

Wendens Ambo Parish Council

Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 10th January, 2022

Wendens Ambo Parish Council Meeting in Wendens Ambo Village Hall, Wendens Ambo at 8pm.

Present: Chair Gail Gibbs, Councillors Kathryn Butterworth, Chris Howitt, Alan Lovett and Sam Slota-Newson.

In Attendance: District Councillor Neil Gregory, four members of the public and the clerk, Amanda Lindsell.

01/22/01	Chair`s Welcome Chair Gail Gibbs welcomed everyone to the meeting.
01/22/02	Apologies For Absence Apologies for late arrival were received and noted from County Cllr Paul Gadd. Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor Simon Rowley and District Councillor Richard Pavitt.
01/22/03	Declarations Of Interests None.
01/22/04	Public Participation A member of the public requested that the details of the Ron Cain memorial tree were added to the December minutes.
01/22/05	County Councillor`s Report It was agreed that this item would be covered once County Councillor Gadd had joined the meeting.
01/22/06	District Councillor`s Report District Councillor Gregory reported ; i. The Local Plan is getting closer to identifying where development is likely to be. The process is on time and being well managed with deadlines anticipated to be met. <i>Councillor Chris Stringer joined the meeting.</i> ii. There is a new Leader of the Council Petrina Lees, who has a seat in Elsenham. iii. The District Council finance remains robust, although reserves may have to be made unnecessarily as Council investments have gone so well, which will at least be freed up in for future expenditure. iv. The Climate Action Plan has been redrafted and is much improved with focus on things that can be done with immediate benefit. <i>A member of the public arrived.</i>
01/22/07	Previous Minutes Councillors agreed the minutes of the December Parish Council meeting as a true and accurate record of proceedings and Chair Gibbs signed the minutes.
01/22/08	Clerk`s Report The clerk reported that; i. An application has been submitted to the Locality Fund for £300 to repair the bus shelter on Cambridge Road. ii. The precept demand form was submitted to Uttlesford District Council ahead of the deadline. iii. Following the last round of interviews, the clerk job has been readvertised through EALC and recirculated to all current Clerks working in Uttlesford. iv. No response has been received following further enquiries for quotations to cut the hedge on the east side of The Wick. v. UDC`s housing team have confirmed that they currently have one live application and one application for housing waiting for assessment from Wendens Ambo residents.
01/22/09	Financial Report i. Chair Gibbs asked when the Parish Council started contributing to the costs related to the Village Views magazine. A member of the public explained that the Parish Council originally resolved to purchase enough magazines so that all residents would receive a copy, not least because there wasn`t a better or cheaper way to communicate Council business to the community. At that point Wendens Ambo residents were paying for the magazine and Littlebury residents were getting it delivered for free. It was explained that the Church donate approximately 40 hours voluntary work per month and that the biggest contributor to the magazine is from advertising and is 66%. <i>County Councillor Paul Gadd arrived.</i>

	<p>The PC agree that as a commodity the magazine is a valuable document. The timing of the invoice was unfortunate, a few hours before the December budget meeting, detailing an increase from £480 to £600, however understandable the increase may be.</p> <p>The Council resolved to pay the Village Views invoice of £600 for 2022/23 but requested that any future increases are given advance notice where possible.</p> <p>It was explained that the reason for the very late notice was printer failure, resulting in the use of a commercial firm in Walden at 24 hours notice rather than the usual Copycats printer that is 50% subsidised by the County Council. Nonetheless the two villages continue to receive their copies at approximately 50% of the printing costs and at a cost of £2.50 per household.</p> <p>District Councillor Gregory suggested an application to the Locality Fund may be fruitful.</p> <p>ii. The clerk circulated a statement and review of accounts and invoices for payment;</p> <p>Village Hall Hire - £30.00 E.On Electricity supply - £163.52 Boxing Day Treasure Hunt expenses – reimburse Cllr Butterworth- £49.09 Clerk’s salary December - £436.17 Clerk’s expenses December - £50.83 HMRC quarterly payment - £89.80 Boxing Day Treasure Hunt expenses – reimburse Sally Fairall - £50.95 Village Views – annual contribution - £600.00 eSlip monthly payroll - £17.96 These were approved for payment.</p>
01/22/05	<p>County Councillor Report</p> <p>County Councillor Gadd submitted a report, attached as appendix one.</p> <p>County Councillor Paul Gadd offered to pursue the flooding issues at the Station Road/B1383 junction and requested that any evidence of historic communications are forwarded to him.</p> <p>Cllr Lovett requested that signage should be added saying not suitable for mobility scooters for the area beyond the resurfaced footpath towards Audley End house. Cllr Gadd said that he is pursuing further works in that area.</p> <p>A member of the public raised concerns over the condition of several local stiles and the lack of need for them as there are no cattle and County Cllr Gadd asked the resident to forward details on. Cllr Lovett confirmed that the Footpaths Officer confirmed that the stiles on footpath 12 could be removed without issue, Cllr Lovett agreed to speak with the landowners. A member of the public suggested that the stile at the junction with the main road be replaced with a kissing gate. Cllr Lovett agreed to forward details to Cllr Gadd.</p> <p><i>County Councillor Paul Gadd and District Councillor Neil Gregory left the meeting.</i></p>
01/22/10	<p>Planning</p> <p>The following Uttlesford District Council planning decisions were noted;</p> <p>i. UTT/21/3248/HHF – The Spinney, Clanver End, Arkesden Road, Wendens Ambo Proposed front single storey extensions – <u>Approved with conditions.</u></p> <p>ii. UTT/21/3150/HHF – 25 Station Road, Wendens Ambo Proposed two storey and single storey rear extension – <u>Approved with conditions.</u></p>
01/22/11	<p>Enquiries, Complaints and Correspondence</p> <p>Correspondence received this month included;</p> <p>i. Urgent request to inspect steps from Chinnel Lane at the bend. Councillor Slota-Newson agreed to investigate.</p> <p>ii. Request to remove loose tree guards/spirals from Jubilee Wood. Cllr Lovett requested assistance in collecting and returning the reusable ones to Cllr Lovett. Chair Gibbs resolved to collect the guards.</p> <p>iii. Footpaths, road signs, flashing broken road sign on motorway bridge. Chair Gibbs noted that the flashing sign is now Parish Council responsibility and resolved to contact Rissa Long.</p> <p>iv. An odd job person may have been located locally. Cllr Slota-Newson resolved to pursue the matter.</p> <p>v. Concerns were raised regarding rusty lamp posts and street lamps at various locations around Wendens Ambo. These have been raised with Essex Highways who say that they are monitoring the locations.</p> <p>vi. One person has offered to come on the Planning Working Party group.</p> <p>vii. There have been eleven enquiries regarding joining mains drainage.</p>
01/22/12	<p>Small Rural Housing Scheme For Local People</p> <p>The Council agreed not to further pursue the scheme.</p>
01/22/13	<p>Tim Hardingham Memorial</p> <p>A member of the public detailed approval in broad terms for a memorial stained glass window in the church that</p>

	looks out towards Tim`s grave. A local company in Radwinter are providing a quotation once the design has been finalised, estimates are in the region of £2000. The Council agreed to make a donation at the appropriate time.
01/22/14	<p>Matters to be considered for the next meeting`s agenda</p> <p>i. Replacement junior goals the same size as current were discussed with steel (£637) or aluminium (£1375) options available. The Council agreed that they would prefer steel but following further discussion that the current goals could possibly be mended, Councillors Butterworth and Slota-Newson resolved to liaise with a village welder regarding a quotation for repair.</p> <p>ii. Flashing smiley face sign.</p> <p>iii. Planning Working Party terms of reference and working brief.</p>
	<p>Meeting Actions</p> <p>i. Councillor Lovett resolved to speak with landowners regarding the removal of stiles on Footpath 12 and agreed to forward details of the stile that could be replaced with a kissing gate, to County Cllr Gadd. Councillor Slota-Newson agreed to investigate the steps from Chinnel Lane, at the bend.</p> <p>ii. Chair Gibbs resolved to collect the loose tree guards/spirals from Jubilee Wood.</p> <p>iii. Chair Gibbs resolved to contact Rissa Long regarding the broken flashing road sign.</p> <p>iv. Councillor Slota- Newson resolved to continue conversations with the proposed odd job person.</p> <p>v. Councillors Butterworth and Slota-Newson resolved to liaise with a village welder regarding a quotation for repairing the football goals.</p> <p>vi. Chair Gibbs to chase Martin to complete the hedge cutting on The Wick.</p> <p>vii. Chair Gibbs to purchase replacement memorial tree for Ron Cain. Sue Watson was asked if she would kindly water the tree when required. Cllr Slota-Newson agreed to dig the hole for the tree.</p> <p>viii. Chair Gibbs resolved to liaise with Duncan Gates as the apple trees will soon need their first prune.</p>
	The meeting closed at 9.15pm

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 7th February, 2022 at 8pm, in Wendens Ambo Village Hall.
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