

# GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Great Wrattling Parish Council held at the Red Lion, School Road, Great Wrattling on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30 pm

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

Absent: Cllr Margaret May

In attendance: County Cllr Bobby Bennett (for part of meeting)  
District Cllr Peter Stevens (for part of meeting)  
Richard Bowler (Parish Clerk)

## Public forum (15 minutes)

### Comments and observations from members of the public

No members of the public were present.

## MINUTES

### Actions

<b>1. Apologies for absence</b> <u>To accept any apologies, with reasons for absence</u> Apologies were received from Cllr May (out of parish)	
<b>2. Members' declarations of interest</b> <u>To receive members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda</u> None	
<b>3. Minutes of previous meeting(s)</b> <u>To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022</u> The minutes of the meeting on 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2022 were approved, subject to a minor amendment to Minute 4(a). <sup>(prop THa, 2nd DF)</sup>	
<b>4. Matters arising</b>	
a) <u>Defibrillator</u> : Cllr Hayes was waiting for a second quotation for painting the phone box.	THa
b) <u>Risk assessment</u> : Cllr Hayes had now completed this, having added the capital costs of the assets.	
c) <u>Waste bin, Moor Pasture Way</u> : The Clerk was waiting for a quotation from West Suffolk Council.	Clerk
d) <u>Village communications</u> : Cllr Fisk was still looking into the idea of the Parish Council having its own Facebook page.	DF
e) <u>Monthly social get-togethers</u> : The next one will be on 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb.	
f) <u>Heritage Trail</u> : The Working Group had not yet met.	THo/MM /THa
g) <u>Anaerobic digester</u> : District Cllr Peter Stevens said there had not yet been a planning application. He mentioned that there was opposition to the project from some Withersfield residents. AGREED that the Parish Council would not respond until a planning application was submitted.	
h) <u>Cost of living crisis</u> : Cllr Fisk had publicised information sent by the District Council and will circulate a new document it had provided.	DF

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- i) Highways: (To be discussed at Item 8)
- j) Tree-planting: (To be discussed at Item 7)
- k) Finance: The Clerk had circulated a draft budget for 2023-24

## 5. Local authority reports

### a) Suffolk County Council

County Cllr Bobby Bennett had not joined the meeting at this point. Her most recent report had been circulated.

### b) West Suffolk District Council

Points mentioned by District Cllr Peter Stevens included:

- o Finance:
  - The District Council's finances were in good shape, thanks partly to income from a solar farm owned by the Council.
  - This year's Council Tax increase would be c. 2.6 - 3% (equivalent to about £5 per year more for a band D household).
- o Anaerobic digester: He will be keeping a close eye on the proposal for one to be built near Haverhill, once plans are submitted.
- o Warm spaces project: The District Council is supporting it.
- o Waste collection: The District Council was waiting for the Government to give details of new waste collection procedures.

Cllr Holloway said he was concerned about blocked drains. He said the County Council would not do anything about it.

- o Elections, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023: If no suitable venue for a polling station can be found in the village District Cllr Stevens will tell the District Council officers that Great Thurlow would be the preferred option.  
Once arrangements have been confirmed the Parish Council will inform residents about the venue and also remind them that they need to have proof of identity with them when they go to vote.

### a) Suffolk County Council

- o On being told by Cllr Holloway that blocked drains and pot-holes in the parish were a big problem County Cllr Bennett said it was the same all over the county. Remedial action was being taken on a priority basis.
- o She said the pavement on School Road will be improved. She was thanked for getting it done.
- o She also pointed out that the railings on the ford in The Street had been replaced.

District Cllr Stevens said he would ask the District Council to clear the drains in Withersfield Road, The Street and School Road.

Cllr Holloway said County Cllr Bennett had been in the village several times recently to discuss highways issues and other matters.

## 6. Planning applications

### Planning applications, District Council decisions, and appeals

#### a) Planning applications

None

PS

PS

DF

PS

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- b) Planning decisions (made by District Council) – *for information*  
None

- c) Planning appeals

Address: Karro Food Group Ltd, Haverhil Road, Little Wrattling CB9 7TD  
Application: Change of use from general industrial (Class B2) to open air storage (Class B8) (DC/21/0938/FUL)  
Appellant: Paul Sutton, Jaynic Properties Ltd

AGREED that the Parish Council will tell the Inspector that it continues to oppose the application.

## 7. Tree-planting

Cllr Judge had reserved 10 trees at an agreed price of £300, including stakes and deer guards. Residents would be given the chance to sponsor a tree for £30. Volunteers will be needed to help plant them. This will be done on a Saturday in February, followed by refreshments at the Red Lion. Cllr Judge will draft an e-mail to be sent to residents via the e-mail tree.

BJ/DF

## 8. Highways

### Traffic issues

Cllr Holloway had meet Matt Hancock MP in the village to discuss traffic problems, especially in relation to the hill in Thurlow Road. As the road cannot be widened there Mr Hancock thinks traffic lights are the best solution. He also wants a 40 m.p.h. limit on the roads linking Great Wrattling with Kedington, Withersfield, Great Thurlow and Great Bradley, and will look into the possibility of a 20 m.p.h. limit in Great Wrattling. He would like the county to have more automatic number plate recognition cameras.

### Vehicle-activated signs (VAS)

Cllr Holloway said the parish had the use of the VAS equipment only every other month as it was shared with other parishes, and suggested that Great Wrattling should have one or two of its own (at a cost of c. £500 each).

## 9. Dedham Vale & Stour Valley AONB

### To receive information about possible availability of grants

Clerk to get more details.

Clerk

## 10. Elections (4<sup>th</sup> May 2023)

- a) To receive details of West Suffolk Council's Polling Place Review  
b) To consider potential absence of polling station in Great Wrattling  
c) To receive request to publicise need for voters to show photo ID  
These issues were discussed as part of Item 5b.

## 11. PCC survey on precept proposal

### To consider the Police and Crime Commissioner's survey on proposal to increase precept

Details will be circulated to residents via the e-mail tree.

DF

## 12. Event(s) to celebrate King's Coronation, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### To consider planning of event(s) to mark the Coronation

It was confirmed that there will be a barbecue in the grounds of Great Wrattling Hall at 6 p.m. on 6th May, with the Red Lion running a bar. The Jubilee beacon will be lit.  
AGREED that £250 should be allocated to cover costs.

Cllr Holloway will draft a note to go to residents via the e-mail tree.

THo/DF

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All

## 13. Invitation to “levelling-up” event (15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023)

To receive invitation to attend Chamber UK’s “Levelling up the conversation – Skills for the future of Suffolk” event, Ipswich, Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023, 6 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.

Noted. Any Councillors wishing to attend should notify the Clerk.

### “The Village Link”

Cllr Fisk said the parish’s monthly order for *The Village Link* had been increased to 96. The publication has recently appointed a new editor.

## 14. Finance

### a) To receive monthly financial reports (Nov + Dec 2022)

Noted

### b) To receive financial summary to end of Q3

Noted

### e) To authorise payment(s)

The following payments were authorised. (prop. DF, 2nd THa)

	ref	payee	details	amount
14(e)(i)	0348	The Village Link	91 copies per month of “The Village Link” (Feb 2022 – Jan 2023)	£510.00
14(e)(ii)	0349	Richard Bowler	Clerk’s salary (November 2022)	£178.57
14(e)(iii)	0350	Richard Bowler	Clerk’s salary (December 2022)	£178.57
14(e)(iv)	0351	HMRC	PAYE (6 Oct 2022 – 5 Jan 2023)	£133.80
14(e)(v)	0352	PCC Great Wratting	Use of Red Lion as meeting venue	£30.00

### c) To agree budget for 2023-24

The budget for 2023-24 was agreed. (prop THo, 2nd THa) It is attached as Appendix A.

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> May would be held at the Red Lion (subject to availability).

### d) To agree precept request for 2023-24

AGREED that the 2023-24 precept would be £7,000. (prop THo, 2nd DF)

## 15. Confirmation of date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

## 16. Closure of meeting

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.20 p.m.