

WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday 15th April 2024 at 7:30pm at the United Reformed Chapel, Chapel Road, Wattisfield.

Present:

Councillor Geoff Wade (GW) Chair
Councillor Mick Elflain (ME) Vice Chair
Councillor Rick Meyer (RM)
Councillor Michael Vaugh-Williams (MVM)
Councillor Cynthia Penn (CP)
Councillor Ann Telford (AT)

Also present: 1 member of the public, District Cllr Richard Winch and County Cllr Jessica Fleming

Chair welcomed Cllr Telford and Clerk on their return.

Item	Description
1.	<p>PUBLIC FORUM</p> <p>Members of the public are invited to comment on any agenda item for this meeting or any other matter concerning them and or the parish. After this opportunity, further comment during the meeting will only be allowed at the Chairman's discretion.</p> <p>Member of the public reported that the Spring Fair was a success and a farmers' market has been planned monthly.</p>
2.	<p>REPORT FROM AND QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</p> <p>The Clerk raised a question on behalf of a member of the public to Cllr Winch who requested an update on the planning enforcement action for the field at Meadow View, Wattisfield.</p> <p>Cllr Winch advised that an enforcement notice will be issued by the end of this month to make the landowner return the land to its former use.</p> <p>Highlights included: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grant received of £800k and the district Council will add a further £1m for a retrofit programme to Council houses covering insulation, ventilation, solar panels and double glazing.• New homelessness strategy in place.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIL expenditure framework is being reviewed. • A significant solar farm proposal has been made for 750 acres near Mendlesham. • MSDC has formally objected to the National Grid’s Plans for overhead Pylons proposed across the district. • The Janek (ex Copart) planning application for Walsham Le Willows Industrial estate has been rejected by West Suffolk. • Suffolk Devolution Deal consultation on-going. <p>Cllr Fleming was in attendance.</p> <p>Highlights from the report: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultation on devolution ends on the 26th May. • Bus service improvements are planned working with the local operators. • National Grid has opened consultation on the pylons from Norwich to Tilbury. • Electricity supply operator ESO has published a study which identifies options for transmitting power. SCC’s preference would be for an off-shore option to have the least impact on communities. • Solar Farm – 800 acres in Thornham/Mendlesham area. • Local Transport plan consultation is taking place. • Suffolk Walking Festival begins on the 11th May at Thornham walks. • Reservoir application in Brome to supply Cranswick, Eye. <p>RM asked when the County Council elections would be held. Cllr Fleming confirmed that elections would be in May 2025.</p> <p>AT informed that three of the properties at the bottom of Church Green Lane had attended a flooding meeting but haven’t had any contact since the meeting. Cllr Fleming agreed to contact the complainant.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>To receive apologies and approve the reasons for any absences.</p> <p>Councillor David Dyer (DD)</p> <p>Apologies approved and accepted.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests on matters to be considered at the meeting.</p> <p>None declared.</p>

5.	<p>REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS To receive requests for dispensations.</p> <p>No requests received.</p>
6.	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2024.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 18th March 2024 were approved and signed by the chair as a true record.</p>
7.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES To consider matters arising that are not covered by subsequent agenda item.</p> <p>a) Statement of Internal Control Agreed</p> <p>b) Asset Register @ 31.3.24</p> <p>Other matters arising from the minutes of the 18th March raised by Cllr ME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11a has been progressed through Cllr Fleming • 12(i) Litter pick was successful, 11 volunteers attended.
8.	<p>WATTISFIELD VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION GROUND</p> <p>a) Update from the Wattisfield Village Hall Redevelopment Group.</p> <p>Consultation meeting on options on Saturday 20th April at the Village Hall. Following this session, recommendations will be made to the parish council.</p> <p>RM raised that the Council needs to be considering who will need to be part of the next phase to take the project forward.</p>
9.	<p>FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION</p> <p>a) Councillors to approve payments as shown in Appendix A The payments listed above were approved by Council.</p> <p>b) Bank reconciliation @ 31.03.2024. Bank statement as shown in Appendix B was noted by Council.</p> <p>c) Budget Report to 31.03.2024 – Noted.</p> <p>d) Council to consider sponsorship of the United Christian Music Festival Council agreed to donate £100 from the Section 137 budget.</p> <p>e) Council to consider quotations received for tree works following survey.</p> <p>The Clerk had issued four requests for quotations only two had been received and circulated to Councillors. These were from Danarbor Ltd and S.P Landscapes. A discussion took place over the quotations received.</p> <p>Council agreed to accept the quotation from SP Landscape and ask the Clerk to instruct the successful contract to begin works.</p>

	<p>f) Wattisfield Community Emergency Plan</p> <p>ME explained that he had spoken to the Suffolk Emergency Planning team. They have asked for three contacts for cascade in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>ME, RM MVW, GW to be on the contact list. AT, CP agreed to be a volunteer.</p> <p>ME to adjust the plan to reflect the changes and will liaise with Emergency Planning Team to inform them of the amendments. ME will issue a new plan to reflect the updates.</p> <p>Council agreed unanimously subject to the amendments to discuss.</p>
10.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>a). To consider any response to any planning applications notified by the District Council.</p> <p>(i) None received</p> <p>b) – Planning Decisions for Council to note.</p> <p>(i) DC/23/05665 – Pastures New, Walsham Road, Wattisfield – Single storey rear extension – Permission has been granted – Noted.</p> <p>(ii) DC/24/01452 – Derry Rose Farm, Bobby Hill, Wattisfield – Discharge of conditions – Noted.</p>
11.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</p> <p>None received.</p> <p>ME raised the recent correspondence from MSDC regarding grass cutting and queried the area in front of the church.</p>
12.	<p>QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN</p> <p>AT – MOP has spoken to her regarding vandalism at her house. This issued had already been raised at a previous meeting. Advise had been given to report this and any future incidents to the police.</p>
13.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Monday 20th May 2024 at 7.30 pm.</p>
14.	<p>To close the meeting – Meeting closed at 21:15</p>

Appendix A

Wattisfield Parish Council

Listing of payments to be approved on the 15th April.

Voucher	Ref.	Description	Type	Supplier / customer	Account name	Net	VAT	Total
108	001061	Payroll fees P7-P12 2023/24	Cheque	SALC	SALC payroll services	-69.00	-13.80	-82.80
109	001062	P1 - Wages	Cheque	Wendy Alcock	Staff costs	-263.35	0.00	-263.35
110	001063	P1 - PAYE	Cheque	HMRC	Staff costs	-65.00	0.00	-65.00
111	001061	SALC Subs 2024/25	Cheque	SALC	Subscriptions	-263.35	0.00	-263.35
112	001064	Jan - Mar 24	Cheque	Wattisfield URC	Hire of hall	-90.00	0.00	-90.00
113	001065	24/25 Maintenance costs	Cheque	Suffolk County Council	Street lighting maintenance	-480.62	-96.11	-576.73

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Appendix B

Council name	Wattisfield Parish Council		
Bank account	Main Current Account		
Balance per bank statement at 28/03/2024			39,155.54
Uncleared Payments			
Date	Customer/Supplier	Reference	Amount
18/03/2024	Prentice Groundcare	001056	-250.00
18/03/2024	Pucell Architecture Ltd	001057	-1,032.24
18/03/2024	M Elflain	001058	-35.20
18/03/2024	Wendy Alcock	001059	-260.05
18/03/2024	HMRC	001060	-65.00
TOTAL			-1,642.49
TOTAL NET BANK BALANCES AT 28/03/2024			<u>37,513.05</u>
Opening_balance			30,943.35
Total receipts			35,999.58
Total payments			-29,429.88
Closing balance per cash book (must equal net bank balances above)			<u>37,513.05</u>
Earmarked Reserves			
Election Fees			2000
Trees			3300
Community Transport			2000
Village Hall			3000
CIL			21738
Pride in Your Place Grant			250
Total earmarked reserves			<u>32,288</u>
General Reserves			<u>5,225</u>