

# Wendens Ambo Parish Council

## Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 5th October, 2020

Wendens Ambo Parish Council Meeting on Zoom at 8pm.

Present: Chair Gail Gibbs, Cllr Trevor Back, Cllr Kathryn Butterworth, Cllr Alan Lovett, Cllr Simon Rowley and Cllr Sam Slota-Newson.

In Attendance: District Cllrs Neil Gregory and Richard Pavitt, seven members of the public and the clerk.

<b>10/20/01</b>	<b>Chair`s Welcome</b> Chair Gail Gibbs welcomed everyone to the meeting.
<b>10/20/02</b>	<b>Apologies For Absence</b> None received.
<b>10/20/03</b>	<b>Declarations Of Interests</b> Cllr Sam Slota-Newson declared a personal interest in a matter being raised during public participation, as Club Secretary of Wenden Cricket Club.
<b>10/20/04</b>	<b>Public Participation</b> A member of the public noted that there are several low hanging branches on trees on The Wick, making it difficult to walk on the path. Additionally, there is a split branch that requires attention. A representative from Wenden Cricket Club detailed their proposal to install an astro turf wicket at their own cost, to provide an alternative where junior games and/or training sessions can be held where they would otherwise not proceed on a turf wicket due to rain. WCC will require consent from their landlord to install the astro turf wicket and requests that the Parish Council support the proposal and consents that this support can be communicated to the representatives of Audley End Estate as part of the Club`s application. The Parish Council agreed to support the proposal in full and the clerk resolved to forward details of UDC`s Community Project Grants to WCC.
<b>10/20/05</b>	<b>Co-Option</b> Chris Stringer was co-opted onto the Parish Council, and it was agreed that the clerk would provide the Notice of Co-Option , declaration of Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Members Interests for Cllr Stringer to complete and sign and the clerk to countersign, as soon as is practicable.
<b>10/20/06</b>	<b>County Councillor`s Report</b> None submitted.
<b>10/20/07</b>	<b>District Councillor`s Report</b> District Cllr Richard Pavitt reported; i. The leader of the District Council and the finance team have worked wonders, resulting in UDC`s finances improving as a result of astute investments creating income ahead of schedule, alongside further government funding. ii. The Environment Agency recently released new figures which show that the River Cam has failed the chemical pollution tests, discussions are underway as to what can be done. iii. The school bus provision appears to have resolved their teething issues, with the new contractors responding well to any complaints. Cllr Butterworth initially informed the PC that the walking route into the Saffron Walden schools had been deemed safe by the council, she has discovered this isn`t the case; the route has been classified as unsafe for school children to walk to school on. As a result, those children who are eligible (that they attend their nearest school), do receive free transport into Saffron Walden. Half of the homes in Wendens Ambo are closer to the Newport schools, so those living in these locations who have chosen to attend their catchment school in Saffron Walden, do not get free transport. Concerns have been raised regarding the high costs that the commercial bus service charges for students who wish to catch a bus to County High. It was agree that Cllr Butterworth would discuss this further with concerned residents to see if any further action is required. District Cllr Neil Gregory reported; iv. The local Government review appears to have been delayed by the Government. v. The Government`s Planning White Paper aims to reform the planning system and make it more efficient, but the housing numbers don`t work and are frankly absurd.

	vi. UDC`s Local Plan is slowly making progress, is beginning to be run suitably with adequate project management, and is believed to be robust enough to not collapse on first inspection.
10/20/08	<p><b>Previous Minutes</b></p> <p>Cllr Butterworth noted that she did not agree to review the Government Consultation on White Paper - Planning for the Future, and it was resolved that the Clerk would revise minute 09/20/13 accordingly. Councillors agreed the revised minutes of the September Parish Council meeting as a true and accurate records of proceedings and Chair Gail Gibbs devolved power to the Clerk to sign the minutes on her behalf.</p>
10/20/09	<p><b>Clerk`s Report</b></p> <p>i. The online account is in the process of being set up and should be operational within the week.</p> <p>ii. No election was requested following Cllr Glazebrook resignation, so the Parish Council are able to co-opt a new member on to the Parish Council.</p> <p>iii. An application to UDC`s tree initiative has been submitted for 30 holly, 10 yew and 50 mixed native whips.</p> <p>iv. UDC`s Community Project Grants are available up to £3.5k to voluntary organisations. Closing date for applications is 19/11/2020.</p> <p>v. The presence of nettles growing around The Wick and particularly near the swings was noted. It was agreed that the clerk would request that Hardy Landscapes include the strimming of the nettles, to their regular schedule.</p>
10/20/10	<p><b>Financial Report</b></p> <p>The clerk presented a statement and review of accounts and cheques for payment;</p> <p>DD - eSlip Ltd - monthly payroll - £17.96</p> <p>914 - Hardy Landscapes Ltd - grass cutting September - £147.60</p> <p>915 - Clerk`s salary September 2020 - £487.43</p> <p>916 - Clerk`s expenses September 2020 - £53.10</p> <p>917 - Mr Willis - fuel expenses, work on The Wick - £44.98</p> <p>918 - HMRC - quarterly PAYE/NI contributions - £125.40</p> <p>919 - Mrs Porter - spring bulbs - £31.50</p> <p>These were agreed for payment. It was agreed that the Clerk will bring the cheques to Wendens Ambo for signature, when bringing the minutes over for the notice board, within 48 hours of the Council meeting.</p>
10/20/11	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>The following comments were agreed for return to Uttlesford District Council;</p> <p>i. UTT/20/2268/OP -Norton House, Norton End, Rookery Lane, Wendens Ambo Outline application,with all matters reserved accept for access, for 1 no. dwelling and associated works. (20/10/2020) - <u>The Parish Council agreed to submit a neutral response to this application, with the caveat that particular attention is paid to suitable and appropriate drainage so as to not put further pressure on Wenden Brook and the River Cam.</u></p> <p>ii. UTT/20/2304/DOC - 1 Bulse Farm Cottage, Duck Street, Wendens Ambo Application to discharge conditions 3 ( materials), 4 ( landscaping), 5 ( unloading/loading), and 7 (archaeology) of UTT/18/3267/FUL.(07/10/2020) - <u>Cllr Stringer declared a pecuniary interest as the owner of the property, and abstained from commenting, other than to respond to questions. The Parish Council agreed to submit a neutral response to this application.</u></p> <p>iii. Reconsultation of UTT/20/1719/LB due to an amended application - The Fighting Cocks, Mutlow Hill, Wendens Ambo. Retention and refurbishment of outbuilding, rear single storey extension and side lobby. Proposed extensions to public house to form restaurant, holiday lets/bed and breakfast accommodation, lobby, new kitchen, lavatories and store. Conversion of first floor of public house to 4 no. ensuite bedroom units (13/10/2020) - <u>The landlord from the Fighting Cocks thanked District Cllrs Neil Gregory and Richard Pavitt for their support and confirmed that Essex Conservation now 100% support the revised application. Further details provided included the installation of decibel cutout meters which are triggered once a certain limit is reached, the plans to continue offering station car parking alternatives, retention of the same licensing hours until 12.30am with live music until midnight Thursday, Friday and</u></p>

	<p>Saturday, retention of the historic fire place and a revised lower pitched roof. The Parish Council resolved to support the application.</p> <p><i>District Cllrs Neil Gregory and Richard Pavitt and two members of the public left the meeting.</i></p>
10/20/12	<p><b>Website</b></p> <p>Cllr Back confirmed that the new website is ready to go live and the Council agreed to finalise the switch over this week.</p>
10/20/13	<p><b>Government Consultation on White Paper - Planning for the Future</b></p> <p>Chair Gibbs and Cllr Slota-Newson resolved to write a response to the consultation.</p>
10/20/14	<p><b>Streams</b></p> <p>Following discussion regarding the blockage of fallen trees and branches between the viaduct and the main road, it was agreed that there is two or three skip loads of accumulated debris that would need moving with a digger.</p> <p>Cllr Stringer noted the river at the bottom of The Bell is the highest it has been for eighteen months. Cllr Butterworth agreed to forward information to Cllr Stringer to help understand the demise of the water course.</p> <p>Cllr Gibbs confirmed that the sewage system at the old Mill is not a klargester so all water from the flats goes to the tank owned by IMT, noting that the system seems particularly bad on Fridays. Cllr Gibbs resolved to investigate and contact District Cllr Pavitt for advice on what action can be taken.</p> <p>Cllr Gibbs confirmed that the previously reported 98% pollution is in the River Cam , not Wenden brook.</p>
10/20/15	<p><b>Play Park</b></p> <p>Cllr Butterworth detailed the works required in the play park following the annual inspection, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Reinstating soil around the edge of the safety flooring and underneath the slide and reseeding.</li> <li>ii. Wood filler.</li> <li>iii. Cap replacement.</li> <li>iv. One football goal needs replacing as is rusted and warped.</li> <li>v. Climbing frame roof needs fixing and new holes drilling.</li> </ul> <p>The Council resolved to meet on 18/10/2020 with tools to undertake the works, in appropriately distanced groups.</p> <p>Cllr Butterworth to investigate replacement football/rugby posts and purchase grass seed.</p> <p>Cllr Slota-Newson agreed to liaise with WCC regarding the possibility of scarifying the football pitch and reseed and bring weed killer and sprayers.</p> <p>Cllr Gibbs agreed to look for replacement caps for bolts.</p>
10/20/18	<p><b>Matters to be raised for the next meeting`s agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Budget update.</li> <li>ii. PC WhatsApp group</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Meeting closed at 21.37</b></p>

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 2nd November, 2020 at 8pm, on Zoom.