

## Wickhamford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014 No. 0314

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

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Present J. Newbury Chairman, Councillors, D. Heeks, R. Gutteridge & J. Poulter,  
District Councillor B. Parmenter, District & County Councillor L. Eyre,  
PCP. Schoenrock & M. Smith Clerk

1. Apologies Councillor G. Curtis

2. Declarations of Interest

None

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

4. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 were agreed

5. Matters arising from the previous meeting

Severn Trent notified of water leak on the Badsey/Wickhamford border

6. District/County Councillors Report.

The District Councillor confirmed that there would be more of the NHB to “draw down” after the 1<sup>st</sup> April

He also confirmed that the enforcement agency has requested a planning application be submitted by a householder for building without permission. We await the outcome.

The County Councillor presented a report with the following applicable to the Parish.

### **Financial Constraints**

The 1.94% council tax rise added an extra £19.88 on a band D household. This money has been used to support children’s social care.

### **Flooding**

Dan Wilkinson in my team has asked to respond to the correspondence to clarify and reassure you about the current situation for Wickhamford

The RFCC agreed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> July meeting to return funding for Wickhamford to the balances until viable proposals are established. They had previously approved £350k Local Levy towards the scheme. In order for schemes to have funding allocated on the programme they need to have a preferred viable solution with a start date.

Unfortunately we can't have money allocated on the programme without a definite scheme associated with it.

The RFCC continue to support the development of a scheme for Wickhamford and understand the extent of the flooding issues residents face. It had been agreed we could go back to them and they would look favourably on contributing when viable proposals are established. The committee are aware that there is a need for this money in future years and will look to program it into its allocation when that time comes but it's unfair on other communities who are ready to go if that money wasn't returned, particularly given there is no definite start date.

We are currently working with Landowners and I can reassure you that we are close to agreeing a viable and cost effective solution to the flooding issues.

### **Site 14 Surface Dressing**

Temporary Speed Limit application for a point approximately 180m north west of its junction with U45617 Murcot Turn for a distance of approximately 800m in a north westerly direction required for surface dressing works on one day during the four week period commencing 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

### **Buses**

There were a significant number of responses (8,500) from the public and organisations as almost 88 bus services in the County (43 routes) were facing their bus subsidy being removed. There is more work to be done

### **Levy on Utility Diggers**

The County Council are introducing a new policy which requires Utility Companies to purchase a permit before carrying out road works.

The County Councillor asked if we could earmark any footpaths that were in need of repair as she had an amount of funding which could be made available to us

She also said that the knotweed problem was being addressed

## **7. Police Officers Report.**

Our PC reported the following,

Residents had contacted West Mercia Police on 22 occasions since 01/01/14, this has resulted in only three crimes being reported,

1. Theft of a Motor Vehicle. Currently undetected at present though there are active enquiries still underway.
2. Theft of property, namely a dog, the dog has been returned, the suspect has been dealt with by the Police in accordance with the wishes of the victim
3. An incident of sheep worrying categorised as criminal damage in which the RSPCA are lead investigators

He would also like to draw to the attention of residents of a scam being committed on residents whereby they are contacted by offenders purporting to be Police claiming their credit/bank cards have been compromised and that they should contact their bank. When they do, it is another member of the criminal team who pretends to be from their bank. They then request security details and arrange for a courier to collect their cards. Fraud is then committed using those cards. Further information of this scam is on the Police notice boards in Badsey Spar & Broadway Nisa Store

8. Flood Scheme Update

Dealt with in the County Councillor report

9. Rubbish on the Green

Send an email to Highways

10. Footpaths

Dealt with in the County Councillor report

11. Lorries in the Bus Stop

Deferred. Councillors need to call PC if more lorries are noticed parking

12. Lengthsman

As we have had no contact or work carried out by our Lengthsman since October 2013 it was decided to advertise for a new Lengthsman in the next Newsletter

13. Grasscutting

It was agreed to continue to use Smart Cut

14. Letter from Badsey & Aldington Parish Council (see attachment)

It was unanimously agreed to support this letter regarding planning applications

15. Playing Field Lease Update

We continue to wait for the Sports Club agreement on their lease

16. No Planning Applications

17. Finance.

Balance sheets made available for Councillors.

Cheques signed,

M. Smith, Newsletter £20.00 + Signs £104.24

HMRC, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Tax £163.80

M. Parkinson, VAS Changeover £90.00

Smart Cut, Grasscutting for Mar/Apr 2013. Due to mislaid cheque

Receipts,

None

16. Items for the next Agenda

17. Date of the next meeting confirmed as 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 which will also be the Annual Statutory Meeting.

Meeting Closed at 8.30

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman

Notes of the Public Question Time