

**Wendens Ambo Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting 7th December 2015**

Wendens Ambo Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, Royston Road, Wendens Ambo, Essex, CB11 4JX at 8pm. Present: Cllr Isobel Grant (Chair), Cllr Jim Grant, , Cllr Andrew Farrimond, Cllr Dominic Russell and Cllr Guy Morrogh. In Attendance: District Cllr Robert Chambers Parish Clerk and 3 Members of the Public.

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| <b>12/15/01</b> | <b>Chairman 's Welcome</b><br>Chairman Isobel Grant welcomed those present to the meeting.   |
| <b>12/15/02</b> | <b>Apologies For Absence</b><br>Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Alan Lovett and District Cllr Julie Redfern.<br>Apologies for delayed arrival were received and accepted from Cllr Ann Wade.<br>Apologies for early departure were received and accepted from District Cllr Robert Chambers.  |
| <b>12/15/03</b> | <b>Declarations Of Interests</b><br>None declared  |
| <b>12/15/04</b> | <b>Public Participation</b><br>Thanks to Cllr Wade were suggested by a member of the public, and agreed by the council, for the hard work related to the village defibrillator.  |
| <b>12/15/05</b> | <b>Previous Minutes</b><br>Councillors agreed the minutes of the November Parish Council meeting and the November Extraordinary Parish Council meeting as true and accurate records of proceedings and Chairman Isobel Grant signed the minutes.   |
| <b>12/15/06</b> | <b>Matters Arising</b><br><u>Dodna Lane</u><br>ECC have rescinded their original offer to site a lockable bollard on Dodna Lane and suggest instead that cars seen driving illegally on the bridle path should be reported to the Police. A member of the public detailed his report of two men in a car up Dodna Lane to the Police some months ago where the officer could not identify Wendens Ambo and is yet to return the call as promised. It was agreed that Cllrs Grant and Lovett would identify the best position for up to two bollards and any necessary signage.<br><u>Maintenance</u><br>Cllr Grant detailed maintenance undergone, including;<br>i. the work of the Church Yard Clean-Up, including cutting the hedge on The Wick and strimming the wildflower area.<br>ii. A number of hazel trees have been cut down on Chinnel Lane on safety grounds.<br>iii. Safety improvements in the Play Park are ongoing.<br>iv. The small gate on The Wick has been repaired, again.<br>v. The high hedge on the south side of The Wick has been trimmed by new residents.<br>vi. The flooding issues in Clanver End are still being investigated.<br><br>Cllr Wade joined the meeting.<br><br><u>Church Renovations</u><br>Following receipt of anticipated costings from The Church of;<br>Memorial Garden - £13,130 ( £5,000+ raised towards this)<br>Architect fees - £10,000 (project management to be covered locally)<br>Furniture/fittings/storage - not yet known<br>Disabled toilet/servery - not yet known<br>(including suitable drainage)<br>Lighting - consultancy £900 ( covered by a donation)<br>- costs £15,000<br>Electric heating - consultancy £1,000<br>- cost £17,000<br>to reconfigure the interior space, upgrade the heating and lighting, install a disabled toilet and servery in addition to offering a suitable setting for a village war memorial - to enable the village church to become more of a village amenity than it is at the moment, a petition was circulated for councillors who wishes to sign to support the project to improve the church in Wendens Ambo, St Mary the Virgin.<br>Following extensive discussion the Parish Council agreed an initial £1,000 grant towards the architect fees. Consideration will be given towards awarding a further £1,000 grant at the start |

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|   | <p>of the next financial year if the design is completed by that stage, and supported by the village.</p> <p><u>Cycle Path</u><br/>No update</p> <p><u>School Transport</u><br/>No update</p> <p><u>Bulb Planting</u><br/>The bulb planting event was cancelled due to heavy rain. Chairman Grant and Cllr Grant have subsequently planted the 900 bulbs on The Croat, The Wick, the green triangle and Cambridge Road. Cllr Wade proposed thanks to Chairman and Cllr Grant, which were unanimously agreed by those present.</p> <p><u>Broadband</u><br/>Cllr Morrogh detailed the sporadic nature of the rollout of the superfast connection, with no date currently released for Clanver End, whilst some Wendens Ambo residents are happily up and running, others are experiencing variable speeds and quality. Cllr Farrimond confirmed his intention to attend the Superfast Essex Countywide Parish Engagement Event this Wednesday at the Essex Record Office in Chelmsford, 6.30-9pm. Current advice to residents experiencing issues with broadband speed, is to contact their service provider.</p> <p><u>Questionnaires</u><br/>Chairman Grant confirmed completion, personally, and on behalf of the Parish Council of the 55 questions within the Essex Rural Strategy.<br/>The clerk submitted the Parish Council response to the Local Plan.</p> |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 12/15/07                                | <p><b>Clerk's Report</b><br/>The clerk reported;</p> <p>i. The Land Registry search on the green triangle on Station Road has revealed that the land is not registered. A Freedom of Information request has been submitted to Uttlesford District Council (26.11.15) requesting detail of land owned by UDC in Wendens Ambo. It was agreed that the clerk would also submit a Freedom of Information request to Essex County Council regarding ownership of land in the parish.</p> <p>ii. The EALC Training course has been booked for Thursday 10th March at 7.30pm, the 15minute planning section was refused so a further module can be selected. Cllr Farrimond agreed to pursue this matter.</p> <p>District Cllr Robert Chambers wished those present, and the whole parish a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year, and left the meeting.</p>  |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 12/15/08                                | <p><b>Planning</b><br/>i UTT/15/3205/HHF – Weald House, Nats Lane, Wendens Ambo<br/>Demolition of single storey garage, conservatory and annexe. Construction of two storey extensions, new cart lodge and garden room and remodelling of driveway.<br/>It was agreed that the Parish Council has no objection to this amended planning application.</p> <p>ii.UTT/15/3562/OP - Gresham Court, Station Road<br/>Outline application with all matters reserved except access and scale for the demolition of existing buildings and the erection of up to 11 two-storey residential dwelling units.<br/>It was agreed that the Parish Council do not in principle object to the concept of the residential development of this site, but cannot form an opinion or constructively comment on an application with such little detail. The Parish Council also agreed that they would object to any perceived over-development or development that would lead to a poor quality of life for residents.</p>   |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 12/15/09                                | <p><b>Financial Report</b><br/>i.Jim Grant presented a statement and review of accounts and cheques;</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>595 - Clerk's salary November 2015</td> <td>- £191.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>596 - HMRC November 2015</td> <td>- £47.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>597 - Clerk's expenses November 2015</td> <td>- £29.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>598 - CDBF - Rental of part of The Wick</td> <td>- £250.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>599 - Isobel Grant - Expenses</td> <td>- £160.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>600 - Isobel Grant - Play Park expenses</td> <td>- £38.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>601 - Treasure Hunt expenses</td> <td>-£50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>602 - Village Hall hire - Youth Club</td> <td>-£70.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>for payment. These were agreed.</p> <p>ii. It was agreed that Cllr Wade would complete the process to become a cheque signatory.</p> <p>iii. The 2016/17 budget of £11,000 (a noted £500 reduction from last year)was agreed as</p>   | 595 - Clerk's salary November 2015 | - £191.40 | 596 - HMRC November 2015 | - £47.80 | 597 - Clerk's expenses November 2015 | - £29.25 | 598 - CDBF - Rental of part of The Wick | - £250.00 | 599 - Isobel Grant - Expenses | - £160.93 | 600 - Isobel Grant - Play Park expenses | - £38.32 | 601 - Treasure Hunt expenses | -£50.00 | 602 - Village Hall hire - Youth Club | -£70.00 |
| 595 - Clerk's salary November 2015      | - £191.40   |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 596 - HMRC November 2015                | - £47.80  |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 597 - Clerk's expenses November 2015    | - £29.25  |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 598 - CDBF - Rental of part of The Wick | - £250.00   |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 599 - Isobel Grant - Expenses           | - £160.93   |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 600 - Isobel Grant - Play Park expenses | - £38.32  |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 601 - Treasure Hunt expenses            | -£50.00   |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |
| 602 - Village Hall hire - Youth Club    | -£70.00   |                                    |           |                          |          |                                      |          |   |           |                               |           |   |          |                              |         |                                      |         |

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|                 | <p>circulated with the intention to precept for £10,500 with the remaining £500 being utilised from the Parish Council reserves.</p> <p>iv. It was agreed that projects for 2016/17 would include;</p> <p>a. A new gate for the Wick - current gate glued together.</p> <p>b. The green triangle - it was agreed that Cllr Morrogh would investigate signage for the entrance to the village to present for approval at the January meeting.</p> <p>c. Footpaths and signs improvements - it was agreed that Cllr Morrogh would list the missing signs and overgrown footpaths and pass on to Cllr Lovett.</p> <p>v. It was agreed that the Parish Council would currently continue to pay the £360 annual subsidy for the village magazine. Payments will be made quarterly.</p> <p>vi. It was agreed that the clerk should attend the ELC Transparency Code Briefing on 19th January.</p> |
| <b>12/15/10</b> | <p><b>Friends of Wendens Ambo Playpark</b></p> <p>Chairman Grant detailed the £6,000 budget The Friends have to install equipment suitable for use by children under the age of three and has forwarded details of the procedures necessary to move the project forward.</p>  |
| <b>12/15/11</b> | <p><b>Boxing Day Treasure Hunt</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the treasure hunt will take place on 26th December, registration being 11-midday at the Village Hall and the prize ceremony at 1pm. Chairman Grant took the opportunity to thank Sue and Jenny in advance for the energy they put into this event. Please note that this year's event includes a snowman search to engage the youngest participants.</p>   |
| <b>12/15/12</b> | <p><b>Potholes and Road Markings</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the clerk would report all the pot holes in the parish, with accompanying photographic evidence, querying the orange markings that Highways have marked them with some months ago which should facilitate repair within 28 days.</p>   |
| <b>12/15/13</b> | <p><b>Adoption of Telephone Box</b></p> <p>Following receipt of only one suggestion of shelving for a book swap and other items, it was agreed that the Parish Council would issue a Youth Club challenge for the best suggested use of the telephone box, to be returned by the January Parish Council meeting.</p>  |
| <b>12/15/14</b> | <p><b>Grass Triangle</b></p> <p>It was agreed that Cllrs Grant and Lovett would obtain pricings for fencing the green triangle, installing sleepers and/or chain link fencing, with Cllr Grant circulating photographs of the fence. Cllr Morrogh agreed to circulate suggested plans for village signage.</p>  |
| <b>12/15/15</b> | <p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Russell would respond to Rissa Long requesting the Parish Council's intention to pursue the 20mph speed limit in Duck Street and Rookery Lane.</p>  |
| <b>12/15/16</b> | <p><b>Matters to be raised for next meeting's agenda</b></p> <p>i. Village Plan Questionnaire</p> <p>ii. Reviewing items that are protected in the village such as trees (TPOs) and listed buildings.</p>   |
| <b>12/15/17</b> | <p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p>It was suggested that the Parish Council could charge UDC for costs incurred protecting their property from UDC's tenant ( for discussion at January meeting).</p> <p>It was suggested that the Parish Council consider the district council's reasons for refusal of the application UTT/15/3031/OP - Land east of Glebe Cottages as most properties in the parish could be affected by the "lack of sustainability" comment (for discussion at January meeting).</p>  |
|                 | <b>Meeting closed at 22.25</b>  |

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting is 4th January, 2016 at 8.00pm. The draft minutes of the meetings are posted on [www.wendensambo.org.uk](http://www.wendensambo.org.uk) and displayed in the Church Porch, The Fighting Cocks and The Bell. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend any Parish Council meeting.