

# GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Great Wratting Parish Council held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021, 7.30 pm  
(In view of the Covid-19 situation the meeting was held online.)

## **Councillors present:**

Cllrs Terry Holloway (Vice-Chairman), Neil Curtis, Dawn Fisk, Tim Hayes, Barry Judge and Margaret May.

## **Councillors absent:**

None

## **In attendance:**

County Cllr Mary Evans, Suffolk County Council (for part of meeting)

District Cllr Peter Stevens (for part of meeting)

Richard Bowler (Parish Clerk)

## **Public forum**

No members of the public were present.

## MINUTES

1.	<b>TO RECEIVE RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN</b> <b>To receive the resignation of Cllr Diana Curtis, both as Chairman and as a Parish Councillor</b> The resignation of Cllr Diana Curtis was noted. A vote of thanks was given to her for her work as a Parish Councillor and as Chairman. It was agreed that a gift should be made to her as a token of the Parish Council's appreciation. Cllrs Curtis and Fisk will arrange it.	DF NC
2.	<b>TO ELECT CHAIRMAN</b> <b>a) To elect a Chairman of the Parish Council</b> AGREED unanimously that Cllr Terry Holloway should be elected Chairman. <sup>(prop DF, 2nd NC)</sup> <b>b) To agree to defer the signing by the Chairman of their Declaration of Acceptance of Office</b> AGREED that the signing by the Chairman of his Declaration of Acceptance of Office should be deferred until such time as the Parish Council can hold a physical meeting. <sup>(prop THa, 2nd MM)</sup>	
3.	<b>TO ELECT VICE-CHAIRMAN</b> <b>To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council (optional)</b> AGREED that Cllr Margaret May should be elected Vice-Chairman. <sup>(prop THo, 2nd DF)</sup>	
4.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> <b>To accept any apologies, with reasons for absence</b> None	
5.	<b>MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> <b>To receive members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda</b> Cllr Curtis, as a neighbour, declared an interest in Item 9(a)(i).	
6.	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)</b> <b>To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b> The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 were approved, subject to a correction to the minute on Item 8(b)(ii).	Clerk
7.	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> <b>a) Request for litter bin, Moor Pasture Way:</b> The Chairman asked District Cllr Stevens if he could cover that point in his report.	

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- b) **Mobile Post Office:** The Clerk said he had not yet heard back from the Post Office. He will follow it up.
- c) **Old School House:** Clerk reported that he had not heard back from residents regarding a damaged wall in School Road.
- d) **Street name signs, Moor Pasture Way:** The Clerk said West Suffolk Council has said the signs will be replaced.

Clerk

## 8. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

- a) **Suffolk County Council**

*(Deferred to later in the meeting)*

- b) **West Suffolk District Council**

District Cllr Peter Stevens' report included the following points:

New street name signs at Moor Pasture Way: This is in hand.

Litter and dog waste bin, Moor Pasture Way: He suggested that the Clerk should make a formal request, which he will then follow up.

Clerk

Footpath link to Haverhill: A landowner had declined to give permission to Little Thurlow Parish Council for a similar request, which would have linked existing footpaths. He said it had been suggested that Great Wratting, Great Thurlow and Little Thurlow could jointly produce a map which would form the basis of a proposal to various landowners for a permissive path.

The Chairman offered to progress this.

THO

Haverhill-Cambridge transport links: At the recent Haverhill Forum meeting the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, James Palmer, had discussed his plans for a guided busway from Haverhill to Cambridge. District Cllr Stevens said as it would not be ready until 2030 there would be increasing traffic through local villages, so parish councils should jointly put pressure on Suffolk County Council for speed and weight limits to be introduced in the meantime.

*(It was decided that Item 12 should be taken next.)*

## 12. HAVERHILL FORUM – A1307 CORRIDOR

**To receive a report on a meeting to discuss the A1307 corridor<sup>(NC)</sup>**

Clr Curtis said commuters using the A1307 corridor face delays at Linton and on the approach to Cambridge. The Haverhill Forum meeting, which he attended, heard the Mayor's plans for a new Metro transport system or the reinstatement of the branch line railway.

He said the significant expansion of Haverhill's population, without transport infrastructure being improved at the same time, means that Great Wratting and other villages will suffer the consequences with increased traffic. He supported the suggestion that the two county councils should work together to find a solution.

**8.     b)   West Suffolk District Council (continued)**

Haverhill-Cambridge transport links (continued): District Cllr Stevens said the Mayor's officers had said a guided bus was the most likely solution for the Haverhill-Cambridge route. He emphasised the need for Parish Councils to work together to lobby the County Councils.

County Cllr Mary Evans offered to arrange a meeting involving officers from County and District Councils, and Parish Council representatives.

ME

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	<p><u>Haverhill Waste Transfer Station</u> – Plans for a new waste disposal site in Haverhill were progressing well. It is likely to be ready in early 2022.</p>	
8.	<p>a) <b>Suffolk County Council</b> (<i>County Cllr Mary Evans</i>)</p> <p><u>Getting VAS signs moved</u>: County Cllr Mary Evans agreed to chase up an application made by the Clerk some time ago for the VAS signs on the B1061 at the eastern end of the village to be relocated.</p> <p><u>White “gates” at village entrances</u>: She will investigate the cost of white “gates” and see whether any funding is available from the County Council.</p> <p>District Cllr Peter Stevens said some funds towards the cost of white “gates” might be available through his Locality Budget.</p> <p>Cllr Holloway said he welcomed the mention in County Cllr Evans’ report of the proposed use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition equipment on the B1061, he was pleased that more is being spent on filling pot-holes, and on recycling. He said he would like to represent the Parish Council in laising with her on the Discover Suffolk initiative.</p> <p>The possibility of an electric charging point being provided in the village was discussed but it was felt that it would be of little use in Great Wratting, partly because there is no obvious site for one and also that people in the village with electric vehicles would have their own charging points, which their visitors could also use.</p>	<p>ME</p> <p>ME</p> <p>THo</p>
9.	<p><b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b></p> <p><b>Clerk to report on planning applications, District Council decisions, and appeals</b></p> <p>a) <b>Planning applications</b></p> <p>(i) DC/21/0126/TCA Ash Tree House, Withersfield Road, Great Wratting CB9 7HD</p> <p>Trees in a conservation area notification - one Beech (one on plan) reduce height by one metre; 19 Leylandii (two on plan), six Pine (three on plan), four Conifers (four on plan) - reduce height by two metres; four Conifers (five on plan) - fell</p> <p>Applicant: Mr Paul Allen, Ash Tree House</p> <p><u>AGREED</u> to strongly support the application.</p> <p>(ii) DC/21/0173/TCA Paradise Cottage, Withersfield Road, Great Wratting CB9 7HD</p> <p>Tree in a conservation area notification - Ash tree, diseased and dead upper canopy. Remove.</p> <p>Applicant: Joe Acheson</p> <p><u>AGREED</u> to strongly support the application.</p> <p>b) <b>Planning decisions</b> (made by District Council) – for information</p> <p>(i) DC/20/1864/CLE Annexe The Drey, Withersfield Road, Great Wratting CB9 7HD</p> <p>Application for lawful development certificate for existing use or development – one annexe</p> <p><u>Applicant</u>: Mrs Davidona De Winton, The Drey, Withersfield Road, Great Wratting</p> <p><u>District Council decision</u>: Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>	

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	<p>c) <b>Planning appeals</b> None</p>	
10.	<p><b>QUIET LANES</b>  <b>To receive an update on Quiet Lanes Suffolk and to agree any actions required</b><sup>(MM)</sup>            Cllr May said the Parish Council's application for The Street and Withersfield Road to be considered for Quiet Lanes status had been accepted provisionally. The cost to the Parish Council is expected to be around £2,000.             Residents in both roads, including those living just outside the parish boundary, need to be consulted, as do businesses which might be affected. A public meeting will also be held before the Parish Council makes a final decision.             It was decided that the public meeting should take place immediately before the Parish Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March.             Cllr May is continuing to progress this initiative.</p>	MM
11.	<p><b>REPAIRS TO VILLAGE SIGN</b>  <b>To consider repairs needed to Village Sign and to take any actions required</b>            The Chairman said the post was going to be painted but the sign itself needs repairing and repainting, once better weather comes. Cllr Judge will try to find someone locally who could do this work.</p>	BJ
12.	<p><b>HAVERHILL FORUM – A1307 CORRIDOR</b>  <b>To receive a report on a meeting to discuss the A1307 corridor</b><sup>(NC)</sup>  <i>(Discussed earlier in the meeting, during Item 8b)</i></p>	
13.	<p><b>DEFIBRILLATOR</b>  <b>To receive an update on plan to install a defibrillator in the former telephone kiosk</b><sup>(THa/Clerk)</sup>            Cllr Hayes said BT had not yet removed the phone. Once it is gone he will order the defibrillator and arrange installation, after which residents will be notified via the e-mail tree.</p>	THa DF
14.	<p><b>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b>  <b>To receive update on Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator</b>            The Chairman said Clare Egloff had agreed to continue as the village's Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. He said she had also been asked by some Little Wratting residents to take responsibility for their parish too. He added that she had said she will come to Parish Council meetings to give updates.</p>	
15.	<p><b>VILLAGE PLAN/OBJECTIVES</b>  <b>To note the Village Plan and Objectives documents (circulated previously)</b>            The agreed Village Plan and Objectives were noted, and will be on the agenda for discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting. They will also be put on the Parish Council website.</p>	DF
16.	<p><b>POLICIES</b>  <b>To receive an update on policies proposed for adoption by the Parish Council</b><sup>(THa)</sup>            The Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and the Code of Conduct had been agreed previously. Cllr Hayes said other policies were needed, covering Press Relations, Complaints, Data Protection and Employment. The intention is to have them finalised in time for the Parish Council's Annual Meeting in May, and on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting later that month.</p>	THa Clerk
17.	<p><b>FINANCE</b>  <b>a) To receive monthly financial report</b>            The financial report for the month ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021 was received.</p>	

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**b) To agree the budget for 2021-22**

The budget for 2021-22 was agreed. (prop DF, 2nd THa)

**c) To authorise the following payment(s)**

The payments below were authorised.

	ref	payee	details	amount
17(c)(i)	0280	Richard Bowler	Clerk's salary (January 2021)	£178.57
17(c)(ii)	0281	SALC	Payroll service (1 Apr - 30 Sep 2020)	£54.00

**CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.03 pm.