

Wendens Ambo Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6th March 2023

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

Present: Chair Gail Gibbs, Councillors Alan Lovett, Chris Stringer, Simon Rowley, Kathryn Butterworth (arrived 8.15pm)

In Attendance: County Councillor Paul Gadd, District Councillors Neil Gregory, Richard Pavitt, one member 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 Chris Howitt and Sam Slota-Newson.								
02/23/03	Declarations Of Interests None.								
02/23/04	Public Participation A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for repairing the light at the Croat. Thanks were also expressed for the new trees on the triangle and for the guards around them. Support from the Parish Council was requested, in whatever way fitting, for the fun run planned on 1 st May.								
02/23/05	County Councillor`s Report Cllr Gadd referred to his report (appendix 1). i)He advised that progress is being made on the drainage issue around the Station Road junction. <i>A further update from Cllr Gadd, after the meeting, explained that a job order has been drawn up to replace the pavement gully at the junction with the B1383 with a road gully, which should be much more efficient at draining water; timing slightly depends on whether the roads need gritting, but hopefully within 3-4 weeks.</i> ii)Cllr Gadd was asked about the drain at the top of Duck Street which has flowers growing out of it; he promised to chase this up again. iii)He reported that highways matters, regarding a speed zone, are going nowhere at present, but said that he would continue to keep chasing. iv)Cllr Gadd reported that ECC has indicated a 13% decrease in waste being taken for recycling since the booking system has been introduced. He explained that this system is a ‘trial’ but may be a prelude to charging. Dustbin use may increase in future which will cause the cost to pass from ECC to Uttlesford. v)Cllr Lovett asked about the potholes in Mount Pleasant Road, Saffron Walden, which he stated are very dangerous and at night cannot be seen. <i>A further update from Cllr Gadd, after the meeting, explained that the Mount Pleasant Road potholes have been accepted in his allocation, and work should be done 8-10 March</i>								
02/23/06	District Councillor`s Report Cllr Richard Pavitt reported that: i)The council’s budget has enabled permanent staff to be hired in the planning department, and that a Conservation Officer will start soon. The council is trying to employ an Ecologist, but this is proving more difficult. ii)A cost of living allowance is available for those people not on benefit but who need some financial assistance. Cllr Neil Gregory advised that there will be a comprehensive review into the quality and efficiency of the maintenance of council properties.								
02/23/07	Previous Minutes Councillors agreed the minutes of the February Parish Council meeting as a true and accurate record of proceedings and Chair Gibbs signed the minutes.								
02/23/08	Clerk’s Report The clerk reported that: i. The website was updated with minutes from the February meeting. ii. The recently adopted Grant Awarding policy was uploaded to the website iii. £105 bursary cheque was received from EALC for 2 coursed attended, 75% of total cost The clerk was asked if the new Councillors’ Code of Conduct has been uploaded to the PC website. This has not been done, as the new document has not yet officially been adopted.								
02/23/09	Financial Report i)The clerk circulated a statement and review of accounts and invoices for payment; <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>eSlip Ltd - monthly payroll</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£19.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diocesan Glebe Management- rent of Wick Nov 22 to Nov 23</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£350.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wendens Ambo Village Hall - hall hire</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EALC – Election Briefing for chair and clerk</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£108.00</td> </tr> </table>	eSlip Ltd - monthly payroll	£19.37	Diocesan Glebe Management- rent of Wick Nov 22 to Nov 23	£350.00	Wendens Ambo Village Hall - hall hire	£40.00	EALC – Election Briefing for chair and clerk	£108.00
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	J Rolfe - clerk's expenses January 2023	£11.19
	J Rolfe - clerk's salary for January 2023 (£86.80 PAYE to pay)	£347.60
	<u>Invoices were authorised for payment</u>	
02/23/10	Date of AGM It was agreed that the AGM would take place at 8.00pm on 15 th May 2023, after the Parish Council meeting which will begin at 7.30pm. The first two Mondays in May are Bank Holidays and will cater for the fun run on May 1 st and Coronation event on 8 th .	
02/23/11	Disposal of Documents Chair Gibbs explained that documents to be retained by the Parish Council will be stored at the Essex Records Office in Chelmsford. These include minutes, agendas and finance documents. There was a discussion about disposal of documents no longer required for retention, such as old planning documents and correspondence that is very old or duplicated. It was agreed that a cost for professional shredding will be sought.	
02/23/12	Enquires, Complaints and Correspondence i)Chair Gibbs advised that she had received an email from a resident regarding the registering of community assets on the Community Assets Register. She explained that churches and anything owned by the Parish Council cannot be included on the register. The principle of an asset being on the register is that it gives the community (the village) a period in which they can register an interest in purchasing an asset, plus a further six months to do so. Cllr Chris Stringer advised that the pub, The Bell, used to be on the register, but no longer appears to be, which may indicate that items included may expire after a period of time. Cllr Gibbs advised that the forms for completion in registering an asset are long and onerous; it was agreed by councillors that it was uncertain whether the process was useful. ii)An update was requested on the replacement bus shelter. Cllr Stringer has received one quotation, which was handed to the clerk, and is awaiting further. It was suggested that Lodge and Sons be contacted for a quotation. iii)An update was requested on the watering method to be used for the trees, as this will be needed by the summer. Chair Gibbs will follow up. iv)The Parish Council was asked whether it would be making use of the grant available for Coronation celebrations. Chair Gibbs said that this will be applied for when the event details have been finalised. v)The idea of a portable flagpole was suggested, for use at the Coronation and other events. Chair Gibbs/Cllr Butterworth will investigate.	
01/23/13	Matters to be raised for next meeting's agenda i)Bus Shelter quotations ii)Councillors' Code of Conduct iii)Tree Watering iv)Glebe Land Purchase v)Document Disposal/Shredding	
01/23/14	Meeting Actions i)Cllr Stringer to send bus shelter quotations to clerk for submission to insurance company. Lodge and Sons to be contacted ii)Chair Gibbs to revisit new Councillors' Code of Conduct iii)Chair Gibbs/Cllr Butterworth to investigate possible purchase of portable flagpole iv)Chair Gibbs to revisit tree watering options v)Chair Gibbs to obtain quotation for document shredding	
	The meeting closed at 8.55pm	

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 3rd April 2023 at 8pm, in Wendens Ambo Village Hall.
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