

WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

of the meeting held on Wednesday 24th July 2024 at Wrabness Village Hall.

Present: 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

Apologies: District Councillor Tanya Ferguson, County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi

3438. Declarations of Interest: None. A DCLG advice document was circulated relating to interests.

Public Forum: There were three members of the public present.

a. Village Green: A resident brought forward concerns about stones on the surface of the green. The green was laid out by Bennett Homes and subsequently inspected and certified as satisfactory by an independent Chartered Landscape Architect in accordance with the requirements of Tendring District Council. The land was transferred to the parish council on this basis. WPC has previously written to Bennett Homes over this matter who confirm the landscaping work is satisfactory. The parish council will keep this under review as part of the ongoing maintenance.

b. Temporary barrier on Primrose Lane/ Harwich Road junction: A resident highlighted visibility is affected by the temporary barrier at the junction. It is in place of the parapet wall over a deep ditch/ culvert destroyed in a traffic accident. WPC has complained to Essex County Council as highway authority and they have confirmed they intend to rebuild the parapet wall. The replacement of the parapet wall is an arising item which is long over due.

c. Oak Tree: A neighbour to the tree reiterated their offer to contribute to the cost of a 30% crown reduction. They argue that this would save WPC money. The oak tree will be discussed at Item 3442a.

- Public Forum closed -

3439. Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2024 were agreed as true record and signed.

3440. Matters arising and actions:

a. Parish Council requests to Local Highways Panel – (3428a)

i: Review Speed Limits: Still awaiting review by ECC.

ii: Review Parking issues: WPC are still requesting photographic evidence be sent to the parish clerk at wrabness.parishclerk@gmail.com to compile a portfolio.

iii: Harwich Road footway repair: County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi has informed WPC that he will once again chase these long overdue works.

b. Demolished wall at crossroads reported to Essex County Council – (3428b) The temporary barrier impedes vision of the junction, and the seasonal growth on the verge adds to the low level of vision. Unfortunately, the barrier can not be moved as it marks the ditch that the parapet wall stood in front of. The wall requires rebuilding, but there has been no progress on the works. WPC will contact CC Carlo Guglielmi again. **ACTION: Parish Clerk**

c. A120/Primrose Lane Junction - request for Highways England review and safety improvements (3428c): No updates.

d. Wheatsheaf Lane traffic: (3428d): There was a single car accident on Harwich Road. The vehicle ended up in a ditch. The occupants were unharmed, however, debris remains in the ditch.

3441. Village Green (3429)

a. Gates: The VHC has agreed with the WPC proposal to leave the pedestrian gate unlocked, only locking the vehicular gate. It was noted that the gate needs to be chained low down to ensure it is secure.

b. Maintenance Update: The grass has been cut for a second time. The wild flowers are to be trimmed back on the next cut now that they have had a chance to disperse their seeds. The green will be kept short over the winter to promote healthy seasonal growth. The volunteers are picking up any stones as they go,

although there has been no negative impact on the mower. The tree in front of the gate is to be moved later in the year when it is dormant, and placed in a better location. HA inspected the trees; they have irrigation pipes and are healthy.

3442. Playing Field

a. Oak Tree request by resident: WPC received an email from a neighbour to the tree requesting that a 30% crown reduction be completed now, with WPC and the two neighbours sharing the cost. It will be 4 years this coming Autumn since the last crown reduction paid for by WPC. The agreed schedule is to reduce the crown every 5-7 years. In January, 2023, TrinityM Ltd acting on behalf of a neighbour sought consent for felling the oak tree due to the affect on their house. TDC rejected this request due to lack of evidence. The neighbour states that technical evidence has since been gathered, however, TDC and WPC are yet to receive this. Parish Councillors are concerned that WPC may needlessly contribute to a crown reduction now, if the tree were to be consequently felled. To make an informed decision on the matter it was unanimously agreed to wait for the submission of technical evidence from TrinityM Ltd.

3443. Grant Application: Wrabness Community Shop - Request for £500, *'although any support would be appreciated'*, toward the cost of refurbishment and upgrade of shop facilities. The parish council support refurbishment and improvement proposals and noted the applicant felt that a grant from the parish council would help support a substantive grant being sought from TDC. HA proposed a grant of £300; this represents over 25% of our annual budget and was unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Richard Colley**

3444. New Planning Applications – the parish council has been notified of the following new applications received by Tendring District Council:

a. [24/00961/LUEX](#) - Land to The South of Wall Lane Wrabness Essex CO11 2BB - Application for Lawful Development Certificate for Existing Use or Development for Class A - caravan used for occasional overnight stay within permitted development. The application was noted. WPC reiterated their previous observation *"Wrabness Parish Council is aware that TDC has previously issued an enforcement notice relating to an unauthorised residential caravan on this site, and recommends account is taken of this in the determination of the lawful use application."* **ACTION: Parish Clerk**

3445. Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC) Annual Affiliation Fee 2024/25: TDALC, provide a link between parish and town councils and support where needed. It was unanimously agreed to pay the annual fee of £20. TDALC meetings are held by Zoom to which two representatives from each council are invited. At the May AGM, RSE and RC were appointed as WPCs representatives. **ACTION: Parish Clerk**

3446. Reports:

<p>HIGHWAYS: GW has reported the potholes on Wheatsheaf Lane again. Parish Clerk will forward the details of the holes to CC Carlo Guglielmi as he has requested. There are no other potholes noted within the village.</p>	<p>KIOSK: There has been one negative comment via email over the annual cost of maintaining the flower display. WPC feels that the cost is a justified contribution, and the shortfall is often covered by those kindly managing the display.</p>
<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: GW has spoken to PCSO Groves about the issue in the East Grove mentioned in the June meeting. There have also been reports of people riding unlicensed quad bikes and dirt bikes in and around Wheatsheaf Close. PCSO Groves will liaise with GW in future and warns to be cautious of people knocking on doors trying to sell services as there have been scams occurring in the area.</p>	<p>VILLAGE HALL: •The VHC have asked HA opinion on the silver birch trees adjacent to the car park, HA will contact. •VHC is to hold a liaison meeting with Community Shop / Bar about future events and the use of Wrabness' community spaces. •The large interior wall will be redecorated with specialist white paint for film screening to eliminate the need for a portable screen.</p>

STATION MASTERS GARDEN: The garden is in an interim phase, becoming more hardy and drought tolerant; reducing the amount of watering required. The space continues to look well kept and attractive.	FOOTPATHS: Most of the verges and paths are overgrown. A resident has offered to trim the plants along Station Road, however, consent is required from ECC highways based on risk assessment to be legal and for the resident to be covered by insurance.
FORESHORE: Everything is fine on the foreshore. RC was invited to and spoke at the Balhaven AGM.	WRABNESS PLAYING FIELD: The Annual Play Inspection Report from TDC has been shared with the Playing Field Committee. RC has suggested a liaison meeting to plan responsive works.
WEBSITE: The website is up to date and operational.	

3447. 2024-5 Accounts and monies received:

RECEIVED	AMOUNT	DISBURSEMENTS	AMOUNT	CQ No.
		Parish Clerk Salary for July 2024	£215.33	1266
		Village Hall Hire for July Meeting	£18.00	1267
		TDALC Annual Affiliation Fee	£20.00	1268
		TDC Playground Inspection 2024	£69.60	1269
		Grant: Wrabness Community Shop	£300.00	1270

3448. Confirmation of Account Balances:

Current Account: Balance as at 14 July £2,295.34

Deposit Account: Balance as at 14 July £6,853.83

3449. Any Other Urgent Business

- a. Request from Wrabness Community Shop: Dog Waste Bin: WPC were contacted by the Wrabness Community Shop Manager requesting that a dog waste bin be installed nearby to the shop as there have been issues with visitors to the village needing to dispose of dog waste and consequently using the shop waste bin, which is not appropriate. The Community Shop have also contacted TDC and the Community Rail Partnership with this query. There were discussions over where the bin could be placed as smell should not affect the Community Shop, Station Master's Garden or those living close by. It was suggested that unless a better location can be found that the existing bin at Rectory Road could be upgraded to accommodate dog waste. HA mentioned a new bin that encloses the waste will help keep smell in and animals out. It was agreed to liaise with the Community Shop/ TDC/ Community Railway Partnership over this matter.

- The meeting closed at 20:50 -

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th September 2024 in the Village Hall.

Juliet Attrill - Wrabness Parish Clerk

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