**WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL**

 **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13th**

 **March 2017 in the Village Hall at 8pm**

Those present were: Chairman Ross Bain, Cllrs. Nichols, Holness & Okkenhaug., Dist. Cllr. Fraser and the Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs. Causton & Roberts & Dist.Cllrs. Turner.
2. **Declaration of interest:** None
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Monday 9th January 2017 were signed as correct following amendments made to incorrect cheque numbers under Finance. Cheque 1009 should be 1010, and cheque 1010 should be 1011).
4. ***Opportunity for public statement:* None**
5. **Parish Councillor vacancy:** Cllr. Holness gave a brief introduction to Mr Tim Bonfield who had applied to fill the vacancy left by Rupert Snow’s resignation, detailing his interest in the village community and his support of various village activities. He proposed Mr Bonfield to fill the vacancy which was seconded by Cllr. Nichols and agreed by the Parish Council. He was welcomed onto the Council and given the Declaration of Acceptance and Registration forms to complete.
6. **Planning: P.C. SCDC**

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| **S/2202/16/FL** | B Willcocks | 87High St. | Amended prop. rear 2 storey ext. | **Approved** | **Approved** |
| **S/3068/16** | A Simms | 31 The Common | Amend. To S/0513/15 |  |  |
| **S/2759/2761/FL/LB** | S Kirk | 85 High St. | Amendments |  |  |
| **S/3498/16/LB** | Mr & Mrs Wittich | 40 High St. | One and half storey rear ext. | **Approved** | **Approved** |
| **S/0228/17/FL** | C Parry | 7 Mill Road | Install 3 air source heat pumps | **Approved** |  |
| **S/0565/17/FL** | S Robinson | 42 High St. | Replacement garage |  |  |

An amendment to Plan App. S/3559/16/LB had been received since the above Agenda was agreed, which reduced the elevation of the build. However it was felt that this amendment would not change their original decision and the Parish Clerk was asked to return the Plan. Appl. form reiterating this earlier decision. The letter drawn up by Cllr. Holness for future use, to be sent to the neighbouring residents of a property where a planning application had been made in order that they can make their comments was approved following some minor adjustments. A letter addressed to Julie Baird of Development Management, SCDC, also drawn up by Cllr. Holness, concerning Planning Appl. 0565/S Robinson pointing out that the wall that has been erected at the front of the property presumably to replace the removed hedge is without planning permission instead a new hedge should have been planted as agreed in the approved planning permission. It was agreed this letter should be sent.

 **7. Finance: Account spread sheet for 2016/1 7 distributed to councillors.**

**a) Authorised payments:**

£370.20 J. Richards salary for Feb/March. (chq. 1014)

£ 27.15 . J. Richards – post costs for 2016/17 (chq. 1015)

£ 9.00 J. Richards – stationery & travel costs re internal audit (chq. 1015)

£195.00 Garrod Family Tree – removing dead trees in Hayter Close (chq. 1016)

£561.00 West Wratting Football Club – contribution towards grass cutting (chq. 1017)

£138.80 HM Rev. & Customs, 4th qrt. PAYE (chq. 1018)

£ 50.00 John Smith – thank you for his hedge cutting on the recreation ground (chq. 1019)

**b) Monies received:**

 £250.00 2016/2017 rent from West Wratting Sports Pavilion Committee.

£582.62 HM Rev. & Customs – Vat reclaim.

Cllr. Nichols said there was a slight overspend of the Budget due to adding £500 to the grant money for the purchase of the play equipment. The Parish Clerk has applied for reclaim of VAT which hopefully will be paid before the end of the financial year. It was agreed to look at insurance costs and Cllr. Holness offered to do this and the Parish Clerk will let him have our present schedule.

 **8. Maintenance:**

1. *Dog Poo sites*: Nothing further to report as yet.
2. *Diseased trees from Honey Fungus in Hayter Close*: These have now been removed. Cllr. Holness said he would check with Mike Rowland whether the roots were ground out and diseased soil removed. olness said he would check with Mike Rowland whether or not theHScilla Harvey has offered a sapling to be planted where the tree was removed and this was agreed.
3. *Schedule re contract for grass cutting:* Cllr. Holness has drafted a schedule for grass cutting in the village and cutting the Pocket Park. He would like it to go into the next issue of Challenge. It was suggested the Parish Clerk email CGM telling them that we are putting the grass cutting contract out to tender and they were most welcome to apply.

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 **9. Correspondence:**

a) *Publicity for Parish Council:* It was decided to leave the taking of photos be left until

 the weather was better, early May. Cllr. Nichols will write notes on the working of

 the Parish Council.

 b) A letter had been received from SCDC pointing out that all local elections will be held at

 the same time and year. The next one will be 2018.

1. *Highways contribution to grass cutting costs:* They are changing their system of paying and the Parish Clerk has completed a form.
2. *City Deal/A1307:* Cllr. Fraser said he would cover this in his report and also the survey of traffic through the village. He had attended the A1307 forum meeting and the data collected from the various points should have been collated but are not done yet. Other data is also to be added.

**10. Football Club & Sports Pavilion:**

a) *Grass cutting contribution:* It was agreed that an increase of 5% would be paid this year but from now the increase would be according to the rate of inflation, as agreed in Minutes dated 9th January 2012, item 14d.

b) *Outstanding rent:* A cheque covering the year’s rent of £250.00 has now been received.

c) *Hooligan problem in recreation ground car park:* This matter was discussed and the situation is being kept under observation. It was agreed to investigate security without inconveniencing the residents who use the rec.

d) *Recreation ground boundary:* A letter will be sent to SCDC regarding their boundary responsibilities.

e) *Hedge cutting:* Cllr. Holness asked council to look at the hedge cutting recently done on the rec. and he suggested that John Smith, who had done this job so well, be given a cheque for £50.00. This was agreed and written out and Cllr. Holness will give it to him.

 **10. Traffic Issues & speed restrictions:**

1. **Minor Highways Improvement scheme**: The Chairman and Cllr. Nichols had attended CCC at the end of January and were given 10 minutes to justify the scheme put in by West Wratting. The results should be out this week but had been told that our application was high on the list, so hopeful
2. **Speed Indicator:** Cllrs. Nichols and Holness had been to the combined Parish Council meeting where interest was shown in sharing a Speed Indicator between 3 villages, at a cost of £1000 per village. The indicator gives the speed a car is doing. Cllr. Holness proposed being involved in this purchase with Balsham and Weston Colville as he thought it would help keep cars from speeding, this proposal was seconded by Cllr. Nichols and the Parish Council agreed. Before actually paying for this Cllr. Hall from West Wickham Parish Council who instigated the idea, is looking into another version of this equipment before making a definite decision.
3. **Speed Issues**:
4. A parishioner has requested speed humps are placed in the village and also complained about one of the Jellycat Warehouse lorries travelling well over 20mph through the village. It was suggested a letter to Jellycat Warehouse pointing out that lorries are supposed to drive under 20mph when going through a village, this will be done. Regarding speed humps, this would not be allowed by Highways as the village has no street lighting.
5. A “Slimming Club” has asked about parking outside the village hall and they were told there was parking in the recreation ground.
6. Parking on paths – this is illegal. A note will be put in Challenge pointing this out.

1. **Land Owned by Parish:** Regarding unregistered land at West Wratting Recreational Ground, Pellys of Saffron Walden are handling this. With regard to The Pump Shelter, the Pound it was decided some years ago not to get these registered.

**12. Derelict Building action:** This will be discussed at next meeting.

 **13. Report of meetings:** Cllrs. Nichols had attended the Parish Council Forum meeting in February and felt these joint meetings were very beneficial as it gave one an opportunity to raise issues with the representatives from SCDC and CC, normally only communicated with through email.

**14. Report by Dist. Cllr Fraser:**

a) The Local Plan is still on hold.

b) Devolution has been agreed and candidates are being selected for the post of Mayor at the May election.

c) At the last full Council meeting an increase of £5 per year on band d property was agreed.

d) City Deal – some information will be available in June with regard to the A1307 as they are allowing additional time to check where possible development might be planned in villages along the route and also where the out of town Park & Ride will be sited.

f) 13 affordable houses are to be built in Balsham opposite the school.

**15. Any other business:**

a) Colin McCall (Footpath officer) requested the purchase of some Round Up. This was agreed.

b) Cllr. Holness suggested that the Pocket Park needs some attention, cutting back the undergrowth and overhanging branches, one full day’s work would do it. He was asked if he could find someone prepared to do it and the cost and let the Council know.

**The next Parish Council meeting (AGM), which will be held on Monday 8th May 2017 at 7.30pm followed by the Parish Meeting. All are welcome to attend.**

 **Chairman………………………………..**