

WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th January
2008 in the Village Hall at 8.00pm.

Those present: Chairman Russell, Cllrs. McCall, Wallace, Job, Anderson & Heath. County Cllr. Batchelor & Dist.Cllr Barrett and Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Cllr. Hampton. The Chairman welcomed Cllr. Heath to his first meeting.

2. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th November were signed as correct after an amendment was made to item 13(b) – “annual rent of £250.00” not £240.00.

3. **Opportunity for Public Statement**

None

4. **Declarations of interest**

None

5. **Matters arising:**

- a) Green lane – it was agreed to defer any discussion about reinstating this lane to the next meeting when Cllr. Hampton would be present.

6. **Update on village maintenance matters:** Cllr. Wallace reported that Bob Howard had now left Cambridge County Council and his temporary replacement was Keith Faunch.

- a) Keith Faunch has arranged to replace the scrapings for the car park and has looked at Cllr. Job’s drains, and drains in the High Street, namely 55 and 29.
- b) Highways wish to remove the grassed centre patch at the entrance to Padlock Road in order to make the road wider and build up the haunches to enable lorries to turn into the road without smashing down the verges and request permission. A resolution was passed to allow this to be done.
- c) The Causeway: Cambridge County Council’s specialist surveyor has looked at the Causeway and will be sending a report to CCC with copy to us. The Chairman asked Cllr. Wallace to check that Keith Faunch has all the addresses of the people who live in the Causeway, so they can be kept informed.

7. **Risk Management:** No assessment had been received from the Sports Pavilion so far.

8. **Standing Orders:** All councillors had received the revised CALC Standing Orders and all were in agreement with the new Standing Orders which were duly adopted.

9. **Sports Pavilion:**

- a) Lease – this had been signed and Rhodri Rees, the solicitor, was holding this.
- b) Car Park – work should begin on refurbishing this at the beginning of February.
- c) Funding sign – The Chairman thought it best to leave it where it is. Cllr. Wallace reminded the council of the need to provide a plaque on behalf of the Parish Council’s contribution towards the building. The Chairman asked all the councillors to give their ideas of what should be inscribed. SCDC should also have a plaque for their contribution, perhaps it could be a joint plaque.
- d) Keyholders of the Sports Pavilion: It was agreed that these should be Minuted.

Richard Wilson, 1 Kirkley Court, Haverhill, CB9 7GY. Tel: 07967 278036 or 01440 710303.

Colin Miller, 12 Hawthorn Close, Haverhill, CB9 9DL. Tel: 07899998881 or 01440 704499.

Ian Boreham, High Street, West Wrating, Cambs. Tel: 01223 290259

Wally Potter, The Causeway, West Wrating, CB21 5NA. Tel: 01223 290878

e) Insurance – The Parish Clerk had received the revised Insurance Policy showing value as £240,000.

f) The rent of £250.00 had been received by the Parish Clerk.

10. **Parish Plan:** Cllr. Anderson apologised for the delay due to pressure of work but passed round a draft questionnaire which he hopes to send out to parishioners and would like comments.

11. Correspondence:

a) A letter of thanks had been received from Jack Warwick, who had been Chairman and Parish Councillor for over 25 years. A gift of wine and an album of memorabilia photographs of the village had been presented to him.

b) A request for a donation from the 1st Responder Scheme (Magpas) – this will be discussed under No. 13 (Finances).

12. Planning:

a) Application for storage at Wadlow Farm has been withdrawn.

b) Appeal by RES for the Wind Farm at Wadlow Farm – The Parish Council need to say that their position has not changed by 18th January. The Chairman said he would deal with this and asked the council to give its support to the SWWF campaign group which has employed a barrister and will be sending their views to the Inspectorate. The council agreed to lend their support.

13. Finance:

a) All payments were authorised.

b) Monies received included the Sports Pavilion rent and contribution for travel expenses from Shudy Camps Parish Council.

c) Receipts & Payments spread sheet had been distributed which included a bank reconciliation.

d) Budget discussion & vote on Precept.

It was resolved that the following be again paid this year.

£100 donation to the 1st Responder Scheme.

£200 donation to Age Concern to help with cost of the Mobile Warden Scheme.

Subscription for CPRE.

£20.00 donation towards Remembrance Day wreath on Wrating Common.

£50.00 towards cost of producing the village magazine “Challenge”.

After a full discussion on finance and the budget for 2008/09 our expected expenditure next year would be above the level of the Precept as there were some larger costs expected for maintenance so some money would be used from reserves.

The Chairman proposed that the Precept requested should be increased by 4% from last year's figure of £8450. Cllr. Wallace seconded this and council agreed.

14. Report of meetings:

a) Cllr. Wallace reported on the Sports Pavilion Committee meeting and said that the Pavilion accounts are not particularly robust at present. However things seem to be moving in the right direction and there have been no further complaints about noise. A letter requesting permission to erect a CCTV camera and aerial had been

received by the Parish Clerk, this was retrospective. They also required permission to suitably protect the fuel tank at the back of the pavilion from vandalism. It was agreed that their requests were in order and the work could be carried out but that Cllrs. Job and Wallace could make these decisions when necessary. The Chairman pointed out that the number of events allowed through the year is 18 and this should be the calendar year beginning January. Nothing has been put into Challenge about events for the past couple months and a reminder is necessary.

- b) Cllr. McCall had attended a meeting concerning Henry D'abo's proposed development. Plans of this will be sent to the Parish Council.

15. **Report by Dist.Cllr Barrett:**

- a) Still the big issue is the council housing transfer, which is under consultation. The "Decent Standard" of council housing has to be completed by 2010 and maintenance has to be done with half-funding. Refurbishment of kitchens and bathrooms is just beginning.
- b) Plastic recycling is under discussion but requires considerable funding and he would like some feedback from parish councils. Cllr. Job said one needs to look at the environmental impact and the various ways of doing it and the benefit before commenting on its worthiness.

16. **Report by County Cllr. Batchelor:**

- a) A new Chief Executive has now been appointed following the resignation of the Leader of the Council.
- b) He has had various complaints about speeding through the village. This has resulted in the provision of an enforcer to come to check the speeding. It was hoped that he would come at the right time of day to see this and not on a Saturday! Cllr. Wallace passed to him the latest results of a traffic monitoring survey carried out by Cllr. Hampton in the hope that gritting of the High Street will be carried out.
- c) He had not yet received the costings requested for different types of traffic calming. The Parish Clerk was asked to remind him and also request any results of how effective different systems were.

17. **Traffic in West Wratting:** Unable to discuss further as waiting to receive some details of the various traffic calming options available and their costings.

18. **Parish Council meeting dates:**

- a) It was agreed to hold a joint meeting of the Annual Parish Council Meeting followed by the Annual Parish meeting on Monday 12th May, at 7.30pm.
- b) Dates for next 12 months:
Monday 10th March Monday 12th May Monday 14th July
Monday 8th September Monday 10th November Monday 12th January 2009

- 19. **Any other business:** None

Signed.....

WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th March
2008 in the Village Hall at 8.00pm.

Those present: Chairman Russell, Cllrs. McCall & Hampton.
County Cllr. Batchelor & Dist.Cllr Barrett and Parish
Clerk and 1 parishioner/

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Cllrs. Job, Wallace, Anderson & Heath.

2. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th January were signed as correct.

3. **Opportunity for Public Statement**

None

4. **Declarations of interest**

None

5. **Matters arising:**

a) Green lane: – Cllr. Hampton was asked to report on the current position. This path is not a public footpath but in the past has been used by parishioners. It was not included on the definitive footpath map of 1952 or 2003. Cllr. Hampton suggested Alison Hodges at County Council “Lost Highways” might be asked to come and talk about footpaths. The Chairman requested that Cllr. Hampton checks the status of the ‘footpath’ and if it was ever a footpath. We can then re-look at the situation if necessary and if any proof of status is presented.

b) **Update on village maintenance matters:** Cllr. Wallace is at present in hospital and the Chairman had nothing to report.

6. **Risk Management:** The assessment of the village street furniture etc. was carried out on 22nd September. RoSPA would be carrying out its assessment of the Play Area sometime in April. The Sports Pavilion need to show that they have carried out a full risk assessment as do the Village Hall committee.

7. **Sports Pavilion:**

- a) Lease – this had been signed on 21st January and the Parish Clerk was given two copies for our records. Rhodri Rees of Adams Harrison, was holding the original .
- b) Car Park – The proposed plan of the work to be done was passed round. It is hoped the work will start in April.
- c) Funding sign – The Chairman had received no proposals of words to go on the plaque so it will be discussed at next meeting.
- d) A quote of £400 from Boreham Bros. for clearing the scrub round the edge of the recreation field was discussed. The Sports Pavilion are also going to contribute £100 towards this. It was agreed that the quote should be accepted.

8. **Parish Plan:** Cllrs. McCall and Anderson had discussed how to distribute the Questionnaire and had decided to send a personal letter to each household which would include letters to children in the family (12 years upwards) and Cllr. McCall asked if the parish council agreed with this, which they did. The Chairman said something about this should go in Challenge.

9. Correspondence:

- a) The Chairman had received notification of a Workshop for Chairman and he wished to go on it. He would like other councillors to attend some of these Workshops on different subjects.

10. Planning:

Cllr. McCall asked the parish clerk whether the split decision was shown on Planning Application S/0142 – Honey Hill. She was told it had been but that it was a “refusal”.

11. Finance:

- a) All payments shown on the agenda were authorised.
- b) It was agreed that Mr Mike Gutteridge, Abington should be asked to do the internal audit for this year.
- c) The report from Moore Stephen’s (external auditors) was discussed and as two of the items mentioned in it, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, had already been adopted the council had done what they requested. The only outstanding item mentioned was Fidelity Guarantee Insurance, which was thought to be adequate but will be looked at again.
- d) It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should move to spine point 26 with a salary of £11.13 per hour from 1st April 2008.
- e) Data Protection registration. The Chairman felt that we should register at a cost of £35.00 in view of the council’s aims for a Parish Plan. This was agreed.
- f) Cllr. McCall had had no response to her letters to those who had donated money towards maintenance of the Pocket Park requesting it now be used instead to refurbish the Pound, it was therefore assumed that all were in agreement with this.
- g) Accounts spread sheet up to 10th March had been distributed and Cllr. Hampton went through it saying that taking out the £4500 left over payment on the Sports Pavilion brought our payments down to £8949. It was agreed that a sum of possibly £5000 be moved to the Savings Account after checking monies needed for next three months. Cllrs. Hampton, Anderson and the parish clerk would look at this. The £1.57 left over in the Sports Pavilion account needed to be transferred.

12. Traffic:

- b) Due to a large transport facility being opened in Haverhill Cllr. Hampton requested that a weight restriction be put on the road between the cross roads this side of the hanger and the White Horse junction at Withersfield to prevent HGV traffic, other than that servicing the hangers, from using this very poor stretch of road. The village is already suffering from a heavy increase in traffic and he asked County Cllr. Batchelor to look into this possibility, who said he would take the matter up. This would involve two counties as Withersfield is in Suffolk. Cllr. McCall said she would check who was the Chairman of their parish council.

- 13. Crime in the village:** There had been two burglaries and theft of a car in one week. The Chairman recommended that the council look at “ecops” available on the internet. You can sign up for it and it gives you the relevant local information about acts of crime. The Chairman proposed to put something in Challenge about this email site.

- 14. Reports of meetings:** Cllr. Job was absent so the Chairman took up various points concerning the Sports Pavilion. He expects Cllrs. Job and Wallace to monitor the number of events put on by the association. A letter box at the sports pavilion had been requested.

15. Report by Dist.Cllr Barrett:

- a) District Council has decided to implement a kerbside collection of plastic for recycling. Cllr. Barrett did not know how the plastic would be dealt with once collected. Cllr. Hampton asked whether the bin collecting plastic would remain in Linton but he did not know but thought it likely.
- b) A Planning Help Desk is now in place to aid those applying for planning permission.
- c) "Air stacking" – This is being looked into. Cllr. Russell suggested that the Wind Farm possibility should be taken into account.
- d) Travellers are parked on the Icknield Way at Six Mile Bottom. They will have already received a notice from the Cambs.County Council to move on.

16. Report by County Cllr. Batchelor:

- a) County Council has set the Council Tax at 5%.
- b) The new Chief Executive takes up his position at the end of March.
- c) Air Traffic control: West Wrattling needs to respond to the consultation (which closes 22nd May). The "stacking" height has been changed from 4000 to 7000ft.
- d) Traffic calming: The general costings given of £50-70,000 were not helpful without a proper breakdown. It was pointed out that we requested more specific costings on equipment, e.g. flashing lights. Cllr. Batchelor agreed he would get further costings and options.

17. Any Other Business:

S106's on grain store: Cllr. Barrett was asked to confirm whether these had been enforced with regards to the grain store.

Next meeting 12th May, 7.30pm followed by Annual Parish Meeting

Signed.....

WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th May
2008 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Those present were: Chairman Russell, Cllrs. Anderson, McCall, Hampton
and Heath. County Cllr. Batchelor, Dist.Cllrs. Ford and
Barrett, the Parish Clerk and 4 parishioners.

1. **Election of Chairman:** The Parish Clerk asked for proposals and Cllr. McCall proposed Cllr. Russell, seconded by Cllr. Anderson. All were in favour and Cllr. Russell was declared Chairman and signed the Acceptance form.
2. **Appointment of Vice Chairman:** Cllr. Hampton said he would be unable to be considered for Vice Chairman because of time spent abroad. Cllr. Russell therefore proposed Cllr. McCall for Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Anderson. All were in favour and Cllr. McCall accepted and signed the Acceptance form.
3. **Apologies:** Cllrs. Job and Wallace sent their apologies.
4. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th March 2008 were signed as correct.
5. **Opportunity for Public Statement**
Mark Holme & Colin McCall wished to speak.
6. **Declarations of interest**
None.
7. **Matters arising:**
None
8. **Traffic – HGV weight restriction, traffic calming:**
 - a) Cllr. Hampton had been in contact with the Withersfield Parish Council, who would be happy to write to Suffolk County Council requesting weight restriction from “The White Horse” public house to the West Wickham cross-roads and Cllr. Hampton, on behalf of the Parish Council will write a similar letter to SCDC with a copy of this letter to go to Withersfield. Cllr. Hampton said that access would have to be made available for HGV vehicles already coming through the village to existing businesses.
 - b) Traffic calming – Cambridge County Council do not have sufficient funds at present for any traffic calming. Options will be sought from Highways and discussed as part of the Village Plan.
9. **“Stacking”:** The Chairman reported on a meeting held on 8th May to discuss the proposal by NATS to “stack” aircraft over this area at heights of 7,000ft spiralling down to below 4,000ft. The consultation period has now been extended by NATS by one month to 19th June. A letter will be sent by the Parish Council to challenge these proposals and the parishioners will be up-dated by an item in “Challenge” encouraging them to write to NATS if against the proposals.

10. **Village Plan:** Cllr. Anderson has finalised the letter and flier to be distributed to parishioners of West Wrating. It will be sent to the other members of the Parish Council for final approval prior to distribution to the village.

11. **Website:** The Chairman would like the council to think about the possibility of setting up a village website. Minutes, Agendas and matters of interest could go on this website. However the Parish Clerk did point out that these would still have to go on the noticeboards for those not having computers.

12. **Planning:**

a) **Windfarm:** The Chairman had been to a pre-inquiry meeting. RES will put up one or two “blimps,” including one at the highest proposed turbine location. This will be on Monday 21st July. The inquiry starts on Tuesday 22nd July until Thursday 24th July, restarting on Monday 28th July to Thursday 31st July, or Friday 1 August, at West Wickham Village Hall. The Parish Council needs to consider asking for S106 conditions with regard to its effect on TV, Broadband, noise etc. and also the issue of compensation should the proposed Windfarm be allowed. A letter will be sent to the Council with our requests.

b) **Thurlow Estate Grain Storage:** This application has been returned to SCDC but in hindsight Cllr. Anderson thought we should request a S106 condition that records be kept of all movements, if the application goes through. It was also suggested that we request a S106 condition for a time restriction to be imposed, and also some compensation to help with traffic calming in the village.

13. **CALC Training courses:** The Chairman would like to go on a Development Course this year which was agreed. He also suggested that other councillors might also consider further training.

14. **Finance:**

a) Accounts for year 2007/08: These had been distributed and Cllr. Hampton proposed that they be adopted and signed for the internal audit. This was seconded by Cllr. Russell and agreed by the council. The Accounts were then signed by the Chairman. The Chairman then read out the Governance Statement which was signed and the Statement of Account, which was also signed following agreement by the council.

b) Authorised payments as shown on the Agenda were approved.

c) The first tranche of the Precept had been received. Also £200 from WWFC for grass cutting; £50 from both the Bowls and Tennis Club for grass cutting and £125 for the first half-years rent from the Sports Pavilion Committee.

d) **The Pound:** As discussed when drawing up the Budget for this year, the Pound is in need of refurbishment and will probably cost approx. £1,250 plus VAT. £720 is already in hand and it was agreed that the Parish Clerk would see what grants were available to help with the remaining cost.

15. **Update of Village Maintenance:**

a) Update on Causeway Chestnut trees – Keith Fauch of Highways Dept., who is the person responsible for the trees, would like to remove them in one go, as would the Tree Officer and the arborialist. This would make sense as there is then a blank space to start again, planting possibly Turkish Oaks of 9-11ft height. It was agreed that the residents living in the Causeway should be informed of the

options. Another option would be to pollard three of the trees but there is the likelihood that they may die anyway and the Parish Council would have to bear the cost of future pollarding and, if necessary, removing them, a potential total liability of approx £2000-2500. It was agreed that total removal was the preferred option. Keith would be informed.

- b) Seat at Pound: This needs to be taken away and repainted and then placed on stone slabs. This was agreed.

16. Report of meetings:

- a) Cllr. Job no longer was able to represent the Parish Council on the Sports Pavilion Committee, however Cllr. McCall said she was prepared to do this and would liaise with Cllr. Wallace once he was fully recovered from his operation.
- b) Cllr. Hampton had been to a Workshop concerning the proposed congestion charges in Cambridge and had a set of notes about it. The result from the consultation was that most people were against it and before such charges were put in place it was essential to improve the availability of a good public transport system.

17. Report by County Cllr. Batchelor:

- a) The new Leader, Gill Tuck will be appointed at tomorrow's County council meeting and the new CE joined the council in April.
- b) A letter has been sent out to Parish Councils pointing out the various options regarding the NATS proposal on "stacking".
- c) Ecotown: University is opposing it and the CCC, SCDC and Horizons have joined together to oppose it.

18. Report by District Cllr. Ford:

Cllr. Ford had written a Review of the Year and this will be distributed in the Correspondence folder so that councillors can read it fully although she obviously mentioned various points at the meeting. It will also be mentioned in "Challenge".

19. Any Other Business: None

Next meeting will be on Monday 14th July 2008.

WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th July
2008 in the Village Hall at 8pm.

Those present were: Chairman Russell, Cllrs. Anderson, Hampton, Heath and Wallace. County Cllr. Batchelor and the Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs. Job, McCall, Dist. Cllrs. Ford & Barrett sent their apologies.
2. **Declarations of interest:** None.
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 12th May were signed as correct.
4. **Opportunity** for Public Statement: None.
5. **Matters arising:** None.
6. **Traffic –**
 - a) HGV weight restriction: The Chairman asked if council should go further with the paper on weight restriction written by Cllr. Hampton with regard to HGV traffic. The proposed route is up Mill Road, turning right at The Chestnut public house and then turning left to Weston Colville for grain lorries. More worrying are the number of DHL lorries coming from Haverhill through the village which are nothing to do with farming, using the route to get to the A11 or A14 rather than using the A1307. There are concerns about damage to older properties. It was agreed that a letter would be sent by the Chairman on behalf of the council, with copy to Withersfield P.C.
 - b) Traffic calming – nothing further has been heard from County Cllr. Batchelor regarding costs and options. More consultation needs to take place on this.
7. **Village Plan:** Cllr. Anderson told council that the questionnaire was completed and ready to be sent to the parishioners. However, before doing this he wished to ask the council whether or not we should continue with it as he does not now have the time to commit to carry on with it should the village decide they would like a Village Plan. As there was not a full council it was agreed to discuss this at the next council meeting.
8. **Challenge:** As from August there will be a new team producing Challenge. Two people from Weston Colville, one from Balsham and Cllr. Heath (who is willing to help with the layout).
9. **Planning:**
 - a) Wind Farm: The enquiry had been postponed as RES had not supplied all the necessary requested information and it is hoped it will be held sometime in Oct/Nov.

- b) Thurlow Grain store: This has been approved but still some routing to be sorted out.
 - c) Reviewing Planning Applications: The Chairman would like Planning Applications to be looked at first by a small working group consisting of Cllrs. Hampton, McCall and another. They would make their individual comments and then send the application on to other parish councillors. Reviewing by this method has successfully been carried out in the past and it was agreed to do it this way. The Parish Clerk will inform everyone by email when an application is being distributed.
10. **Archiving & Publication Plan:** It will soon be mandatory to have such a plan in place and the Chairman and Parish Clerk are looking into what is needed.
11. **Finance:**
- a) Internal Auditor's report: The Chairman went through the report point by point. He suggested that under Comment 3 (S137) council should think more carefully about what money is donated. Again there was comment made about having a Fidelity Guarantee under Insurance. The Chairman suggested council wait until the External Auditor's report is received but to find out what the extra cost would be for a £10,000 Fidelity Guarantee cover. It was agreed that the internal auditor had done a satisfactory job.
 - b) Authorised payments as itemised on the Agenda were agreed.
11. **Maintenance:**
- a) Causeway Chestnut Trees: The removal of these trees is planned for early August and it will be necessary to cut off the electricity. Keith Fauch of County Council Highways Dept. will find out how long this will be for and will notify all the residents in the Causeway. Further consultation will take place between Highways and the residents.
 - b) The Pound: The ivy etc. has been cleared away from the brickwork and the bench has been repaired and put back on paving slabs. If Council wishes to get a grant there is a need for two further quotes to submit to the SCDC, English Heritage etc. The Parish Clerk will deal with this.
 - c) Land Registration: This needs to be continued and the Chairman will speak to Cllr Job about costs and he asked Council to look at the village assets e.g. Pocket Park, Pound, Pump Shelter and then decide the order of priority.
 - d) Car Park: The refurbishment has been completed and most of the work has been done satisfactorily but there are still some safety aspects to be finalised. The clearing of the scrub will be done in September and grass seed sewn. RoSPA's recommendation of "haunching" will be carried out.
 - e) Bus Shelter: This has been refurbished through Cllr. Wallace with considerable work being carried out. The chairs have been rubbed down, the "blackboard" repainted (with thanks from the schoolchildren). Cllr. Wallace will submit his bill for this work.
 - f) Village Hall: the front of the hall is being repainted and the fuel tank has to be changed because of regulations.

13. **Report of Meetings:**
- a) Sports Pavilion Report – Cllr. Wallace had spoken to Richard Wilson, Secretary of the WWFC who told him the AGM will be held in the next few weeks. There has been no committee meeting.
 - b) Cllr. Heath had attended the Police Panel Meeting and thought it was a travesty with the police being lambasted by people from Linton and Fulbourn. Speed checks are not being carried out because the Speed Gun is being repaired and the PSO's have yet to be trained in its use. The Chairman suggested we ask one of the PSO's to come to one of our meetings.
14. **Report by Dist.Cllr Ford:** She was unable to attend but had emailed the parish clerk a short report with regard to the work to be carried out on the A1307. She or County Cllr. Batchelor will let us know when this will be happening. She also said that there was still some finalising of route details for the Thurlow Estate Grain Store.
15. **Report by County Cllr. Batchelor:**
- a) Referring back to the Police Panel meetings he said that County Council were keen to expand these meetings into other areas, e.g. planning applications in order to improve community engagement. However he is against these “panels” as they create a lopsided debate with the larger villages having a greater say.
16. **Any Other Business:**
- a) Cllr. Heath had represented the parish council at the War Memorial Service.
 - b) Cllr. Anderson suggested the renting of a speed camera but did not know what the cost would be. Cllr. Batchelor said this would not be enforceable if someone was caught speeding.
 - c) Cllr. Wallace said the lamp-post at the bottom of the Causeway near the Church was now operational.
 - d) Letter received from Suzanne Langford requesting a donation to help with funding the archiving which she does for the village. This will be put on the next Agenda.
 - e) Letter from West Wrating War Memorial Assoc. requesting a donation for a wreath. Suzanne Langford doesn't think there was a wreath from West Wrating at the Common Memorial. The Parish Clerk will check this and will be put on the next Agenda.

Next meeting will be on Monday 10th September 2008.

Chairman:.....

WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th September 2008 in the Village Hall at 8pm.

Those present were: Chairman Russell, Cllrs. Anderson, Hampton, Heath, McCall & Wallace. District Councillors Barrett and Ford and the Parish Clerk. One parishioner.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. Job and County Cllr. Batchellor.
2. **Declarations of interest:** None
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 15th July were signed as correct.
4. **Opportunity for Public Statement:**
The P3 Officer, Colin McCall had met the new Rights of Way officer, Karen Whymark, who had visited the parish. There will be some levelling on the first section of byway 1 known as Foxes Drove, off Six mile Bottom Road by GreenEnd Farm and on Byway 1 on the entrance on Honey Hill B1057 where the correct definitive line of the route will be reinstated with a culvert and a signpost. This should happen in September some time and the contractor is Lattenbury Services. Footpath 3 and 4 have been caught in a “Roundup” spraying of the field which will turn them into mud walks. Colin will cut close to the hedge to try and limit the problem. Karen Whymark has been informed. The strimmer needs renewing and council will put this on the next Agenda for formal approval. Footpath down to Chapel Lane has not yet been re-instated but Colin is aware.
5. **Matters arising:** None
6. **Transport:** The parish clerk had attended a Speeding Summit meeting at which a presentation on the use of a piece of equipment called “Speedwatch” was given. The “Speedwatch” equipment, which monitors speeds was discussed. The cost is currently £3000, which could be divided between 8 parishes but rental or leasing will be investigated. The idea was agreed in principle subject to final costings.
7. **Village Plan:** Cllrs. McCall, Anderson and Russell agreed to put a Questionnaire into each house in the village via Challenge and to collect them a week later to see what response there was. It was made clear that the input would have to come from members of the village and not entirely the parish council.
8. **Planning:**
 - a) Windfarm – no further progress as RES still has to provide certain information to the Inspectorate before the inquiry can go ahead. It was agreed that a letter of complaint should be sent to SCDC and the Inspectorate over the delay and the Chairman said he would write this.
 - b) NATS consultation – no further news.
 - c) Hanley Grange Eco town is on hold at present.

9. **Correspondence:** None

10. **Finance:**

- a) It was agreed that a donation of £50.00 should be given to help with archiving costs this year, with a further £50.00 in the 2009/10 financial year following a request from Suzanne Langford.
- b) Authorised payments were agreed as shown on the Agenda.
- c) It was agreed that the parish council would donate £25.00 towards the cost of a wreath to the West Wrattling RAF Memorial Association, to be laid at The Common memorial.
- d) The Accounts spreadsheet had been distributed to councillors by the Parish Clerk. Cllr. Anderson had distributed a Budget spread sheet and it showed target figures were being met. The Chairman reminded council that the November meeting would be discussing the budget and asked everyone to consider next year's requirements. Cllrs. Hampton, Anderson and the parish clerk would meet up prior to the next meeting to go through the budget.

11. **Maintenance:** Cllr. Wallace reported

- a) The Cambs.County Council Highways will be again looking at flooding problems.
- b) The Parish Clerk will write to Richard Silk to thank him for making plugs out of oak which he fitted into the car park railings for safety purposes.
- c) The Horse Chestnut trees have been cut down and the Pin Oaks ordered by the Tree Officer as replacement trees. Cllr. Wallace suggested putting bulbs down the Causeway and this will be discussed at the next meeting.
- d) The Pound: MC Maintenance has found that the brickwork in places needs totally replacing and the concrete removing, he is still uncovering the foundations. It was suggested by Cllr. Barrett the parish clerk get in touch with the Conservation Officer (he will supply her with the name).

12. **Traffic:**

- a) HGV weight restriction – The Chairman apologised as he had not yet sent the letter to SCDC regarding this matter but it would be done with copy to go to Withersfield Parish Council.
- b) Bus No.46 service – this daily service to Newmarket has been threatened with cancellation because of low usage. However when checking numbers of passengers they only accounted for paying bus users and excluded concessionary users. This makes a considerable difference to the total figure. Cllr. Barrett is dealing with this matter and is hoping that a service might be provided on two days a week. He suggested the parish council write a letter of complaint and the parish clerk will do this.

13. **Report of meetings:**

- a) Sports Pavilion Committee report given by Cllr. Wallace. He and Cllr McCall attended a meeting with two others from the Football Club. They are trying to structure a regular meeting pattern with dates agreed well in advance. A list of all social and fundraising events must be published in the Challenge. It was agreed that a plaque should be hung with details of contributors to the funding of the Sports Pavilion, the wording to be decided. Contingency funds were discussed and they are aware they need to put money aside. The Chairman said the Pavilion club must ensure that there is no under-age drinking after games or at events.

14. **Report by Dist. Cllr. Ford & Barrett:**

- a) Weston Woods Grain Store – Planning Dept. delegated approval to the local Highways Dept. Thurlow Estate are prepared to contribute towards some traffic calming for West Wrattling but only in relation to the grain store. Three signs warning of HGV lorries using the road for grain cartage. Signage will be put up regularly showing the route these lorries must take. There cannot be a restriction of lorry numbers because at harvest time there has to be extra cartage. However Cllr. Ford said she would ask about a one-way system for tractors.
- b) Boxes for plastic bottle recycling will be delivered shortly to be collected fortnightly.
- c) Housing Stock – tenants will be making their decision whether to accept the transfer of housing stock to a Housing Association.
- d) A1307 – Some positive progress is being made but too slowly. Improvements are to be made at the Horseheath junction but there is a hold-up because BT has to do some re-routing. There will be signs at the beginning and end of the road detailing it as a major incident road and one speed camera. A discussion regarding a 50mph speed limit will take place on 23rd September. Cllr. Ford urged the council to write to CCC to show our support of this speed limit.

15. **Any other business:** None.

Next meeting will be Monday 10th November.

Chairman.....

WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th November
2008 in the Village Hall at 8pm.

Those present were: Chairman Russell, Cllrs. Anderson, Job, McCall & Wallace. District Councillors Barrett and Ford, County Councillor Batchelor and the Parish Clerk.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllrs. Hampton and Heath.
- 2. Declarations of interest:** None
- 3. Minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 8th September were signed as correct.
- 4. Opportunity for Public Statement:** A parishioner, James Delevingne spoke about “land sharing”, which he had read about, where a mutual arrangement is made that a part of one’s garden/land is used by someone wishing to grow vegetables. This is particularly aimed at Parish or District Councils where there is little land available. The Chairman thanked Mr Delevingne and said it would be put on the next Agenda for discussion and suggested that something should go into Challenge about it. Any arrangement would be a private one between the individual and the landowner.
- 5. Matters arising:** None
- 6. Transport:** The Chairman asked what Councils opinion was of the equipment for Speedwatching written about by SCDC Transport, regarding the use of these machines in villages. As no-one has really studied the information it was decided to put it on the next Agenda.
- 7. Village Plan:** Next Agenda.
- 8. Planning:**
 - a) Wind Farm – there was still no date set for the inquiry and letters had been written complaining about the delay.
 - b) Slow return of Planning Applications: It was agreed that the parish clerk informs Council when a planning application has been handed to Cllrs. McCall and Hampton, who will look at it and make suggestions on policy before passing it on. When passing it on it is better to hand it to somebody rather than putting through the letterbox. It will be placed in a clear plastic folder. If there are further problems with returning it to the parish clerk on time the parish council may have to have a planning meeting every time an application arrives.
- 9. Correspondence:** None

10. Finance:

- a) Remembrance wreath – again there has been misunderstanding regarding where the donation made by the parish council should have gone, the Royal British Legion, Friends of the Wratting Memorial Association or a joint Parish Councils wreath. It was agreed that next year we would make a donation towards the cost of the wreath from the Friends of the Wratting Common Memorial Association, with the balance to the British Legion.
- b) The Pound: Cllr. Wallace had spoken to the Conservation Officer regarding the possibility of receiving a grant for work on the Pound despite the fact that some exploratory work had already been done, which was when it was realized that the cost of repairing the Pound would be much more than at first thought. Some necessary repairs had been made in order to prevent further rapid deterioration. Cllr. Wallace has a meeting with the Technical Officer from SCDC on Thursday 13th to look at and discuss the problem and hopefully something good may come from this meeting.
- c) Council agreed to the increase of 29p/hr backdated from April of the Parish Clerk's salary, with the spine point moving to 27 from April 2009.
- d) It was formally agreed that the P3 officer should purchase a strimmer and this had been done.
- e) *Authorised payments:* As shown on the Agenda. These were all agreed with the exception of the invoice for cutting the Recreation Field, which was double the budget figure. Cllr. Wallace/McCall would look into this.
- f) *Monies received:* As shown on the Agenda.
- g) *Accounts sheet:* Distributed to councillors.
- h) *Budget re January Precept meeting:* Cllr. Anderson had updated the Budget spreadsheet and distributed it to the Council. He went through the items to get opinions on next year's budget requirements, which would include many items not carried out this year, particularly on the Maintenance side. Land Registration was also queried – what should be the next asset to be registered and it was agreed on the Village Hall, for which there were deeds. The Parish Clerk said she would inquire about costs from the Land Registration Office. Cllr. Anderson made notes so that at the January meeting long discussions would not be necessary. The good news is that Council is working to the budget. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Anderson. Cllr. Job asked whether donations may be made to help with village events, e.g. the Firework Display. Dist.Cllr. Ford said that none of the seven villages under their umbrella do so unless a "goodwill" donation is made when an event has made a loss due to bad weather or some such. The Chairman suggested this be discussed at the next meeting.

11. Maintenance:

- a) The Pound – discussed under Finance.
- b) Bus Shelter refurbishment: There was still work needed to be carried and it was agreed to allow further refurbishment to the bus shelter up to £190.00.

12. Traffic:

- a) HGV Weight Restriction – a letter had been sent to Highways Dept. requesting HGV weight restriction in West Wratting (send copy to Cllrs. Ford and Barrett).

- b) A1307: Cllr. Ford said that people were avoiding using the A1307 for fear of accidents which was causing even more “rat running” through villages.
- c) Cllr. Ford said to take note of a Consultation document from St Edmundsbury regarding future development.

13. Reports of Meetings:

- a) Cllrs. Wallace and McCall had had a Sports Pavilion Committee meeting on 3 Nov. 08 and discussion were held about the underfunding of the accounts due to not increasing the football teams subscriptions. The committee were not tight enough over the rules with regard to the use of the Sports Pavilion by non-members and so far there were no contingency funds in place yet it is vital that funds are accumulated for maintenance etc. of the Pavilion. The full listing of events was not going into Challenge as requested. There were fireworks let off on Saturday but nobody had been notified that this was going to happen. The AGM will be in January and Agendas for the committee meetings are being set.
- b) Cllr. McCall had been to an Age Concern Mobile Scheme meeting and learnt that there were now parishioners using the scheme.

14. Report by District Clls. Barrett & Ford:

- a) Housing consultation is still on-going and the decision has to be made by council house tenants. There are meetings being held to explain the situation and the Chairman said that the Village Hall could be used for this purpose if so required. Cllr. Barrett said he would let Council know if it would be needed.
- b) Cllr. Ford spoke about the difficulty of SCDC setting the budget as the amount received from the government had only increased by 0.4%. The government has also requested yet another spatial regional development plan because of growth in the area, she is not certain where they get their figures from.
- c) Recycling – Because of a fixed price contract there will be no reduction in the collection of recycling material.
- d) Cllr. Ford had attended a meeting regarding d’Abo’s “change of use” planning application. Because of a loophole he has been granted “change of use” but it will be restricted to the employment of up to 6 people with six parking spaces. The parish council will check that these conditions are kept.

Report by County Cllr. Batchelor:

- a) Buses – the No.46 which was under threat. All trips to Newmarket have been cancelled apart from those made on a Tuesday (Market day). The contracts for bus services 16, 16a and 19 are coming up for renewal. These will continue as before but if you wish to see a change in the timetable now is the time to contact them e.g. a bus coming back later than 4.20pm.
- b) Road maintenance – only work already contracted for this year will go ahead due to shortage of funds.
- c) A1307 – BT have completed their work and Highways should begin work very shortly.

15. Any Other Business:

- a) Cllr. Barrett was concerned about the construction of hardstanding which had impinged onto the pathway on in Six Mile Bottom Road, which is Highways property and therefore permission is required. He is looking into it and will let Council know the outcome.

Meeting closed at 9.45.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 12th January.

Chairman.....