

# GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Great Wrattling Parish Council held in Withersfield Village Hall on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30 pm

## **Councillors present:**

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

## **Councillors absent:**

Cllr Tim Hayes

## **In attendance:**

District Cllr Peter Stevens (for part of meeting)

Richard Bowler (Parish Clerk) (by telephone)

## **Public forum**

No members of the public were present.

## MINUTES

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**To accept any apologies, with reasons for absence**

Cllr Hayes

### **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 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved. (prop DF, 2nd MM)

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were approved. (prop DF, 2nd BJ)

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

**To consider matters arising from previous meetings**

- a) **VAS signs:** Cllrs Holloway and May had taken photographs and will forward them to the Clerk for submission to the County Council with a request for the posts to be moved.
- b) **Village sign:** Cllr Fisk said the paint was on order.
- c) **Defibrillator:** In Cllr Hayes's absence there was no update. *(Deferred to next meeting)*
- d) **Heritage Trail:** Cllr Holloway has asked the County Council for some information; once he receives it he will call a meeting of the Heritage Trail Working Group (THa, THo, MM).
- e) **Improvements to broadband:** In Cllr Hayes' absence there was no update. *(Deferred to next meeting)*
- f) **Frequency of meetings:** There was a discussion about whether the Parish Council should ask the County and District Councillors for monthly reports or receive reports at its two-monthly meetings. Cllr Holloway will discuss the issue with County Cllr Bennett. District Cllr Stevens said he would contact the Parish Council about anything important.

THo/  
MM/  
Clerk

THa

THo/  
THa/  
MM

THa

THo  
PS

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|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
|    | <p>g) <b>2021-22 budget:</b> The Clerk said the revised 2021-22 budget had been re-circulated, as requested. The Chair asked for it to be sent to him again.</p> <p>h) <b>Venue for Parish Council meetings:</b> It was agreed that the Parish Council should continue to meet in Withersfield Village Hall. (Clerk to book hall)</p> <p>i) <b>Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and other policies:</b> Cllr Fisk said these had been uploaded to the Parish Council website.</p> <p>j) <b>Maintenance: Re-varnish Moor Pasture Way bench:</b> Cllr Judge said this had not yet been done but the work was in hand.</p> <p>k) <b>Asset register:</b> The Clerk said it had been corrected.</p> <p>l) <b>Boundary Commission proposals:</b> These had been circulated; no comments had been received from Parish Councillors.</p> <p>m) <b>Quiet lanes:</b> <i>(To be discussed at Item 9)</i></p> <p>n) <b>ANPR camera:</b> Residents had been consulted. Cllr Holloway was waiting to hear back from the County Council.</p> <p>o) <b>George Sykes memorial bench:</b> An update will be given at Item 7.<br/>The Clerk said a Locality Budget grant had been applied for and had been authorised by District Cllr Peter Stevens.</p> <p>p) <b>Gift for Mary Evans:</b> Cllr Fisk has not been able to contact Mary Evans.</p> <p><b>Planning application for change of use of part of Karro Food Groups site in Little Wratting:</b> District Cllr Peter Stevens said he had spoken to the relevant Planning Officer about the Parish Council's concerns.</p> <p><b>Verge and hedge-cutting:</b> <i>(to be discussed at Item 8)</i></p> <p><b>30-mph signs:</b> The Clerk was asked to inform the County Council that some 'repeater' 30-mph limit signs had been damaged and needing repairing. Also that the location of 30-mph signs at the village entrances on the B1061 needed reviewing as the Police had said they were sometimes unable to prosecute speeding drivers because the signs did not comply with legislation.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>BJ</p> <p>THo</p> <p>DF</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| 5. | <b>LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS</b>  |   |
|    | <p>a) <b>Suffolk County Council</b><br/>County Cllr Bobby Bennett was not able to attend.</p>   |   |
|    | <p>b) <b>West Suffolk District Council</b><br/>District Cllr Peter Stevens gave his report.</p>   |   |
|    | <i>(8.20 p.m. District Cllr Peter Stevens left the meeting)</i>   |   |
| 6. | <b>PLANNING</b>   |   |
|    | <b>Planning applications, District Council decisions, and appeals</b>   |   |
|    | <p>a) <b>Planning applications</b></p> <p>i) DC/21/1336/VAR<br/>Land east of Waterfields, School Road, Great Wratting<br/>Variation of Condition 2 of DC/19/0534/FUL to enable the use of revised plans for one dwelling and cartlodge for covered/secure parking and storage<br/>Applicant: Fox</p> <p>AGREED that the Parish Council strongly supported the application. <sup>(prop THo, 2nd MM)</sup></p>  |   |

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- ii) DC/21/1339/TCA  
83 and 84 Thurlow Road, Great Wratting CB9 7HG  
Trees in a conservation area notification - one conifer and one fir to be felled  
Applicant: Harry Mannock, Thurlow Estate  
AGREED that the Parish Council strongly supported the application. (prop THo, 2nd DF)

- iii) DC/21/1359/TCA  
Pond Cottage, Withersfield Road, Great Wratting CB9 7HD  
Trees in a conservation area notification:  
  - one cedar: reduce height by 3.5 metres
  - one conifer: reduce height by 5 metres
  - one ash: re-pollard
  - one conifer: reduce height by 2.5 metres
Applicant: Alison, Pond Cottage, Withersfield Road  
AGREED that the Parish Council strongly supported the application. (prop THo, 2nd DF)

- b) **Planning decisions** (made by District Council) – *for information*  
The following District Council planning decision was noted:

- (i) DC/21/1133/TCA  
Great Wratting Hall, The Street, Great Wratting  
Trees in a conservation area notification  
  - 1 Scots pine to be felled
  - 1 willow: remove 3 metres off two branchesDistrict Council decision: No objections

- c) **Planning appeals**  
None

## 7. GEORGE SYKES MEMORIAL BENCH

- a) **Update**  
Cllr Judge said the project was progressing well; he had received the plaque, the bench was being delivered within the next few days, and the groundworks were planned for early August.  
Fr Chris Giles, the Rector, had suggested holding a dedication ceremony in mid-late August. Cllr Judge is to discuss the provision of refreshments for the dedication ceremony with the landlord of the Red Lion.
- b) **Confirmation of grant of £800 from District Cllr Peter Stevens' Locality Budget**  
The Clerk had received confirmation that the Parish Council would received a grant of £800 towards the cost of the project.

BJ

BJ

## 8. ROADSIDE HEDGE-TRIMMING

Cllr Fisk said the Thurlow Estate had offered to cut back any overgrown roadside hedges in the village, for which each owner would be asked to pay a fee. It was agreed that this information would be circulated via the e-mail tree.

DF

Cllr Fisk will also use the e-mail tree to notify residents about recent changes to arrangements at the Suffolk Recycling Centres.

DF

## 9. HIGHWAYS

- a) **General update**  
Quiet Lanes: Cllr May said she was waiting to hear whether there had been any objections from residents of either Great Wratting or Withersfield. She will receive an update at a meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July with the Suffolk County Council team which is running the project.

MM

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She thanked other Parish Councillors who had helped by delivering leaflets and putting up posters. Now that the public consultation period has ended Cllrs Fisk and Judge said they will take the posters down.

DF/BJ

ANPR camera: Cllr Holloway said residents had been consulted about the proposal for an Automatic Number Plate Recognition camera to be installed in Withersfield Road, and an application for a camera had been submitted to the County Council. The camera would monitor the speed of traffic coming into Great Wrating from the Withersfield direction.

Permissive paths: Cllr Holloway said he and a representative of Withersfield Parish Council had met Tim Barlow, Agent to Thurlow Estate, to discuss the possibility of a track across Estate land being made into a permissive path. Discussions are ongoing.

THo

Parking: Cllr Holloway is to consult the Thurlow Estate's Agent about concerns relating to vehicles being parked close to the Thurlow Road/Withersfield Road junction. It is believed that they are the responsibility of occupants of Estate cottages in Thurlow Road and the Parish Council hopes that provision can be made for them to be parked off the road near the cottages.

THo

## b) **Thurlow Road problems – further complaints**

Residents had again raised the issue of traffic problems on the B1061 at the Thurlow end of the village.

Cllr Holloway said the Parish Council had raised this issue with the County Council, which he pointed out was the only authority which could take action.

## 10. **TREE-PLANTING**

Cllr Curtis reported on his meeting with Tim Barling, Agent to the Thurlow Estate, about the Parish Council's tree-planting proposals. The Council's original intention was to plant 75 trees last year to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE-Day. The Council agreed to Mr Barling's suggestion that the planting should also be linked to the Queen's Green Canopy project, which will mark her Platinum Jubilee in 2022. The Council also agreed to Mr Barling's suggestion that the trees should be planted around three sides of a field behind the parish church, following a footpath which leads back onto Withersfield Road.

## 11. **DISCOVERING SUFFOLK – FINGERPOST PLAQUES**

**To consider a response to the enquiry received on 14<sup>th</sup> June from Ben Heather, Suffolk County Council's Green Access Officer**

As part of the County Council's "Discovering Suffolk" project, which aims to raise awareness of Suffolk's countryside and promote outdoor activities, information plaques are to be fitted to roadside right-of-way fingerposts.

The Parish Council agreed that it strongly supported this initiative, which Cllr Holloway said would complement the Parish Council's Heritage Trail project. In response to the County Council's request for help in fitting the plaques Cllr Judge volunteered on behalf of Great Wrating Parish Council.

BJ

## 12. **TRAIL RUN ALONG STOUR VALLEY PATH (14th Aug 2021)**

Notification was received of a trail running event taking place on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2021, with the route going through Great Wrating

## 13. **FINANCE**

### a) **To receive monthly financial report**

The Clerk presented the financial report for the two months ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, with supporting bank statements.

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**b) To authorise payment(s)**

The payments listed below were authorised. (prop THo, 2nd NC)

|             | ref  | payee                                 | details   | amount  |
|-------------|------|---------------------------------------|---|---------|
| 13(b)(i)    | 0290 | Dawn Fisk                             | Refreshments for Annual Parish Meeting                    | £23.10  |
| 13(b)(ii)   | 0291 | Great Wratting Village Fete Committee | Grant to pay for hire of bouncy castle for Village Picnic | £305.00 |
| 13(b)(iii)  | 0292 | Orwell Mencap                         | memorial bench  | £540.00 |
| 13(b)(iv)   | 0293 | L&M Signs                             | plaque for memorial bench                                 | £52.80  |
| 13(b)(v)    | 0294 | Andrew Clay                           | groundworks for memorial bench                            | £319.00 |
| 13(b)(vi)   | 0295 | Richard Bowler                        | Clerk's salary (May 2021)                                 | £178.57 |
| 13(b)(vii)  | 0296 | Richard Bowler                        | Clerk's salary (June 2021)                                | £178.57 |
| 13(b)(viii) | 0297 | HMRC                                  | PAYE (6 Apr – 5 Jul 2021)                                 | £133.80 |

Note: The payment for the groundworks for the memorial bench will be made only after the work has been completed.

**14. CONFIRMATION OF DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next Parish Council meeting would not be held on the published date but would instead be on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**15. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.07 p.m.