

WENDLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25TH JANUARY 2018 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE WENDLING METHODIST CHURCH.

Present: Cllr S Warwick (Chairman), Cllr C Foster, Cllr M Olley and Cllr A Jenness

Others Present: 5 Electors, Dist. Cllr Robert Richmond, Dist. and County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Hughes-Wade and these were accepted.

Apologies for absence were also received from Dist. Cllr Richard Duffield and Rev. J Hemp.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

There were no Interests declared.

3. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on November 30th

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Warwick proposed the minutes of November 30th be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Foster and carried.

4. To discuss any matters from the minutes of November (not on the agenda)

There were no matters arising.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

Cllr Richmond reported that the Serco contract has been extended for 5 more years. It costs £4.7m per year but Breckland receive £2m back for recycling credits. Serco received some criticism regarding grass cutting. The collections on brown bins are doing well. Serco actually carry out a lot of clearing which the Public are not aware of. Capita employ people who live quite a long way away and this fact is sometimes criticized. Mr Brennan has left Breckland and has been replaced by Mr John Berry. The Local Plan will soon be back with Breckland and there will be hearings at Breckland Offices for anyone interested in attending. Regarding Council Tax, a category D property will be raised by £4.95.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that although Norfolk County Council has implemented a raise, there will be no need to go to a referendum. The bus subsidy and the gritting routes will not be affected. There is an overspend of £20m on the Northern Distributor Road but it is a flexible contract. £6m of this was due to people just not turning up for work. £20m extra was put in for road projects and £8m to £9m will go towards the overspend.

5. To discuss Parish Councillor vacancies

Cllr Hughes-Wade had indicated to Cllr Warwick that she is finding it difficult to attend the bi-monthly Parish Council meetings, which means that realistically the Parish Council only has 4 members now. How to attract some more Parish Councillors is now crucial and the current Councillors continue to do their best to find new members. The idea of a leaflet drop was discussed and may be done in the near future.



6. To discuss Correspondence

The only correspondence received was a copy of Clerks & Councils magazine and an email from Breckland regarding the Sports and Play Equipment fund. As the Parish Council does not have any sports facilities in Wendling, their share will be given to neighbouring parishes.

7. To discuss any Planning Issues and future Planning applications

Breckland 3AA/2017/0025/AG Butcher Farms, agricultural land adjacent to existing grain store, machinery shed with capacity for additional grain storage, no prior approval is needed.

Mr Pates has submitted a new application but he is worried it will not be accepted. The original application had no infrastructure and was outside the plan. It was out of keeping with the extremity of the village. Mr Pates had been encouraged to redo the plan and the proceeds will go to a charity.

8. To discuss Highways Matters

Those present were thankful to Norfolk County Council and Breckland because all the verges have been cut, the blackthorn has been cut and the footway has been cleared. The proprietor of Dereham Firewood Supplies has done some clearing work and the Parish Council is thankful to him for doing this. He has put some horses on one of the fields and there are cattle on another field. The Parish Council is still trying to be sorted out the flooding problem outside Spring Cottage. The water runs off the field and large puddles form.

9. To receive authorize financial payments

Cllr Warwick proposed the following necessary financial payments be authorized, seconded by Cllr Olley and carried:-

Clerk's net salary December & January	£156.00	HMRC tax for December & January	£39.00
Mazars LLP (external auditors)	£660.00	Information Commissioner's Office	£35.00
Wendling Village Hall – hire costs	£33.00	Wendling Methodist Church donation	£30.00
SCS Ltd (internal audit)	£100.00		

Regarding the payment to Rev. J Hemp for alarm maintenance, Cllr Warwick proposed £625.00 be paid, seconded by Cllr Olley and carried. This meant that the Parish Council had paid the full amount it had agreed for the next 5 years all at once, rather than £125.00 for the next 5 years.

10. To set the Precept

A budget document had been circulated. After discussion, Cllr Jenness proposed the precept be set at £5,000.00, seconded by Cllr Foster and carried.

11. To decide on the appointment of Internal Auditor for year ending 31st March 2018

Cllr Warwick proposed SCS Ltd carry out the audit, seconded by Cllr Foster and carried. The Clerk will write to Mrs S Sheldrake at SCS Ltd regarding this.

12. To discuss the new rules applying in May re Data Protection

The Clerk had distributed paperwork regarding the new rules regarding Data Protection. The Parish Council will need to appoint a Data Protection Officer and this person may be the Clerk of the Council. Cllr Warwick proposed Mrs Hubbard, the Clerk, for the position, seconded by Cllr Foster and carried. Mrs Hubbard accepted the position.

13. To receive update on land next to the Village Hall

Cllr Warwick has spoken to Mr Phil Hayton and the situation at the moment has come to a halt because the surveys have cost him £7,500 and he is seriously considering withdrawing the idea.

14. To receive items for next agenda

New rules applying in May re Data Protection

15. To set the dates and venues for the meetings during 2018

The dates and venues for 2018 are as follows:-

April 5th in the Methodist Church at 7.30 p.m.

May 17th in the Village Hall, Annual Parish meeting to take place at 7.00 p.m. followed at 7.30 p.m. by the Annual Parish Council meeting at 7.30 p.m.

July 26th in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

September 27th in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

November 29th in the Methodist Church at 7.30 p.m.

January 24th 2019 in the Methodist Church at 7.30 p.m.

16. To confirm date, time and venue of next meeting

The next meeting was provisionally booked for Thursday 22nd March at 7.30 p.m. in the Methodist Church. However, due to the Clerk's personal circumstances it has had to be rearranged to April 5th at 7/30 p.m. in the Methodist Church.

There being no other business to discuss, Cllr Warwick declared the meeting closed at 9.05 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending.


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Chairman


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Date