

Wickhamford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, 12th October No. 10/11

Clerk to the Council, Mike Smith, 12 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford WR11 7RT

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Present J. Newbury, Chairman, Councillors D. Heeks, P. Beaumont, G. Curtis, J. Poulter and M. Smith, Clerk.

County & District Councillor, L. Eyre, District Councillor B. Parmenter.

EA Representative A. Perry

1. Apologies

V. Chairman, T Waller and Police Officer G. Greenhouse.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. The meeting was adjourned for Progress Reports and also the Public Question Time, notes of which are appended to these minutes.

Before item 4 on the agenda the Chairman appraised Anthony Perry of the meeting that had previously taken place with the Landowners (7) to discuss the possible bunding of the brook which borders their properties. All attended with the exception of one. The six attendees agreed in principal to the bunding but it would obviously need further discussion. The seventh landowner stated that as their garden is elevated they were not flooded before so did not need the bunding at their property boundary.

Anthony Perry said that there is a flood defence scheme but costs have to be agreed. He outlined the national schemes but also said that smaller ones are not a priority. The local levy may be able to fund these. There is a fund available for Wickhamford but more funding is needed. This will not be easy to achieve and will take time, (2 years was mentioned). Surveys have to be completed i.e. Archaeology, Heritage etc. He also asked if Wickhamford would work together to help "fund" part of the project.

Councillor asked how long the local levy lasts for. The answer was possibly until mid next year. Anthony said he would arrange for someone to liaise with the landowners to agree the bunding proposal so the scheme could move forward to be costed. Clerk to email Anthony with a contact who would liaise with the landowners and Anthony's liaison contact who will in turn report back to the Parish Council.

Finally Anthony stated that although asked, insurance companies were not prepared to assist financially to any flood defence schemes.

4. Matters arising from previous meeting

None

5. District / County Councillors Reports.

Councillor B. Parmenter said that he has had no response to complaints of the parking at 6 Manor Road

Councillor L. Eyre said her report will be forwarded. Parish Councillor asked about the Knotweed issue. Councillor replied the spraying is still ongoing.

6. Police Officers Report.

None

7. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th August and the 14th September 2011 were approved.

8. Open Space Report.

Gate at Play Area needs attention. Railings need welding, Councillors to organise. Lock for double gates purchased.

9. Path / Pavement Report.

None

10. Grasscutting Report.

Grasscutting ok, but as there have been a number of complaints by villagers and also the Parish Council the Clerk has suggested that over the next 2-3 months we should decide on whether we invite tenders for the contract or whether the Parish Council take on the grasscutting.

11. Burial Ground Report.

None

12. Clerks Report.

None

13. New and Ongoing Items.

a) Councillor Training. Another Councillor added to training list

b) Speeding / Parking / Bollards. Rubber "speed strips" had been requested for two locations in the village. The bollards and road signage had been agreed in principal. Now awaiting conformation.

- c) Pact. No Report
- d) SWDP. Deferred to next meeting
- e) Play Area Quotation Update. Deferred to next meeting for full Council decision.
- f) Newsletter. Due to technical issue the Newsletter will not be issued until November.
- g) Coombefield Plantation. Deferred to next meeting

14. Planning.

Plans for Review. (if applicable),

Planning Notifications.

15. Finance.

Balance sheets available for Councillors.

Cheques signed,

16. Items for the next Agenda

Bulk purchase of Fuels

17. Date of the next meeting confirmed as 9th November 2011

Meeting Closed at 8.45

Signed.....

Chairman

Date 9th November 2011

Notes of the Public Question Time

None