

Wickhamford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, 11th March 2015 No. 03/15

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

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Present J. Newbury Chairman, T. Waller V. Chairman, Councillors R. Gutteridge, D. Heeks and J. Poulter

County & District Councillor L. Eyre, PC L. Ganterton & A. Perry from the EA

Members of the public, Mr. & Mrs. Hastilow, Mrs. N Austin & Mr. G Fagan

Apologies

District Councillor B. Parmenter, Councillor G. Curtis & PC P. Schroenrock

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time.

Anthony Perry from the Environmental Agency gave a brief update on the "work" so far to try and alleviate further flooding. This update was seemed to be no different to the last update with costing's still out weighing the benefits.

After a Q & A session it was suggested that the Parish Council, Landowners and a Public Group get together to try and establish a viable scheme.

4. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 14th January 20015 were agreed

5. Matters arising from the previous meeting

None

6. District / County Councillors Report.

The report confirmed the gully work on Pitchers Hill has been completed and the footpath work due start in March on Pitchers Hill, No's 11 – 27. It was also confirmed that when Western Power install the underground cables the newly surfaced footpath will have to be reinstated as per Section 58.

Residents are reminded that there are grants available for individual households for flood protection measures for their homes. Please contact the EA

A report on the property is paid for out of the grant and normally a significant contribution towards the measures.

7. Police Officers Report.

Our new PC, Luke Garterton, introduced himself to Councillors in the absence of PC P. Schroenrock. The report showed 19 calls from residents since the 1st January with 1 burglary, 1 theft from a vehicle and 2 counts of dogs not under control being recorded.

Residents are encouraged to view the "Warwickshire Rural Watch" website for links to crime prevention sites.

8. Big Lunch Monies

It was decided to refer this issue to the Big Lunch committee.

9. Strategic Roads Partnership

The Chairman & Clerk met with the SRP to discuss what measures, if any, could be adopted to alleviate the speeding traffic. They agreed to set up their own traffic survey and report back

10. Church Mowing Request

It was agreed unanimously to continue moving the Churchyard for a further year although the Clerk made it quite clear that if this continues the precept would have to rise to accommodate this cost

11. Fencing Update/Signs

The fencing had now been completed with some last minute alterations.

It was agreed to position the sign between the notice board and the small gate

12. Basketball Fence

Item Closed

13. Notice Boards

It was agreed for a "Wickhamford Parish Council" sign for the notice board at the Bus Stop in Longdon Hill so as the board can be designated for Parish Council business

14. Clerks Pension

As an employer the Parish Council is duty bound to offer a pension to its Clerk. This was offered and declined by the Clerk

15. Solar Farm Update

The appeal is due in April and as our initial comments have been addressed to our satisfaction we have made this known to the Inspectorate

16. Cemetery Issues

It had been noticed that some of the graves have had stone chipping placed on them which is against the rules of the Cemetery. After a discussion it was decided to remove these in a timely and considerate manner.

Also we had to contact a funeral director as there were a large amount of flowers from two funerals placed in the cemetery without requesting permission.

The Clerk was asked to remind Funeral Directors of their obligations.

17. Ditch & Hedge by Leystones Garage

The Clerk will send an email to District Councillor B. Parmenter

18. Footpath Signs at the Manor

Councillor asked if better signage could be placed by the Manor. Clerk will contact the Footpath Warden

19. Correspondence

A response had been received from Highways regarding the hedge at 55 Manor Road. After a site visit they have decided that there is not an issue with the hedge and suggest we have the Post Box moved to a more accessible point.

A site visit by B. Parmenter the District Councillor, at our request, also agreed with the decision of the Highways Department.

Royal Mail have been contacted (reference no. 1-3257164144) regarding the requested re-siting of the Post Box.

Contacted L. Eyre regarding the accident by the Dogs Trust and the damage to the verge and large hole. Requesting an update as to when this will be reinstated

20. Plans for review or reviewed

W/15/00281/PP, Tanglemere, Murcot Turn

Plans reviewed and submitted to WDC with no objection

W/15/00412/PP, Jolyn, 28A Pitchers Hill

Plans reviewed and submitted to WDC with the following objections,

Although the plan has no measurements which is a planning requirement we assume that if it is drawn to scale the building would be 17 foot x 10 foot and therefore extend beyond the building line of neighbouring properties.

We also believe that the double garage already built at the site is adequate for the size of the property

W/15/00449/PP, "Eason Vale" 45 Pitches Hill
Plans reviewed and submitted to WDC with no objections

21. Finance.

Balance sheets made available for Councillors.
Election Pack for Councillors distributed

Cheques already signed,
R. Langdon, Lengthsman (Dec/ Jan)
M. Parkinson, VAS Changeover

Cheques signed,
HMRC, 4th Quarter Tax
M. Smith, Newsletter
V Signs, Playing Field Signs
J. Newbury, Padlock & Chain
R. Langdon, Lengthsman (Feb)

Receipts,
Lengthsman Reimbursement (Dec/ Jan) £180.00

16. Items for the next Agenda

17. Date of the next meeting confirmed as 13th May 2015

Meeting Closed at 9.15

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman

Notes of the Public Question Time

EA report