

GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of a meeting of Great Wrattling Parish Council held at 7 pm on 16th January 2019
at Little Acorns Fostering, Rook Tree Barn, Withersfield Road, Great Wrattling, Suffolk

Councillors Present: Diana Curtis (DC) (Chairman), Neil Curtis (NC), Dawn Fisk (DF), Beverley Griffin (BG).

In Attendance:

Jane Midwood (JM), St Edmundsbury Borough Councillor (for part of meeting)

Mary Evans (ME), Suffolk County Councillor (for part of meeting)

Richard Bowler, Clerk

1. PUBLIC FORUM (15 MINUTES)

None

2. ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Acheson and Hayes.

3. RECEIVE MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2018 were approved.

b) Future agendas are to include an item on follow-up actions resulting from the previous meeting.

Clerk

5. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

b) St Edmundsbury Borough Council

- Borough Cllr Jane Midwood had discussed with Borough Council officers the possibility of Great Wrattling and Little Wrattling parishes merging. She was disappointed by what she felt was a somewhat negative response.

(7.18 pm ME joined the meeting)

a) Suffolk County Council

- County Cllr Mary Evans said the County Council now had extra funds for highways work, including pot-hole repairs.

(7.31 pm JM Left the meeting)

- ME was arranging a meeting for Parish Councils with the local Police Community Engagement Officer. She said the police were currently putting a lot of work into fighting rural crime, such as hare coursing and deer poaching.

- Parish Council members mentioned various concerns relating to roads and footpaths; ME said these should be reported to the Highways Dept.

(7.56 pm ME left the meeting)

Clerk

6. THE GREAT WRATTING PARISH WEBSITE

DF said the social evening at the Red Lion pub on the last Friday of each month was publicised via the website. The possibility of changing the day and time was discussed.

7. THE VILLAGE LINK

DF gave a brief report.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Clerk to report on any planning applications received

Signed (Vice-Chairman) Date

	<p>There was a general discussion about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the issue of Parish Councils being given a relatively short period in which to comment on planning applications, which can be problematic for those councils which meet infrequently, ii) the legal requirement for Parish Councils to take decisions in physical meetings instead of using modern technology such as e-mail to hold virtual meetings. <p>Clerk to draft a letter to Matthew Hancock MP suggesting that the law in this area is out-of-date and needs revising.</p> <p>DC said the e-mail tree should be used to publicise planning applications and Parish Council meetings, to encourage greater public participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) DC/18/2360/HEDGE Hedgerow at Moor Pasture Way access road to water tower from Moor Pasture Way, Great Wratting. Hedge Removal Notice – Removal of 6m Hedgerow to enable (to allow construction of pipeline) Applicant: Anglian Water Noted. ii) DC/18/2433/HH 14 Coronation Cottages, School Road, Great Wratting CB9 7HB Householder planning application – two-storey rear extension Applicants: Mr and Mrs P Daines Noted. iii) DCON(A)/15/2151 Great Wilsey Park, Wilsey Road, Little Wratting Application to Discharge Conditions 39 (archaeology), and Partially Discharge Conditions 41 (tree survey), 42 (ecological implementation strategy), and 45 (biodiversity monitoring) of application DC/15/2151/OUT Agent: Bidwell's, on behalf of Redrow plc Noted. iv) DC/18/2551/RM Land NW of Haverhill, Anne Sucklings Lane, Little Wratting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reserved Matters Application - Means for Landscaping (replacement hedge) for phase one of the development previously approved under DC/16/2836/RM b) Submission of details under SE/09/1283/OUT - the means of landscaping (replacement hedge) for the construction of (i) residential development (ii) primary school (iii) local centre including retail and community uses (iv) public open space (v) landscaping (vi) infrastructure, servicing and other associated works <p>Applicant: Persimmon</p> <p>This related in part to the replacement of a hedge which had been mistakenly removed. The Parish Council will make the comment that while it is pleased that the hedge was being replaced it hoped that more care would be taken in future to avoid a similar mistake.</p> v) <u>For information only</u> DCON(E)/09/1283 Land NW of Haverhill, Anne Sucklings Lane, Little Wratting Application to discharge condition B19 (Fire Hydrants) of SE/09/1283 Applicant: Persimmon Homes Suffolk <u>APPROVED</u> (by St Edmundsbury Borough Council) Noted. The Parish Council agreed that it was particularly important that the boundaries of this development are screened, using native species of trees and hedges. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>DF</p> <p>Clerk</p>
9.	<u>HIGHWAYS</u>	

Signed (Vice-Chairman) Date

- a) **VAS**
The Parish Council was concerned that the VAS equipment, which is shared with other local parishes, had not been used in Great Wratting for several months. The Clerk will find out what is involved in using the equipment and analysing the data it generates. Clerk
10. **STANDING ORDERS**
The Clerk had circulated the Parish Council's Standing Orders, as requested. He will review them and circulate recommendations in time for the Council's next meeting so that the Council can formally review and approve them, amended if necessary, at the Parish Council's Annual Meeting in May. Clerk
11. **PROPOSED LINK WITH LITTLE WRATTING**
This item was deferred until the next meeting (20 March).
12. **IMPROVEMENTS TO BUS SHELTER**
NC is to carry out a risk assessment of the Parish Council's physical assets, including the bus shelter, after discussing it with Mr Cliff Fisk. He will report back to the Parish Council at the March meeting. NC
13. **PROVISION OF DEFIBRILLATOR**
DF had discussed with BT the possibility of the Parish Council acquiring the village's telephone kiosk and using it to house a defibrillator. She said data showed that the phone box was used very little. Residents are to be asked whether they have any objections to the village losing its phone box. DF
14. **RISK ASSESSMENT**
Discussed under Item 12.
15. **FINANCE**
- a) **To receive the financial report from the RFO including bank balances**
The Clerk presented the financial report as at 31 December 2018.
- b) **The agree the budget for 2019-20**
It was agreed that the Parish Council's 2019-20 budget would be £4,960.
- c) **To agree the precept for 2019-20**
It was agreed that the parish's precept for 2019-20 would be £4,960.
- d) **To receive and approve payments since last meeting and authorise any cheques for signature**
The following payments were approved:
- | | ref | Payee | details | amount |
|-----|------|--------------------|--|---------|
| i | 0218 | PCC Great Wratting | Donation for Village Fete 2017 (agreed previously) | £300.00 |
| ii | 0219 | Richard Bowler | Clerk's salary (Nov 2018) | £178.57 |
| iii | 0220 | Richard Bowler | Clerk's salary (Dec 2018) | £178.57 |
| iv | 0221 | HMRC | PAYE for quarter ending 5.1.19 | £133.80 |
16. **MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL**
The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been invited to attend a meeting of Haverhill Area Forum on 18 January.
17. **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**
BG is to ask Thurlow Estate how the Parish Council can work with it and help in relation to environmental issues. It hopes to meet a representative from the Estate to get a better understanding of the Estate's aspirations in relation to the environment (e.g. hedging, ditching etc). BG
18. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 20th March 2019.
There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.21 pm.

Signed (Vice-Chairman) Date