

GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Great Wrating Parish Council held at Withersfield Village Hall
on Wednesday 28th September 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: 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

1. Apologies for absence

To accept 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 20th July 2022

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 20th July 2022 were approved. (prop Tha, 2nd MM)

4. Matters arising

- a) Defibrillator: Cllr Hayes said he was waiting for a quotation for painting the decommissioned phone box which houses the defibrillator. It was mentioned that competitive quotations may be needed.
- b) Road-sweeping: District Cllr Stevens said the District Council was no longer sweeping roads routinely unless there was a specific problem. He agreed to ask the road-sweeping team to make the section of road between the Red Lion pub and Coronation Cottages a priority, after Cllr Holloway said it was in a poor state and was liable to flooding.
- c) Parking on verges: District Cllr Stevens said the District Council had no jurisdiction over drivers parking on grass verges near their homes. In view of this Cllr Holloway suggested that the Parish Council should now drop this issue.
- d) Water treatment works: District Cllr Stevens said the District Council had issued an enforcement order requiring Anglian Water to re-plant trees planted to form a screen at its new site near the A143/B1061 crossroads in Little Wrating.
- e) Risk assessment: Cllr Hayes reported that he had not yet been able to complete work on the Parish Council's risk assessment.
Cllr Fisk reported that the grit bins were in good condition but the one near the ford in The Street needed moving to the other side of the ford. This will be done by Parish Councillors.

Tha

PS

THa

All

GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <p>f) <u>Waste bin, Moor Pasture Way</u>: District Cllr Stevens confirmed that if the Parish Council asked for a new waste bin to be installed at the junction of Moor Pasture Way and Withersfield Road it would have to foot the bill. It would also have to pay for it to be emptied, although emptying charges did not apply to older bins in the village. Cllr Judge offered to be responsible for emptying the bin. The Clerk was asked to find out the cost of a new bin.</p> <p>AGREED that the Parish Council would spend up to £500 on a new bin. (prop DF, 2nd BJ)</p> | <p>BJ
Clerk</p> |
| <p>g) <u>Highways</u>: Cllrs Holloway and May had been to various meetings on highways issues and will continue to lobby County Cllr Bobby Bennett and County Council officers in a bid to improve road safety in the parish. Cllr Holloway will also be having a meeting with Matt Hancock MP to discuss it.</p> <p>Cllr Hayes suggested that it might help to have speed limit signs and hatching painted onto the road surface at each end of the village.</p> <p>Cllr May is also asking County Cllr Bennett whether a “double bend” sign can be installed in Withersfield Road, near Paradise Farm.</p> | <p>MM
THo</p> <p>MM</p> |
| <p>h) <u>Tree-planting</u>: <i>(To be discussed later in the meeting.)</i></p> | |
| <p>i) <u>Housing provision</u>: The Clerk confirmed that the Local Plan does not include any development in the parish.</p> | |
| <p>j) <u>Trail-running event, Stour Valley Path (13th Aug 2022)</u>: Residents had been informed in advance.</p> | |
| <p>k) <u>Communications within village</u>: Cllr Fisk had contacted the administrator of an existing village WhatsApp group; more residents had been encouraged to join it and some had done so. She has yet to look into the idea of creating a Facebook page for the Parish Council. She will contact administrators of other local online groups, which may result in Great Wratting sharing an existing page.</p> | <p>DF</p> |
| <p>l) <u>Finance</u>: The Clerk had made approved payments.</p> | |
| <p>5. Local authority reports</p> | |
| <p>a) <u>Suffolk County Council</u></p> <p>County Cllr Bobby Bennett was not at the meeting.</p> | |
| <p>b) <u>West Suffolk District Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ District Cllr Peter Stevens said the District Council was struggling to retain enough HGV drivers to operate the refuse vehicles. ○ A consultation had taken place on the first stage of the Local Plan; Great Wratting was not affected. ○ Work had started on Haverhill’s western by-pass; it was due to be completed in March. ○ Various concerns, including some relating to traffic, smells and flood risks, had been raised at a public meeting in Withersfield to discuss proposals for an anaerobic digester to be installed on the edge of Haverhill. He had visited a similar one on the Euston Estate, near Thetford, and said there was no smell from it. He said the Euston Estate was happy to show people the digester. Cllr Holloway, who said his main concern about the proposal was additional traffic which would be generated, said he would like to visit the Euston digester and, if possible, would offer other residents the opportunity to go too. | |

GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

District Cllr Stevens, who was asked to keep the Parish Council updated, said that from a planning point of view the project might come under the jurisdiction of the County Council rather than the District Council.

PS

12. Red Lion public house^(DF/THo)

To discuss the Red Lion public house and the village's relationship with it
(It was agreed that this item should be brought forward in the agenda.)

The Chair said the village was lucky to have a pub and he would talk to the landlord about ways in which the Parish Council could support it.

THo

A query was raised about a marquee at the pub and whether planning permission was needed for it. District Cllr Stevens offered to find out.

PS

6. Planning applications

Planning applications, District Council decisions, and appeals

a) Planning applications

None

b) Planning decisions (made by District Council) – *for information only*

(i) DC/22/1417/TCA

Trees in a conservation area notification

Address: 82 Thurlow Road, Great Wrating CB9 7HG

Details: one horse chestnut, pollard to 5m above ground level; one sycamore and one horse chestnut, crown reduction in height by up to three metres.

Applicant: Robert Rush, 82 Thurlow Road, Great Wrating

District Council decision: No objections

Noted

(ii) DC/22/1446/TCA

Trees in a conservation area notification

Address: Great Wrating Water Works, School Road, Great Wrating CB9 7HB

Details: One mixed species, crown lift to 5.5m above ground level.

Applicants: Anglian Water

District Council decision: No objections

Noted

7. Anaerobic digester

To discuss proposals for anaerobic digester to be installed on the edge of Haverhill^(THo)
(This was discussed earlier in the meeting, at Item 5(b).)

8. Highways^(THo)

Cllr Fisk was concerned about overgrown hedges encroaching onto roads and pavements, which sometimes meant vehicles had to be driven onto a verge or bank on the opposite side of the road. Cllr Holloway will draft an e-mail to go to residents via the e-mail tree reminding them of the need to cut hedges back; Thurlow Estate's offer to do this will be mentioned. If, following that, there are still problems with some hedges the Clerk will write to individual residents.

THo/DF

9. Tree-planting^(THo)

In response to an e-mail to residents Cllr Judge had received three suggestions for sites for tree-planting, which he had discussed with Thurlow Estate's Agent, Mr Tim Barling.

GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

AGREED that the preferred option was for about 20 trees to be planted at the top of the bank opposite Coronation Cottages, in School Road. While this is fewer than the 75 initially proposed, they would be bigger trees. It was mentioned that periodically they would need to be inspected by an arboriculturalist. Residents will be canvassed about the Parish Council's preferred site, and whether people who had previously offered to sponsor the project were still interested, bearing in mind that the larger trees would cost more. It will be part of the Queen's Green Canopy project. Planting will probably take place in December.

BJ

10. Heritage trail^(THo)

Cllr Holloway said the group planning this, which also includes Cllrs Hayes and May, together with Mr Robert Mason, had not yet met to discuss it but hoped to do so in November.

THo/
THa/MM

11. Commemoration of life of Queen Elizabeth II^(THo)

AGREED that the beacon erected to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the proposed tree-planting would be an appropriate way to commemorate the Queen's reign.

12. Red Lion public house^(DF/THo)

To discuss the Red Lion public house and the village's relationship with it
(Discussed earlier in the meeting.)

13. Village clean-up and litter-pick^(THo)

AGREED that a litter-pick will take place on Saturday 19th November, with residents being asked to volunteer to take part and the Parish Council setting aside up to £100 to buy refreshments for them.

14. Finance

a) To receive monthly financial reports (Jul + Aug 2022)

These were received and noted.

b) To authorise payment(s)

The Clerk was authorised to make the following payments: (prop THa, 2nd DF)

	ref	payee	details	amount
14(b)(i)	0338	Withersfield Village Hall	Hire of hall (28 Sep 2022)	£20.00
14(b)(ii)	0339	Richard Bowler	Clerk's salary (Jul 2022)	£178.57
14(b)(iii)	0340	Richard Bowler	Clerk's salary (Aug 2022)	£178.57
14(b)(iv)	0341	HMRC	PAYE (6.7.22 – 5.10.22)	£134.00

15. Confirmation of date of next meeting

AGREED that the date of the next meeting will be changed to Wednesday 23rd November.

16. Closure of meeting

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.