

Wendens Ambo Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6th February 2023

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

Present: Chair Gail Gibbs, Councillors Alan Lovett, Sam Slota-Newson, Chris Stringer, Kathryn Butterworth (arrived 8.17pm)

In Attendance: County Councillor Paul Gadd, District Councillors Neil Gregory, Richard Pavitt, five members of the public and the Clerk Jane Rolfe

02/23/01	Chair`s Welcome Chair Gail Gibbs welcomed everyone to the meeting.
02/23/02	Apologies For Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Simon Rowley and Chris Howitt.
02/23/03	Declarations Of Interests Declarations of interests were given by Cllr Alan Lovett and Chair Gibbs, both neighbours of the second planning application item on the agenda. Chair Gibbs advised that Cllr Sam Slota-Newson will chair the planning items on the agenda.
02/23/04	Public Participation There was no public participation. Cllr Slota-Newson took the opportunity to advise that the trees discussed at a previous meeting had arrived and been planted. Chair Gibbs expressed her thanks to Andrew Figge who had repaired the light in the Croat which was found to have a loose wire.
02/23/05	County Councillor`s Report Cllr Gadd referred to his report (appendix 1). He advised that a budget approval meeting is scheduled for Thursday, and that the council is very badly off. This is due largely to ECC`s proposed council tax increase of 3.5%, which is less than most other councils` increase of 5%. A discussion took place about ECC`s plans to introduce a booking system at recycling centres from 13 th March 2023. Cllr Lovett suggested that this may lead to a charging arrangement in the future and will inevitably cause more fly tipping.
02/23/06	District Councillor`s Report i)Cllr Richard Pavitt advised that this month a £150,000 hardship fund had been approved by the council. This fund is to help catch those not in the benefit system. It will be handled by UDC and not delegated. ii)Cllr Pavitt reported that the council has been fortunate to recruit a planning team and that these permanent placements help to cut down the use of very expensive agencies. iii)Cllr Pavitt stated that he had sat on the education panel of the Climate Award Schemes. He said there is £300,000 available in two tranches and that the schemes include the change of streetlights to LED, solar panels, and rewilding projects. This, for the foreseeable future, will be an annual award. iv)Cllr Pavitt reported that there is a shortage of water, despite current rainfall. He advised that it is 60% down in terms of reserves. Cllr Neil Gregory reported that there had been a budget scrutiny last week and advised that it was looking surprisingly healthy and robust. He said it was felt that the council was not generating enough income, from car parks etc, and that the selling-off of an asset may take place to top up reserves.
	Chair Gibbs asked to reschedule agenda items and move `Planning` to item 02/23/07 from 02/23/10 Cllr Slota-Newson chaired this section of the meeting.
02/23/07	Planning Cllrs reviewed the following applications: i) Reference UTT/23/0128/DOC Alternative Reference PP-11858551 Application Received Thu 19 Jan 2023 Application Validated Thu 19 Jan 2023 Address Draytons Farm Royston Road Wendens Ambo Essex CB11 4JX Proposal: Application to discharge condition 3 (brick and mortar detail) attached to UTT/22/1573/HHF. Status Awaiting decision Appeal Status Unknown Appeal Decision Blank Field <u>Councillors noted this application and had no comment</u>

	<p>ii) Reference UTT/23/0036/FUL</p> <p>Alternative Reference PP-11787359 Application Received Tue 10 Jan 2023 Application Validated Wed 18 Jan 2023 Address Land at Norton End Rookery Lane Wendens Ambo Essex Proposal Agricultural storage building. Status Awaiting decision Appeal Status Unknown</p> <p>Cllr Neil Gregory reported that he had received a huge amount of correspondence on this application and had, therefore, requested a call in if it is approved.</p> <p>A member of the public, a resident of Rookery Lane, stated that he does not have an issue with the proposed barn for the storage of agricultural machinery and hay, but that the size of the barn seems bigger than necessary for this use. He also stated that there is a discrepancy in the size in the application, one measurement being 33% bigger than another.</p> <p>Another member of the public proposed that there should be a stipulation for the barn to be used strictly for agricultural purposes. He said that to the west of the proposed barn there is an area with vehicles and vehicle parts, and he does not want to see the new barn used for the storage of vehicles as it would constitute agricultural land being used for industrial purposes.</p> <p>A member of the public asked the purpose of the area in red to the east of the barn and whether this agricultural land is intended to be surfaced with concrete or tarmac.</p> <p>The applicants replied to the above comments and queries. They said that the area in red denotes access and was required by planners. They explained that the barn is large in size to allow space/air around the contained hay in order to prevent mould, and that the actual size of the barn has been muddled by the company employed to help with the application.</p> <p>Cllr Gregory explained that the proposed barn's closeness to the watercourse may need further investigation. He suggested a meeting between applicants and neighbours to try to sort out the queries and subsequently a possible withdrawal and re-submission of the application. There was a discussion around amendments being made to the application within the time limit.</p> <p>Cllr Slota-Newson asked members of the public what help they would like from the Parish Council. Their reply indicated that help with size clarification and restriction on use would be beneficial.</p> <p>Cllr Slota Newson offered to compose a comment on behalf of the Parish Council which will be submitted to UDC.</p>								
	Chair ship was handed back to Chair Gibbs.								
02/23/08	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>Councillors agreed the minutes of the January Parish Council meeting as a true and accurate record of proceedings and Chair Gibbs signed the minutes.</p>								
02/23/09	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>The clerk reported that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The website was updated with minutes from the January meeting. ii. Precept information was sent to UDC electronically, and by external mail by deadline of 20th January iii. Training attended 'Election Briefing' iv. A declaration of compliance was made to the Pensions Regulator (HMRC website). Required every 3 years. Parish Council's re-enrolment date was 30/12/2022 and declaration deadline is May 2023. v. Notification received from Unity Trust to advise that cash can no longer be paid in at the Post Office. Deposits can be made at Nat West, RBS and Ulster Bank. vi. Retention Policy uploaded to website. 								
02/23/10	<p>Financial Report</p> <p>i)The clerk circulated a statement and review of accounts and invoices for payment;</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>eSlip Ltd - monthly payroll</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£17.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wendens Ambo Village Hall - hall hire</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Rolfe - clerk's expenses January 2023</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£70.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Rolfe - clerk's salary for January 2023 (£86.80 PAYE to pay)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£347.60</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Invoices were authorised for payment</u></p>	eSlip Ltd - monthly payroll	£17.96	Wendens Ambo Village Hall - hall hire	£40.00	J Rolfe - clerk's expenses January 2023	£70.18	J Rolfe - clerk's salary for January 2023 (£86.80 PAYE to pay)	£347.60
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02/23/11	Bus Shelter Replacement								

	Cllr Chris Stringer advised that he had received two quotations, one for £12,000 and one for £6,000. He explained that he had costed the work and arrived at £5,500. He suggested that work could be carried out by three different tradesmen and overseen by him. Cllr Stringer to send quotations to clerk for submission to insurance company.
02/23/12	King's Coronation Chair Gibbs advised that there is a large group of people interested in helping out with celebrations for this event. Plans currently include a village celebration on Sunday, with Saturday free to watch the coronation. The village celebration will probably be a street party and mini fete. A separate meeting will be held later this month to discuss this event.
02/23/13	20's Plenty National Programme Chair Gibbs advised that she had attended a meeting with the Essex 20's Plenty Campaign and that she will compose a letter to ECC outlining the exact 20MPH area intended for the village.
02/23/14	Spring Litter Pick Chair Gibbs advised that she has asked Cllr Simon Rowley to organise a Spring Litter Pick.
02/23/15	Grant Awarding Policy This policy was adopted by Councillors and the website will be updated with new version.
02/23/16	Enquires, Complaints and Correspondence i)Cllr Slota-Newson explained that the Parish Church Council had discussed the deed land at the Wick and advised that the Parish Council should write directly to the Archdeacon about purchase of the land. This should be shared with the PCC who will give support. Cllr Slota-Newson offered to compose letter to Archdeacon. ii)Cllr Slota-Newson reported that the Parish Church Council does not wish to be involved in the purchase of a flagpole for the King's Coronation as they have more pressing priorities.
01/23/17	Matters to be raised for next meeting's agenda There were no matters to be raised for the next meeting. Cllr Alan Lovett advised that he will not be present for the next meeting.
01/23/18	Meeting Actions i)Cllr Slota-Newson to write comment on planning application, to be submitted by clerk ii)Cllr Stringer to send bus shelter quotations to clerk for submission to insurance company iii)Cllr Slota-Newson to write to Archdeacon on behalf of Parish Council regarding potential purchase of the Wick iv)Clerk to upload Grant Awarding policy to website
	The meeting closed at 9.15pm

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 6th March 2023 at 8pm, in Wendens Ambo Village Hall.
www.wendensamboparishcouncil.org.uk