

GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Great Wratting Parish Council held at the Red Lion, School Road, Great Wratting on Wednesday 23rd November 2022 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Terry Holloway (Chair), Margaret May (Vice-Chair), Dawn Fisk, Tim Hayes and Barry Judge

Absent: None

In attendance: One member of the public
District Cllr Peter Stevens (for part of meeting)
Richard Bowler (Parish Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM (15 minutes)

Comments and observations from members of the public

There were no comments from members of the public

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for absence**

To receive any apologies, with reasons for absence

None

2. **Members' declarations of interest**

To receive members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

3. **Minutes of previous meeting(s)**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th September 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2022 were approved. ^(prop DF, 2nd MM)

4. **Matters arising**

- a) Defibrillator: Cllr Hayes was still waiting for quotation for painting phone box. THa
- b) Road-sweeping: The section of School Road between Coronation Cottages and Red Lion had been swept, following a request made by District Cllr Peter Stevens.
- c) Risk assessment:
 - o Cllr Hayes had completed the list of assets but needed to add valuations for insurance purposes. Clerk to provide costs where available. THa Clerk
 - o The grit bin near the ford had been moved to its correct location. One resident had complained that they had not been consulted in advance.
- d) Waste bin, Moor Pasture Way: The Clerk was waiting for a quotation from West Suffolk Council. Clerk
- e) Highways: *(To be discussed at Item 7)*
- f) Village communications: Cllr Fisk was still investigating the possibility of the Parish Council having its own Facebook page. DF
- g) Anaerobic digester: Cllr Holloway said there was a lot of concern locally. *(To be discussed under Item 5b)*
- h) Red Lion:
 - o Cllr Holloway said it was a good thing that the Parish Council was now supporting the pub by having its meetings there.

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- It was agreed that the monthly social get-togethers for residents, organised by the Parish Council, would be revived, starting on Wednesday 14th December, from 6.30 p.m. onwards. Cllr Fisk will publicise them.

DF

- i) Hedges: Some residents had taken note of the Parish Council's request for them to ensure that hedges do not encroach onto roads and pavements.
- j) Tree-planting: *(To be discussed at Item 8)*
- k) Heritage Trail: Cllr Holloway said the Working Group had not met yet but would probably do so in January.

THo
MM
THa

Cllr Fisk said it appeared that some replacement trees had been planted as part of the screening at the Anglian Water site near the A143/B1061 crossroads.

5. Local authority reports

- a) Suffolk County Council
County Cllr Bobby Bennett had sent her apologies. Her October report had been received.
- b) West Suffolk District Council
Deferred until later in the agenda.

6. Planning applications

Planning applications, District Council decisions, and appeals

- a) Planning applications
 - (i) DC/22/1723/FUL
Address: Foxfield House, School Road, Great Wrattling CB9 7HA
Applicant: Mr Gary Fox
Proposal: One detached cart lodge

AGREED that the Parish Council had no observations to make.
 - (ii) DC/22/1732/HH
Address: High Gables, The Street, Great Wrattling CB7 9HQ
Applicants: Mr and Mrs Yates
Proposal: (a) single-storey infill linking existing house and annexe; (b) ground floor rear windows replaced with bi-fold doors and insertion of one window.

AGREED that while it appeared that the use of the annexe was different from that in the previous planning consent the Parish Council had no objection to the two buildings being joined together.
- b) Planning decisions (made by District Council) – *for information only*
(no details were available)

5. Local authority reports

- b) West Suffolk District Council
Topics covered by District Cllr Peter Stevens included:
 - Anaerobic digester: He had asked for details of traffic movements which the digester would be expected to generate. He emphasised that the decision on the digester would be made by the County Council, not the District Council. He will keep the Parish Council informed of developments.

PS

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- Road-sweeping: Parish Council members told him that although they were pleased that part of School Road had been cleaned it now needed doing again. Several members had reported the problem online.
- Cost of living crisis: He said the District Council was helping some people who were struggling. It was also helping businesses. It was encouraging communities to have, for example, “welcome afternoons” in village halls, offering residents a warm place to meet. There were details on the District Council website; a link to this will be sent out via the e-mail tree.
- Anglian Water site, Little Wratting: The District Council had taken enforcement action, requiring Anglian Water to replace trees which had died. Cllr Fisk said some new trees had already been planted.
- Karro Food Group wall: He said there was little the District Council could do about the demolition of the wall.
- Little Wratting: The possibility of Little Wratting having a Parish Council had been discussed again.

PS
DF

7. Highways

Cllr Holloway said little progress was being made but he was due to have a meeting with Matt Hancock MP and County Cllr Bobby Bennett in January, when there would be a meeting of representatives from seven local villages.

THo

He said the police were using Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras in some local villages, but not in Great Wratting. He plans to try to get the village included.

District Cllr Stevens said he had raised the issue of traffic problems with County Cllr Richard Smith (the County Council member with responsibility for transport strategy) but the County Council did not have funds for traffic-calming measures.

Cllr Judge said he had reported the problem of the low kerb in School Road, between School House and Coronation Cottages, but had been told that as no accidents had been reported on that stretch of road the County Council would not be doing anything about it.

8. Tree-planting

Cllr Judge reported that there had been opposition from some residents to the Parish Council’s latest proposal, which was to plant trees along the top of the bank opposite Coronation Cottages. A new site for 12 trees had therefore been identified opposite the entrance to Karro Food Group’s car park. Cllr Judge, who had consulted Thurlow Estate about the proposed planting, will select the species. Residents will be kept informed.

BJ

AGREED that 12 trees will be planted and that up to approx. £500 would be spent on the project.^(prop THo, 2nd BJ) Residents who had previously offered to sponsor a tree are to be asked whether they are still happy to do so.

BJ

The trees are being planted as part of the late Queen’s Green Canopy Project and to commemorate her reign.

9. Flooding^(BJ)

To discuss flooding issue in Moor Pasture Way / Withersfield Road area

Cllr Judge said recent flooding in the gardens behind houses in Moor Pasture Way and Withersfield Road had caused concern but the Parish Council was told that Thurlow Estate, which farms the fields behind the houses, had taken action which it was hoped would solve the problem.

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10. Litter-pick (Saturday 19th Nov 2022)

The Parish Council expressed its thanks to those residents who took part in the litter-pick. Some had stayed on afterwards to enjoy refreshments provided by the Parish Council at the Red Lion.

11. Barry Moore

Request for contribution to retirement gift for Barry Moore, printer of The Village Link^(DF)

AGREED that £25 would be donated. ^(prop DF, 2nd MM)

12. Rural Mobility Survey

To consider responding to Transport East's survey on rural mobility

Clerk to circulate to get Councillors' views, and then respond.

13. Parish Council elections 2023

The Clerk said elections for the Parish Council and District Council would be held on 4th May 2023, and the Parish Council would be asked to meet at least part of the cost. If contested (i.e. more candidates than seats) this could be as much as £3,000.

AGREED the Clerk will seek clarification from West Suffolk Council, pointing out that for Great Wrating this would be close to unaffordable.

14. Finance

a) To receive monthly financial reports (Sep + Oct 2022)

Noted

b) 2023-24 budget – timetable^(Clerk)

Councillors were reminded that the 2023-24 budget and precept request would need to be agreed at the January meeting. The Clerk is to circulate a draft, based on the current year's budget.

It was agreed that funding may be needed for coronation celebrations, provisionally to be a barbecue and beacon-lighting on Saturday 6th May 2023 at 6 p.m.

c) To authorise payment(s)

The following payments were authorised: ^(prop THa, 2nd MM)

	ref	payee	details	amount
14(c)(i)	0342	Business Services at CAS Ltd	Insurance renewal* (1 Oct 2022 – 30 Sep 2023)	£383.48
14(c)(ii)	0343	SALC	Payroll service (1 Apr - 30 Sep 2022)	£54.00
14(c)(iii)	0344	Richard Bowler	Clerk's salary (Sep 2022)	£178.37
14(c)(iv)	0345	Richard Bowler	Clerk's salary (Oct 2022)	£178.57
14(c)(v)	0346	CLlr Terry Holloway	Refreshments for residents taking part in litter-pick (19 th November 2022)	£33.50
14(c)(vi)	0347	PCC Great Wrating	Donation in lieu of payment for use of venue for Parish Council meeting	£25.00
14(c)(vii)	0348	TBA	Contribution to Barry Moore's retirement gift	£25.00

**Clerk to seek alternative insurance quotations prior to 2023-24 renewal in Sept 2023.*

15. Confirmation of date and venue for next meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday 18th January 2023.

16. Closure of meeting

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.47 p.m.

Clerk

Clerk