**WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th**

**September 2015 in the Village Hall at 8pm**

Those present were: Chairman Ross-Bain, Cllrs. Causton, Snow, Holness

& Okkenhaug. Dist. Cllrs. Fraser and Turner, County Cllr.

Hickford, 2 parishioners and the Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs. Job & Nichols.
2. **Declaration of interest:** None
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Monday 13th July 2015 were signed as correct.
4. ***Opportunity for public statement:***

Colin McCall, the Footpath officer, is looking for a new litter picker for the Newmarket road, otherwise everything is in order with the team going out regularly. He had had a meeting with the Parish Paths officer regarding the cutting of the footpath in August as there had been complaints about the lateness. The reason for this was the job had to go out to tender to every country in Europe. JMP have the new contract for the next three years. With regard to the incident of a dog being shot by a gamekeeper he intends to put something in Challenge about this.

Chris Wiseman, the new CSO, was unable to attend.

1. **Affordable Housing:** Nothing has been received from Toby Owen, Estate Manager for Six Mile Bottom Estate so we await further news.
2. **Planning:** No new applications have been received. S/0890/15/ -proposed cart lodge has received permission from SCDC.
3. **Finance:**  Updated spread sheet distributed to councillors.
4. ***Authorised payments:***

£363.10 Parish Clerk’s salary for Aug/Sept. less £7.00 overpaid in July.

£ 30.00 Sapient IT annual subscription for website.

£370.91 Sapient IT for purchase & installation of new computer (half share with West Wickham Parish Council).

1. ***Monies received:***

£346.53 Cambs. County Council payment for grass cutting in 2015. £200.00. WWFC annual charge. £125.00 Sports Pavilion half yearly rent

£ 5.61 Consolidated dividend closure payment (value of shares)

1. Authorisation was required for the purchase of a new computer for the Parish Clerk. The councillors agreed to this purchase due to the old one being beyond repair.
2. Request for extra money from editor of Challenge to cover the cost of printing annual reports. It was agreed to pay £75.00 as paid last year instead of £50.00.
3. The Parish Clerk had been in touch with CGM as no invoices had been received since June but she has had nothing back so will check again.
4. **Maintenance:**
5. *Boundaries:* The Parish Clerk had checked the Land Registration and the boundaries are correct as there was concern about rubbish and encroachment onto the playing field. It was agreed that the Deeds for all the properties owned by the Parish Council should be held in one place and the Parish Clerk will gather these together.
6. *Update on Village Hall repairs:* Mike Rowland told Council that the flat roof was now complete and the final bill was £21,764 which was well within budget as they had had contingency plans in case there were problems when the roof was uncovered. Of the 3K donated by the Parish Council £1,026 remains unspent and the VH Committee would like to put in for a grant to AmeyCespa to refurbish the toilets and asked the Parish Council if they would agree that the money left over from their contribution could be put towards this rather than returned to the Parish Council. This was agreed by all councillors.
7. *Bowls area:* to be discussed under item 10.
8. *Children’s Play area:* The Parish Clerk is asking Wicksteeds for a quote for work needed to be carried out. She will also ask them to quote for renewing the safety surfaces.
9. **Correspondence:**
10. CPRE annual report (in Correspondence folder)
11. Consultation re proposed changes to the local elections system.
12. Map showing where the affordable housing might go.
13. **West Wratting Football Club:** Cllr. Snow reported on the meeting he and Cllr. Holness had attended on the 6th September.
14. None of the repairs needed had been carried out or quote obtained. They still had not applied for any grant money and again requested the use of money from the sinking fund to pay for the shelter round the oil tank. Cllr Snow had told them that before any decision could be made by the Parish Council regarding the sinking fund they must justify the need, get a costing and give a plan for building up the sinking fund.
15. The hedges near the car park need heavy pruning and because the Parish Council paid for hedge work to be done in the past felt they should do it now. The Parish Clerk will look into the history of this.
16. Although the suggestion by the Parish Council for them to apply to Amey Cespa for a grant nothing had been done and the Chairman said it would end up with the Parish Council doing the work. It was suggested that if the Sport Pavilion got the necessary repairs done then Cllrs. Snow and Holness would be willing to help them with applying for grant money.
17. Bowls Green – The WWFC would like to use the ground for a “Five a Side” games area.
18. The defibrillator now has a combi lock and they will be giving the Parish Council the code. A decision needs to be made as to whom this code should be given to. “The Chestnuts” would be one, possibly a resident in Six Mile Bottom Road who is available on a regular basis.
19. **Traffic issues:** As Cllr. Nichols was not present items a) and b) were not discussed.
20. Update on the rondels, the Chairman had asked for a quote for the 5 rondels which would be £691.71 cost plus a possible extra 20% but he was hoping to avoid this extra amount.
21. Moving 30mph signs out: The Chairman is looking into it and has received forms to be filled in which when returned must include a £250 non-returnable fee. This would mean a cost of £1,250 plus cost of the movement of the signs.
22. **LCPU:** The Parish Clerk needed to know how many councillors wished to do the course “Understanding Planning” as she had already got 8/9 people from other parish councils. Cllrs. Nichols and Causton wish to do it. The Parish Clerk will enquire as to dates when this could be done. The venue would probably be West Wickham Village Hall.
23. **Report by Cllr Fraser or Turner:** Cllr. Turner spoke about the consultation regarding changing the elections to every 4 years and not in thirds. He would like the Parish Council to give their opinion. The information is in the Correspondence folder.
24. **Report by Cllr Hickford (given after item 4 as he was attending another meeting).**

Before Cllr. Hickford spoke the Chairman thanked him and CCC for the new junction at the crossroads and for their efforts in getting this off the ground. He passed a letter which reiterated what he had said addressed to Highways.

Cllr. Hickford then reported that CCC is going through change with various top people leaving. A link up with Peterborough is being sought. The budget is not balanced because the “people” budget takes a bigger portion and the “place” budget suffers from this. Cambridgeshire is fourth from the bottom of all the Shire counties charging a low council tax and fourth from the bottom in money received from the government.

Regarding lorry traffic he asked if Cllr Nichols would contact him on return from her holiday.

1. **Any other business:**
2. Cllr Causton said she now had a form to complete with regard to putting “The Chestnuts” public house on the County Council Village Assets list.

When Cllr. Russell had been Chairman he had had it put on this list but this was negated when Cllr Causton and her husband took the pub over.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 9th November 2015**

**Chairman………………………………..**