

WENDLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE METHODIST CHURCH
ON THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY 2022

Present: Cllr M Olley, Cllr S Warwick, Cllr C Foster, Cllr D Kemble and Cllr S Knight

Others Present: 2 Electors, County Cllr M Kiddle-Morris. Dist. Cllr R Atterwill, Rev. Miriam Fife, Dist. Cllr R Duffield and Mrs Griselda Hubbard, Clerk

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

Cllr Warwick, the Chairman, welcomed those present to the meeting. As all five Councillors were present, there were no apologies for absence to be received.

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 25th 2021

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Foster proposed the minutes of November 25th be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Warwick 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 Kiddle-Morris had created a report and the Clerk had circulated it. The main points in the report were:-

N.C.C. will set its budget for the financial year 2022/23 on 21st February. N.C.C. consulted on a proposed council tax increase of 1.99% in the general rate and an increase of 1%, consultation ended on 30th December. Cost pressure in Adult Social Care and Children's Services is the main reason for the increase in council tax. The government has not carried out fairer funding review, NDR review, financing of adult social care, etc. which will affect finances in future years.

Regarding Covid (Omicron) the government has told NCC to expect unprecedented sickness rates over the coming weeks with an estimated 25% of staff being absent. Given the high infection rates, our prime objective is to minimise staff infection and isolation to ensure we can deliver our critical services. We are avoiding bringing staff together unnecessarily and concentrating our face to face presence on service delivery. If anyone has difficulty assessing NCC services, then contact Cllr Kiddle-Morris.

Cllr Atterwill spoke about the reduction in grass cutting and Cllr Warwick told him the Parish Council will be organising some grass cutting itself and paying someone to carry out this task, as has happened recently. He mentioned that funding for the bike rack could probably be obtained from The Big Lottery, Awards For All, so the Clerk will investigate that. He also mentioned that there will probably be a fund created at Breckland to help with costs for the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations, so an application for that will be done when necessary, Breckland also have a Hardship Fund for people struggling financially. Cllr Atterwill spoke about the lack of services for the Youth of Dereham and he will be attending a meeting soon to discuss this issue.

Cllr Richard Duffield apologised for his lack of attendance at Parish Council Meetings, due to personal circumstances.

The Village Hall Committee does not have any objections with the idea of having a Bike Rack at the Village Hall Car Park, so this will be pursued. There will be some Celebrations organised for the Queen's Jubilee. An event will take place on 3rd and 4th of June.
There was a mud problem around the Post Box but it has now been cleared up.

5. To discuss any necessary Correspondence

A donation request had been received from Priscilla Bacon Hospice. The Parish Council decided to donate £100.00.

A donation request had been received from Support Our Military Veterans. The Parish Council decided to donate £50.00.

A donation request had been received from Norfolk Citizens Advice. The Parish Council decided to donate £75.00.

6. To discuss any Planning Issues

3PL/2021/1708/VAR Kulnura, Hulver Street, Variation of Cond. 2 on p.p. 3PL/2020/1369/HOU.
The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

7. To discuss Highways Matters

Hulver Street has a horrendous flooding problem again and carers visiting an elderly resident have to wear wellie boots before being able to enter her house.

Cllr Warwick spoke about a problem down Honeypot Lane, on the other side of the bridge, where a number of lorries have gone onto the grass verge. The reflectors have been damaged and they can be replaced. If they are replaced, they will show it is a bend. There is a problem at Abbey Close where a resident is driving around on a Dirt Bike. This problem will be flagged up to Norfolk Constabulary.

8. To discuss further the idea of a Village Litter Pick

The provisional date for this event is Saturday 16th April. Cllr Atterwill offered to investigate whether the equipment can be borrowed from Breckland on that date. Also on that date an Easter Egg Hunt will be arranged to make the event more enjoyable.

9. To discuss further how to obtain a Unit for a Book Swop Project

This project is on-going. The cabinet originally chosen for purchase was not bought as the delivery cost was very high. Alternative ways are being investigated such as buying one from a local Charity shop or investigating whether a resident of Wendling may have a cabinet they no longer wish to keep.

10. To discuss a Bike Rack at the Village Hall

A Bike Rack will be bought and it may be possible to obtain funds for the cost.

11, To discuss the Queen's Jubilee celebrations

This was partly discussed under Public Participation. Cllr Warwick proposed a mug be purchased for each household, seconded by Cllr Olley, so the Clerk will organise purchasing 150 mugs.

12. To authorize financial payments

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

Clerk's net salary for December/January £230.00 HMRC tax for December/January £30.00
Clerk's December/January expenses £31.05
The Community Heartbeat Trust (Solutions) Ltd £162.00
Clerk's reimbursement for Directory Printing £200.00
Priscilla Bacon Hospice (donation) £100.00
Support Our Military Veterans (donation) £50.00
Norfolk Citizens Advice (donation) £75.00

13. To discuss the BT Exchange Repair situation

Cllr Warwick had spoken to the Area Supervisor. The Wendling exchange is a hub for 4 other villages. The work that is being carried out should be completed by August and then the hub will no longer be needed.

14. To receive items for the next agenda

No extra items were requested.

15. To confirm date and time of next meeting in March 2022

The next meeting will take place on March 24th 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in Wendling Methodist Church.

16. To set the dates for the meetings for the remaining months

The remaining dates were set as follows:-

Thursday 26th May at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall (Annual Parish Council Meeting), preceded at 7.00 p.m. by the Annual Parish Meeting.

Thursday 28th July at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

Thursday 8th September at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

Thursday 17th November at 7.30 p.m. in the Wendling Methodist Church

There being no other business to discuss, Cllr Warwick declared the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending.


..... MO

Chairman

..... 24/3/22

Date