

Wendens Ambo Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 3rd July 2023

Wendens Ambo Parish Council Meeting in Wendens Ambo Village Hall, Wendens Ambo at 8.00pm.

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

In Attendance: District Councillor Neil Gregory, three members of the public and the Clerk Jane Rolfe

07/23/01	Chair`s Welcome Chair Gail Gibbs welcomed everyone to the meeting.
07/23/02	Apologies For Absence Apologies were received, and accepted, from Cllr Simon Rowley, County Cllr Paul Gadd and District Cllr Richard Pavitt
07/23/03	Declarations Of Interests None
07/23/04	Public Participation i) A member of the public informed councillors that, at the end of July, the village hall will be connected to the internet. This is being provided by Gigaclear, and as the village hall is a community hub, it will be cost free. ii) Chair Gibbs advised that she had received a letter from Anglian Water stating that the village has been approved for main sewage and that it is included in Anglian Water`s next 5-year spending tranche from 2025-2030. A member of the public informed councillors that nineteen tests had been carried out by an Anglian Water engineer, and eighteen had failed.
07/23/05	County Councillor`s Report The clerk read out Cllr Gadd`s report in his absence. It included the following: i) Cllr Gadd is awaiting information from the cricket club so that he can progress their grant application. ii) Essex Highways are operating their member-led pothole scheme again and Cllr Gadd will be allowed to nominate 2 lots of 18 potholes. He asked to be contacted by mid-August with reports of any serious ones. iii) Uttlesford LHP have put on hold all funded schemes that were not completed by 31/03/2023, including the ones that were virtually finished. The LHP will meet to re-confirm the schemes but have not met since January 2023. Cllr Gadd has chased the LHP chair, Cllr Gooding, to convene a meeting without success and has asked the ECC Cabinet Member for Highways to replace Cllr Gooding. iv) Cllr Gadd asked for progress on the Duck Street defective manhole cover. Chair Gibbs confirmed that it had been repaired. v) Cllr Gadd is aware that there seems to be a big shortfall in pre-school places within ECC and asked if it is an issue affecting Wendens Ambo. It was felt that there is a shortage of nursery places in Wendens Ambo, but not of pre-school places.
07/23/06	District Councillor`s Report i) Cllr Gregory reassured councillors that regulation 18 is to be published at the end of October. He advised that neither he nor Cllr Pavitt have yet seen a water or transport study. ii) Cllr Gregory reported that finances within the district council are looking satisfactory, but that housing is causing some worry. He explained that there is a chronic backlog of housing maintenance and that cash is being generated to bring up standards. He said it is likely that that money will be saved by not building new homes, instead funds will go to prop up maintenance issues. He advised that anyone with this type of issue should contact him. Cllr Gregory confirmed that critical safety items, such as gas and electrical safety certificates, have been caught up on.
07/23/07	Previous Minutes Councillors agreed the minutes of the June Parish Council meeting as a true and accurate record of proceedings and Chair Gibbs signed the minutes.
07/23/08	Clerk`s Report The clerk reported that: i) The website was updated with minutes from the June meeting and was tidied by Chris Hewitt, adding new headings to allow finance documents to be grouped by year. ii) The Insurance company has been in touch regarding replacement bus shelter and clerk is meeting with representative of their contractor on Wednesday 5 th July.
07/23/09	Financial Report i)The following invoices were approved for payment: Topsource Worldwide (UK) Ltd - monthly payroll costs £19.37 Bank Charges - March - June 2023 £18.00 Information Commissioner - data protection fee renewal £40.00

	<p>Kate Butcher - purchase of aqua roll for tree watering £20.00 J Rolfe - clerk's salary June 2023 (£87.00 PAYE to pay) £347.40 J Rolfe - clerk's expenses June 2023 £14.74 HMRC - quarterly payment £283.80 UDC - recharge of Parish Elections Cost for Local Elections £52.47 ii) It was noted that £852.90 was received from UDC, a grant for Coronation Celebrations.</p>
07/23/10	<p>Planning To review the following planning application Reference UTT/23/1386/HHF Alternative Reference PP-12202953 Application Received Wed 31 May 2023 Application Validated Wed 31 May 2023 Address Flat 2 Lime Tree House Royston Road Wendens Ambo Saffron Walden Essex CB11 4JX Proposal Proposed additional floor extension Status Awaiting decision <u>There are no objections to this application</u></p>
07/23/11	<p>Enquires, Complaints and Correspondence i) Chair Gibbs explained that, after receiving concerns about overhanging trees at Fidlers Cottage, some remedial works had been carried out with which the resident is happy. ii) A member of the public asked for an update on Bromley Barn. Chair Gibbs advised that no highways report has been generated yet and that she would ask the Local Community PCSO to chase. iii) The clerk explained that she had received correspondence regarding a memorial bench and plaque for a deceased resident. It was clarified that metal plaques are prohibited in the church grounds due to metal theft. After a discussion, it was suggested that the family of the deceased might like to purchase a wooden bench to be situated facing the cricket pitch, along with other memorial benches. iv) The clerk had received an email regarding the spate of water leaks on Royston Road/Station Road, and previously some leaks round the back of Railway Cottages. It was felt by councillors that it is down to each individual resident to lodge complaints to Affinity Water as they have carried out repairs efficiently when required. v) A member of the public asked whose responsibility it was going to be to water the trees. Cllr Slota-Newson confirmed that he had been doing so and would continue. vi) Thanks were given to John Goodger for his help with the potential purchase of the Wick. Cllr Slota-Newson explained that he is still looking into this.</p>
07/23/12	<p>Matters to be raised for next meeting's agenda The appointment of a new chair following Chair Gibbs' resignation.</p>
07/23/13	<p>Meeting Actions i) Clerk/Chair/Councillor to meet representative of Insurance Company's contractor regarding replacement bus shelter. ii) Clerk to register no objection for planning application UTT/23/1386/HHF iii) Clerk to contact family of deceased regarding memorial bench.</p>
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.47pm</p>

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 4th September 2023 at 8.00pm, in Wendens Ambo Village Hall.

