

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

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

Present: Councillors Kathryn Butterworth, Simon Rowley, Alan Lovett, Chris Howitt

In Attendance: County Councillor Paul Gadd, District Councillor Neil Gregory, nine members of the public and the Clerk Jane Rolfe

<b>02/24/01</b>	<b>Election of Chair</b> The Chair's role is being assigned on a rolling basis between Parish Councillors. Cllr Chris Howitt was appointed Chair for tonight's meeting.
<b>02/24/02</b>	<b>Apologies For Absence</b> Apologies were received, and accepted, from Cllr Slota-Newson and District Cllr Richard Pavitt. Cllr Stewart Reid sent notification that he has resigned with immediate effect.
<b>02/24/03</b>	<b>Declarations Of Interests</b> None
<b>02/24/04</b>	<b>Co-Option of New Councillor</b> Brian Cole was co-opted to serve as a Parish Councillor. He signed a 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' which was countersigned by the clerk.
<b>02/24/05</b>	<b>Public Participation</b> The new owner of the Bell Public House offered some further information on the planning application he has made to UDC. He explained that the pub is very run down and that he is trying to make improvements as a long-term investment. He said that he has built a patio which was larger than anticipated and has drawn comments from neighbours. He said that he has run bars locally and has much experience in the industry. He advised that he is still waiting to hear from Uttlesford regarding his application. Parish Councillors explained that they had, in principle, supported the application for changes to the public house, but that it needs to be tightened up and all discrepancies eliminated.
<b>02/24/06</b>	<b>County Councillor's Report</b> Cllr Gadd read extracts of his report which included: i)He reminded members of the public to report any potholes that are serious. ii)Cllr Gadd confirmed that he that he has submitted the LHP application regarding the priority signage in Drayton Hill. iii)Cllr Gadd reported that Highways have advised that they do not undertake road markings at this time of year, but he will keep chasing for markings at the Fighting Cocks junction to be completed. iv)Essex have just published their ten year forecast for future school provision which advocates that there is no need for secondary or primary expansion as birthrates have been relatively low. There may be the need for a new primary school to the south-east of Saffron Walden if the draft local plan goes ahead. Please see Cllr Gadd's report (appendix 1) for other ECC items.
<b>02/24/07</b>	<b>District Councillor's Report</b> i)Cllr Gregory discussed the situation regarding refuse bin collection. He said that, due to human error, an administrative mistake had been made which resulted in non-collection of bins. East Herts and Braintree Councils have been helping out and 70% of the back-log has been cleared. He advised that the service should be back on track next week. ii)Cllr Gregory reported that the council's budget is looking satisfactory.
<b>02/24/08</b>	<b>Previous Minutes</b> Councillors agreed the minutes of the January meeting to be a true and accurate record of proceedings and they were signed by Cllr Butterworth. Minutes of the December Parish Council meeting were agreed as true and accurate at the December meeting. As a paper copy was not available then, the December minutes were signed by Cllr Butterworth.
<b>02/24/09</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> i)Comments to be made to UDC on planning application UTT/23/3009/FUL before deadline. <i>These were submitted. A member of the public suggested that these comments should be included in the Parish Council's minutes. The comments submitted were read out by Cllr Howitt.</i> ii)Clerk to contact JC fencing to arrange for repairs on gateposts at the Wick. <i>This has been arranged for 27<sup>th</sup> Feb</i> iii)Clerk to confirm type of insurance required for Community Payback Project. <i>Public Liability insurance is required</i> iv)Cllr Butterworth and clerk to consult map in order to arrange tree survey. <i>Cllr Butterworth and clerk to continue to liaise with Tree Survey Company</i> v)Clerk to contact Bartram Training Services regarding defibrillator training. <i>The date previously agreed was now thought to be too soon. The clerk will establish the village hall's availability so that a new date can be arranged.</i> vi)Councillors to consult regarding roles and responsibilities. <i>No decision has yet been made.</i>

02/24/10	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b></p> <p>The clerk reported that:</p> <p>i)The website was updated with minutes from the January meeting.</p> <p>ii)A VAT reimbursement for £525.81 for the period March – December 2023 has been received at the bank.</p> <p>iii)The precept form was sent to UDC by the deadline and confirmation received</p> <p>iv)Data was downloaded from the speed sign on 15<sup>th</sup> January which showed 312,091 records for the period from 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The average speed was 37.4 MPH</p> <p>v)Reimbursement of £5,145 has been received from Zurich Insurance for the bus shelter.</p>
02/24/11	<p><b>Financial Report</b></p> <p>The following invoices were approved for payment:</p> <p>TopSource (UK) Ltd - payroll costs £19.37</p> <p>J Rolfe - clerk's salary January 2024 (£92.80 PAYE to pay) £371.60</p> <p>J Rolfe - clerk's expenses January 2024 £9.99</p>
02/24/12	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>Reference UTT/24/0124/FUL</b></p> <p>Application Received: Fri 19 Jan 2024</p> <p>Application Validated: Wed 24 Jan 2024</p> <p>Address: Land To the Rear Of The Fighting Cocks Mutlow Hill Wendens Ambo Saffron Walden Essex CB11 4JN</p> <p>Proposal: 5 no. dwellings, access road, landscaping and other enabling external works.</p> <p>Status: Awaiting decision</p> <p>The owner of the Fighting Cocks public house and his family were present at the meeting and explained that they want to open the pub again to run as a family business after forced closure during the pandemic. He made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillors have informally been consulted since the start of the process.</li> <li>• The pub will have full disabled access.</li> <li>• There will be ten guest rooms available for rent.</li> <li>• There will be a large barn available for families to rent.</li> <li>• There will be a barn for weddings (once the licence has been acquired).</li> <li>• There will be noise controls in place.</li> </ul> <p>The owner confirmed that the landowners are happy with the proposal.</p> <p>The owner was asked why the 4 proposed houses are so large. The owner explained that the council has stipulated that this is what is required. He said that if a greater number of smaller houses were built, they would need to be nearer to the pub, and higher. As the pub is a listed building, there is a limit to the proximity of residential properties; the pub has to be the most prominent building on the site.</p> <p>It was confirmed by the owner that there will be no parking for the train station after 18months - 2 years.</p> <p><u>Councillors made a decision to support the application.</u></p>
02/24/13	<p><b>Spring Litter Pick</b></p> <p>This is being arranged by Cllr Sam Slota-Newson.</p>
02/24/14	<p><b>Update on Purchase of Wick Glebeland</b></p> <p>Cllr Slota-Newson sent a message to say that there is no update on this.</p>
02/24/15	<p><b>Update on Replacement Bus Shelter</b></p> <p>Reimbursement of £5,145 has been received from the insurance company. A member of public stated that she feels there is no need to replace the bus shelter due to the low numbers using the bus stop. Instead, litter bins were requested on either side of the road near the bus stop as cars are stopping to offload rubbish into the lay-by there. Quotations for bins will be sought. There was also a request for an LED speed camera on the green triangle near the station to show the speed of cars as most are travelling too fast. As permission has to be gained from Highways to erect a sign, it was decided to treat the speed sign as a separate issue.</p> <p>A shelter on the Wick was also suggested to provide shelter from the rain and sun. Options for a shelter will be sought.</p>
02/24/16	<p><b>Footpath Right of Way</b></p> <p>Cllr Butterworth has put the public footpath form together and is distributing them to residents for completion. These will then be sent to Essex Highways by Cllr Butterworth.</p>
02/24/17	<p><b>Community Payback Project</b></p> <p>The agreement will be signed and the clerk will check availability of the village hall so that a date can be arranged for this to go ahead.</p>

<b>02/24/18</b>	<b>Tree Survey</b> Cllr Butterworth and the clerk will continue to liaise with the company who will carry out the survey.
<b>02/24/19</b>	<b>Defibrillator/First Aid Training</b> It was decided that a new date was required for the training course as 3 <sup>rd</sup> March does not give enough time to inform residents.
<b>01/24/20</b>	<b>Roles and Responsibilities of Parish Councillors</b> These have not been decided upon yet.
<b>02/24/21</b>	<b>Risk Assessment</b> The risk assessment was reviewed and it was determined that no amendments are required.
<b>02/24/22</b>	<b>Enquiries, Complaints and Correspondence</b> i)The bollard at Dodna Lane has been knocked down and needs to be replaced. Quotations have been received for £800 ex VAT and £675 inc VAT. The more expensive one comes with a key that can be used by the emergency services. It was questioned whether the landowner should contribute to the replacement bollard. It is covered by insurance for £190. ii)The shovel in the grit bin needs to be replaced as it is no longer usable.
<b>02/24/23</b>	<b>Matters to be raised for Next Meeting's Agenda</b> i) Update on new bollard ii) Quotations for bins iii)Quotations for shelter on the Wick iv)Date for Community Payback Project v)Date for Frist Aid course. v)Update on Glebeland Purchase vi)Update on Litter Pick
<b>02/24/24</b>	<b>Meeting Actions</b> i) Clerk to establish village hall availability for Community Payback Project ii)Clerk to establish village hall availability for Defibrillator training iii)Cllr Butterworth and clerk to locate tree plan to enable tree survey to be carried out iv)Clerk to obtain quotation for bins v)Cllr Butterworth to investigate types of shelters for the Wick vi)Cllr Butterworth to purchase new shovel for the grit bin
	<b>The meeting closed at 9.55pm</b>

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 8.00pm, in Wendens Ambo Village Hall.