are encouraged to be proactive and contribute to the emergency planning process, which is led by the



emergency services. WPC agreed to form a working party to update the Wrabness Emergency Plan. Parish Clerk to provide provisional dates. **ACTION: Parish Clerk**

**3525. New Planning Application** – the Parish Council has been notified of the following new application received by Tendring District Council:

[25/00289/LUEX](#) - The Barn Foxes Farm Station Road Wrabness Essex CO11 2UF - Application for Lawful Development Certificate for Existing Use or Development for use of 'The Barn' as a dwellinghouse. **Status: Current Consultation.** WPC notes this application. **ACTION: Parish Clerk**

**3526. Planning Application Update:** The Parish Council has already commented on the following applications

[24/01270/FUL](#) - Site 15 East Foreshore Wrabness Manningtree Essex CO11 2BB - Planning Application - Erection of beach chalet (replacement of previously fire damaged chalet). **Status: Awaiting Decision.**

[24/01719/FUL](#) - Broadfields Primrose Hill Wrabness Essex CO11 2TZ - Planning Application - Proposed dwelling (following demolition of forge building). **Status: Awaiting Decision.**

[25/00080/FULHH](#) - Collar Meadow Cottage, Church Road, Wrabness Manningtree Essex CO11 2TQ - Householder Planning Application - garage. **Status: Awaiting Decision.**

**3527. Reports:**

<p><b>HIGHWAYS:</b> The large pothole at the junction of Wheatsheaf Close/Lane was seen being assessed.</p>	<p><b>VILLAGE HALL:</b> -The VHC thanked WPC for the grant provided toward the kitchen refurbishment which is now mostly complete.</p>
<p><b>WRABNESS PLAYING FIELD:</b> With the warmer weather the playing field is more regularly in use. It was suggested to create a Playing Field Association working party to act on some tasks that are due.</p>	<p>-The back wall will be white painted with specialised projector paint. -VHC Chairman, Harry Jones, is looking to retire. -A 'Summer Tea Party' is beginning to be planned.</p>
<p><b>STATION MASTERS GARDEN:</b> The dead tree has been removed.</p>	<p><b>KIOSK:</b> Is looking nice with lots of colourful flowers.</p>
<p><b>VILLAGE GREEN:</b> -The first grass treatment will take place on the 2nd of April and then the grass will be cut in the following days. The liquid treatment is quick drying and contains animal repellent. It will be applied in the evening to minimise human and pet animal contact. -It was noted that there had been a limited amount of surface water ponding after heavy rainfall, but this went after a few days. As the grass and trees mature they will add in water absorption. -WPC believes there is 1 property unsold on the Bennett Homes development. Signage on the village green should be removed once this home is sold.</p>	<p><b>WEBSITE:</b> NALC are recommending parish councils have .gov.uk websites and email addresses. WPC decided that the cost could not be justified.</p>
	<p><b>TDALC:</b> The March TDALC meeting was held at the same time as the WPC meeting. The minutes of the TDALC meeting will be shared.</p>
	<p><b>TRANSPORT:</b> The station ticket machine is still missing. There are still no scheduled buses. Harwich Connexions continues to provide bookable services from and to the village.</p>
<p><b>TREES:</b> The tree on the Village Green will be moved at an appropriate time. The Oak Tree on Rectory Road (Playing Field) will be inspected. It was last reduced during Autumn 2020 and is on a 5-7 year cycle for crown reduction.</p>	<p><b>FORESHORE:</b> Coastal erosion has taken some more of the cliff. Beach hut owners have received double council tax demands from TDC levied on second homes. Following complaints, this is to be reviewed as the huts are not suitable for permanent occupation.</p>



**3528. 2024-5 Accounts and monies received:**

RECEIVED	AMOUNT	DISBURSEMENTS	AMOUNT	CQ No.
HMRC VAT Refund	£164.01	Parish Clerk Salary for March 2024	£226.88	1295
		Village Hall Hire for March Meeting	£18.00	1296
		Autoprint for printing the Wrabness Village Newsletter spring edition	£262.00	1297
		Engrave Wrabness Environment Award -reimburse R Colley	£12.50	1298
		Woollard – Playing Field Rent	£1.00	1299

**3529. Confirmation of Account Balances:**

Current Account: Balance as at 19 March 2025 **£3,108.97**

Deposit Account: Balance as at 19 March 2025 **£6,927.05**

**3530. Any Other Urgent Business:**

- **Tendring District Local Plan Review – Public Consultation:** TDC are conducting a review as more land is to be designated for housing throughout the District to meet new house building targets. A first public consultation is underway and is open until 14th April. There has been publicity in the local paper about proposed options and information has been posted on the WPC notice boards and website. No site specific proposals have been announced at this early stage of the review.

<https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/content/local-plan-review>

- **PKF Little John 2024/25 AGAR external auditor Notification:** WPC have been notified of the 1st July deadline for Submission of Accounts to the external auditor. WPC agreed for Gill Moffat to be our internal auditor.

- Meeting Closed 20:30 -

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 in the Village Hall, immediately following the 7.00pm Annual Parish Meeting.**

Juliet Attrill - Wrabness Parish Clerk

Contact Wrabness Parish Council: Email: wrabness.parishclerk@gmail.com Telephone 07535812543