**WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11th**

**January 2016 in the Village Hall at 8pm**

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

Okkenhaug & Snow. Dist. Cllr.Turner,

6 parishioners and the Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. Nichols; Dist. Cllr. Fraser.
2. **Declaration of interest:** None
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Monday 9th November 2015 were signed as correct.
4. ***Opportunity for public statement:***
5. Colin McCall, the Footpath officer, said that the litter pick-up was ongoing and he is planning a big clear up for the Queen’s birthday in March and hopes Weston Colville will do the same. The end of the footpath which runs from the High Street is very muddy but it has now been opened up through hedge cutting allowing grass to grow. At the High Street end of this footpath which is next to 53 High Street, some of the trees, which are a mixture of Ash, Field Maple and Sycamore, need pruning or cutting back. Garrod Family Tree will be asked by the Parish Clerk to look at them and give a quote for the work needed.
6. Sisse McCall was concerned about a Planning Application for Mr & Mrs Horsfield the return of which by 23rd December by the Parish Council had been missed and the application had been refused by SCDC on 23rd December and there were anomalies which needed to be looked into. The Parish Clerk had emailed Planning apologising and saying that the Parish Council had approved this application and asking why it should have been turned down before the due date.
7. The Parish Clerk was asked to email Nicola Burdon of Highways regarding the flooding in the village due to the overflow of drains. The gulleys require clearing.
8. **Affordable Housing:** Nothing further to report at present.
9. **Planning:**

S/2760/15/ -Two storey ext. at 31 The Common – A Sims. Approved by the Parish Council.

**S/2842/15 -** Two storey ext. & altns. to existing bldg. 53 High Street – Mr & Mrs Horsfield. Approved by Parish Council but late in returning and refused by SCDC.

1. **Finance:**  Updated spreadsheet distributed to councillors.
2. ***Authorised payments:***

£139.00HM Inland Revenue PA\yE 3rd qrt. (cheque 968 paid).

£370.50 Mrs J Richards salary for Dec/Jan. (cheque 969)

£370.91 Sapien.IT replacing lost cheque 957 (cheque 970)

£ 30.00 Sapien.IT replacing lost cheque 958 (cheque 971)

1. **Monies received:**  None
2. **Budget & Precept:** Cllr. Okkenhaug had prepared the budget sheet following checking the Accounts spreadsheet for 20015/16 which showed that last year’s budget was satisfactory and it was agreed to approve the proposed budget. The Precept was then discussed and the Chairman proposed that a 2% increase should be requested, this was seconded by Cllr Causton and agreed by the Councillors.
3. **Signatories:** The Parish Clerk had requested there were another one or possibly two signatories as at present there were only two. Cllr. Holness said he was prepared to be one and Cllr. Okkenhaug said she had done all the paperwork and identification but still had not heard whether or not she was accepted.
4. **Maintenance:**
5. Deeds & Land Registration –Cllr. Holness returned the file of Land Registrations, the originals being held by the solicitors. He was concerned that the Sports Pavilion had no title deed and it was agreed that Cllr. Holness would speak to Jeanette Job who carried out the work. There were also three lots of Awarded Land which had not been registered and it was necessary to know if this land was being used in any way.
6. Village Hall refurbishment: Dr Michael Rowland said the work on the new toilet block was all completed to a very high standard. The total cost in 2015, flat roof and toilet block, was ~£68,000, £3000 of this being donated by the Parish Council, £4000 from Village Hall funds and 60K from grants, plus two very generous private donations. He stressed how important and helpful it was that the Parish Council had donated money as it showed there was support from the village which gave confidence in getting grants. It was agreed that the Parish Council’s budget plan sets a sum of money bye for Maintenance for the assets owned by the village.
7. Bowls area: Cllr. Holness had had a meeting with the Sports Pav. Committee. He offered his help to apply for funding to refurbish the bowls green to be used by the Youth section of WWFC, if permission is granted by the Parish Council. However the security of the Pavilion seems to be their main concern but they have no money to pay for electric shutters on the windows and fencing round the oil tank and it would be unlikely they would receive grant money for such a project. An alternative would be to put a chain link fence up and a padlockable gate at the entrance. Would the Parish Council agree to this? The idea was discussed but turned down by the Parish Council as being totally against the general use of the grounds by the public.
8. Playground maintenance: Wicksteed Leisure had inspected the log traverse and given a quote for £655.00. A further quote from Fenland to replace the equipment would cost £1450 + VAT. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to Wicksteed asking them to quote for a replacement of the log and also quote for resurfacing with non-slip surface.
9. **Correspondence:** Letter from SCDC confirming receipt of Nomination to include land/buildings on the list of Assets of Community Value – The Chestnut Tree Public House. If granted it will be for five years only.

1. **West Wratting Football Club:** Cllr. Snow reported
2. **Dug-Outs** – No progress but will be discussed at their next meeting on 7th March.
3. **Code for access to tennis court**: Colin Miller and Richard Cole have this. A three month trial was agreed.
4. **Hedges**: CGM had quoted £480 + VAT to cut the hedge and it was agreed to accept this. The Parish Clerk was asked when she wrote to CGM accepting their quote to ask them to give us a date and time when the job would be done and to let Cllr. Snow have this information. Colin McCall wondered if something could be done about the dumping which is done along the residential side of the ground. The Chairman said that the Council were aware of this and were looking into ways of dealing with it.
5. The defibrillator has still not been fully commissioned and can only be used by the Football Club at present. The Chairman said as the Parish Council had contributed to the cost it should be available to anyone who needed it and it must be dealt with immediately.
6. **Traffic issues:** As Cllr. Nichols reported on:
7. **Rondels**: The Chairman said that Nicola Burdon of Highways is hoping to arrange a site meeting to check the exact locations and once this is done she will undertake to get the work carried out. She will let us have dates when she would like to hold the site meeting
8. **Potholes**: Cllr. Nichols asked if the problem of severe potholes along the West Wratting/Withersfield Road could be bought to Highways attention by the Parish Council and also to privately complain. This was agreed.
9. **Report of meetings:** None.
10. **Report by County Cllr. Hickford:**
11. The County budget increase has been set at 1.9%.
12. Waste production is hoping to be reduced even more. Possible reduction of black bin size.
13. A1307 survey should be out by February.
14. A pilot study of a monthly meeting inviting Parish Councils to attend so that the information which gets sent out to Parish Councils will all be heard at the same time. The fourth Wednesday of each month is proposed the first one being on 24th February at Balsham. County & District Officers would be there. Only one representative allowed and this will be trialled for six months.
15. **Report by Cllr Turner:**
16. A consultation has been authorised to change the delegation rules relating to referral of applications to the Planning Committee. It is proposed to remove automatic referral of any application where the officer is recommending approval.
17. The boundary review is ongoing and the final recommendations will be published on 6th September 2016 with implementation in May 2018.
18. The Local Plan Examination will go out to public consultation between 2nd December and 25th January 2016.
19. **Vacancy for a Parish Councillor:** Due to the resignation of Cllr. Job there is now a vacancy and the Parish Clerk will put an advert in Challenge and on the Noticeboards.
20. **Any other business:** None.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 14th March. All are welcome to attend.**

**Chairman………………………………..**