

Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wortham & Burgate Parish Council at Burgate Hall on Tuesday 10th September 2019 at 7.30pm.

(Cllrs) present: Chair Rash, Bradley, Williams, Grocott, Erith, Cole, Hovey, Wright, Ling, Weaver, Odams, Piper

In Attendance: Netty Verkroost (Clerk), Cllr Warboys, Cllr Fleming and 2 members of the public

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence - None received

2. To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting/s - It was unanimously agreed to approve the September Parish Council Minutes

3. To record declarations of Interest from members in any item to be discussed

Cllr Rash - 9.12 & 13 Personal & prejudicial

Cllr Weaver - 9.5 Personal & prejudicial

Cllr Ling - 9.3 & 9.10 Personal & prejudicial

4. To consider dispensations from members in any item to be discussed

Cllr Rash to stay in the meeting room but take no part in the discussion or voting of items 9.12 & 9.13. Cllr Bradley to chair items 9.12 & 9.13. Cllr Weaver to leave the meeting room during the discussion of item 9.5 and take no part in voting on this item. Cllr Ling to stay in the meeting room but take no part in the discussion or voting of items 9.3 & 9.10

5. To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation

5.1 To receive residents questions or comments - Two members of the public attended the meeting to inform the Parish Council of an issue with footpaths 21 and 22. The issue affects a property owned by family members . Suffolk County Council are investigating the present location of these footpaths as there is a discrepancy between the historical maps , the new digital map and the current location of the footpaths. Suffolk Rights of Way officers are awaiting definitive map to be agreed. At present the footpaths are blocked with temporary harris fencing by the developer of the adjoining site. Clerk to contact Suffolk rights of way officer to report the blocked footpaths. Update at the next PC meeting.

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5.2 To receive reports from District & County Councillors -

5.2.1 Parish Report October 2019

Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming

Suffolk Warm Homes Initiative and Fuel Poverty – Assistance is available for anyone in need of advice or help with winter heating bills, adding insulation or replacing an old boiler. For information ring Rural Coffee Caravan on 03456-037686 or go to www.greensuffolk.org/whf

School Places for 2020 Entry – Submit applications for school places by the closing date of 31 October 2019 for secondary schools and 15 January 2020 for primary schools to give children the best chance of getting into their preferred school. Apply online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions

School Safety – Suffolk Highways Road Safety Team have suggested that flashing lights are attached to the 20's Plenty signposts on the A143. These would be controlled by Suffolk Highways and timings agreed with Wortham Primary School. At present engineers are in the process of locating a power supply to the sites. An update to be given at the next PC meeting.

Pothole and Drainage Reporting – Please continue to report all defects and drainage problems via the County Council web site - <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads-pavements-and-verges/potholes/report-a-pothole/>

Contact may also be made by phone on 0345 606 6171.

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Local Bus Services - Please note that paper copies of timetables are no longer being routinely posted by SCC. Refer to current timetables in:

<https://www.suffolkonboard.com/buses/bus-timetable-updates/>

Cabinet Reshuffle at SCC – Cllr Andrew Reid is now Cabinet Member for Highways, Cllr Mary Evans (formerly Cabinet Member for Highways) takes on Children’s Services and Education, and Cllr Gordon Jones takes on Finance.

Climate Change Work – Suffolk County Council is working with the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership to undertake a baseline or evidence base for Suffolk and so that energy and resources are put to best effect. An action plan is anticipated in spring 2020 to achieve the County Council climate and environmental objectives. The County Council is working alongside other Suffolk local authorities all of which have now committed to a 2030 net zero aspiration.

5.2.2 Parish Report October 2019

Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

Councillor Rowland Worboys , Gisslingham Ward , Suffolk

rowland.warboys@midsuffolk.gov.uk

Phone number 07548 155779 (Work) 01379 783412 (Home)

Locality Budget Please could any group wishing to apply for funding get in touch . The application deadline is December, but it would be helpful if I received all bids by the beginning of November.

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Trees in the district. The Green group proposed a motion for the Council to pledge to increase tree cover across the district, to work with communities to encourage the development of community woods and orchards and promote parish tree wardens. The Administration of the council voted against the proposal so it was not agreed. At the July Council meeting MSDC acknowledged a 'Climate emergency and agreed to set up a cross party task panel to explore way to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 to meet in September – this has now met.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E6eOAKPWHPaTdUWhIGqHob1mfV0cPycr/view>

Joint Local Plan The consultation period for the Joint Lo ended on 30th and officers will now be collating all the comments and considering how to amend the plan accordingly. Rickinghall and Botesdale's Neighbourhood Plan has been through the inspector and is now recommended, with some minor amendments, to go forward to a local referendum.

Treasury Management Report Full council discussed the Half Year Treasury Management Report at last month's meeting. To March 2019 CIFCO Ltd made a loss of £4.6M (split evenly across both councils). This is mainly due to the downward valuation of the company's investment properties. MSDC also made a loss of £1.5 on the Gateway 14 project as this is still in the early stages of development and has yet to start generating income.

Housing Babergh and Mid Suffolk Building services are looking into creating a joint venture business case with Flagship Housing in order to improve the services for tenants. It has a turnover of £31.7 million, 6,710 houses and has £11.8 million identified for building and buying new homes.

Waste collection The changes to the Waste collection rounds were discussed by the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September. The main comments were made about moving personnel from one location to another, and the ability of the control room staff to handle calls efficiently. Hopefully lessons have been learnt and the Waste Collection rounds now seem to be back to normal regarding the number of missed bins.

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Needham Lake Visitor Facilities development MSDC has plans to create new visitor centre at Needham Lakes. There was a public consultation event at Needham Market Community Centre on 10th October. It is hoped that the new facility will encourage more visitors to the Lake, and the council are seeking tenders for the management of the facility.

BREXIT preparations MSDC is working with the rest of the Suffolk local authorities to prepare for the implications of Brexit at the end of October, to form some sort of resilience plan. This Was discussed by the Public Sector Leaders Group last week.

CIL and Section 106 Reminder: The reports detailing the CIL income and expenditure for the financial year should be published on the parish and town councils' websites. Parishes have 5 years from receipt of CIL to allocate. Evidence: Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan The information can be found online: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/community-infrastructure-levy-and-section-106/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/parish-support/> A PIIP to be discussed at the next PC meeting

A councillor asked Cllr Worboys why there is no uk wide policy to supply domestic waste bins in matching colours for each different bin. Cllr Fleming reported that this is something that is being discussed by the government at present but may take some time to implement.

6. To re-convene the meeting- 8.05pm

7. To receive the Chairman's report - The Chairman had nothing to report

8. To receive the Clerk's report and outstanding actions from last meeting: A SID battery has been ordered to replace the one which is damaged. The Clerk suggested creating a Projects Account at HSBC. The money deposited into this account would be ring fenced for specific projects in the parishes. Any CIL money received would be held in this account. The councillors unanimously agreed that the clerk should proceed with this suggestion by transferring £1995.04 from the Commons Account into the Savings Account. The Commons Account will be renamed Projects Account and £25000 will be transferred into that account from the Savings Account. It was agreed that Philip Isbel should be invited along to the next Parish Council meet and the clerk will contact his office to arrange the invite.

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9. To consider, agree and/or note new planning applications:

9.1 To receive an update on the removal of gravel and remaining driveway materials from Common Land next to South View, Furze Way - Clerk has written to Suffolk Legal but as yet has not received a reply.

9.2 To receive an update on planning issues at The Oak Trees, Great Green - No update received

9.3 To receive an update regarding the planning consultation request letter relating to planning application DC/19/01020 -Land South Of Bury Road, Wortham IP221PW- remove option of 4 no affordable dwellings - No update received

9.4 To receive an update regarding application DC/19/02698 - Land On The East Side Of, Church Road, Wortham, Suffolk - Outline Planning Application (Access to be considered) - Erection of up to 3no. dwellings and garages. - No update received

9.5 To receive an update on the official complaint lodged with MSDC regarding the White House Planning Decision - Cllr Weaver was not present at the meeting whilst this item was discussed. A reply from MSDC Customer Relations Officer was received and circulated to all councillors. The letter contained the following conclusion - As this matter relates to the use of delegated powers in this matter, this is not covered by BDC / MSDC Corporate Policy on Complaints and therefore I do not accept your complaint. It was agreed that the complaint should be raised with the Ombudsman and the clerk to investigate what the procedure involves and what is required of the Parish Council. The Clerk to report all findings at the next PC meeting.

9.6 To receive an update on a letter sent to Philip Isbel,MSDC re Honey Pot Farm - No reply received

9.7 To receive an update on outline application DC/19/03712 (Access to be considered) Erection of 4no single-storey detached dwellings - Land At Howards Close, Mellis Road, Wortham, Suffolk - No update received

9.8 To receive an update on application DC/19/04195 Land to rear of No 10 Cherry Tree Close,Wortham. Hybrid Application - Outline Planning Application for the erection of a cartlodge with ancillary accommodation at first floor level; Full Planning Application for the change of use of land to additional garden land for 10 Cherry Tree Close. - Permission granted

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9.9 To consider, discuss and agree on any comments regarding new listed application DC/19/04586 - Easter Cottage, Buggs Road, Burgate, Diss Suffolk IP22 1QG- Erection of a single storey side extension - It was unanimously agreed that “ no comment “ is returned to MSDC on this application

9.10 To consider, discuss and agree on comments regarding new application DC/19/04542 - Land Lying On The South Side Of, Bury Road, Wortham, Suffolk - Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for the variation or removal of a condition following grant of 2480/16 (Erection of 12No dwellings, parking and/or garages, and upgraded highway access) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 without Compliance of Condition 2 (Approved Drawings) - Substitute drawings 01B,02A and 06 with WBR/01C, 02E and 06C relating to footpath and design to Plot 1. - Cllr Ling did not take part in the discussion or voting on this item. 11 councillors agreed that “ no comment “ is sent to MSDC on this application

9.11 To consider, discuss and agree on comments regarding new application DC/19/04851 Fenling Cottage , Low Road , Wortham - Erection of a rear extension.- It was unanimously agreed that “ no comment “ is sent to MSDC on this application

9.12 To consider, discuss and agree on any comments regarding new listed application DC/19/04811 Dashes Farm, Low Road , Wortham - Works to facilitate conversion. Remove extension between cartshed and threshing bay, remove and rebuilt modern outshoot to barn 3, remove farm shed roof - Cllr Rash did not take part in the discussion or voting on this item. Cllr Bradley chaired this item and 11 councillors agreed that “ no comment “ is sent to MSDC on this application

9.13 To consider, discuss and agree on any comments regarding application for planning permission without compliance of conditions - Dashes Farm, Low Road. Wortham Application under section 73 for the variation or removal of a condition following grant of DC/18/01895 16th Nov 2018. To remove condition 2 (approved plan and documents) and Condition 12 (landscaping) - Cllr Rash did not take part in the discussion or voting on this item. Cllr Bradley chaired this item and 11 councillors agreed that “ no comment “ is sent to MSDC on this application

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10. To receive an update on the Traveller Encampment in Wortham - The travellers have moved off the site and are near Scole.

11. To receive an update regarding any improvements to the Track and Land at

Wortham School - 3 Councillors met with an engineer to discuss initial ideas for improvements to the track and parking. It was agreed that any improvements need to satisfy Open Spaces and are cost effective. The school are carrying out a survey of parking at the school and a report will be sent to the PC.

12. To discuss any participation in a VE Day Event 2020 - It was unanimously agreed that a Village Picnic could be held on VE Day 2020. Ideas put forward included a Vintage Theme, Tug of War, Children's Games. Cllr Bradley to contact Bruno Peak to confirm that the village will hold an event and report back at the next meeting.

13. To receive an update on proposed new village hall project - Members of the New Village Hall working Group met with a MSDC Planning Officer onsite. This pre planning meeting was arranged to discuss initial ideas for a hall and use of the existing hall site. The officer confirmed that there were no obvious issues with a proposal to extend the existing Sports Pavilion as long as the roof line was no higher than the existing roof. Designs would have to be sympathetic with the area. The Working Group has also had meetings with local estate agents to get an indicative value of the existing village hall site. The agents recommended that this site could be worth £200000 - £300000 dependent on outline planning permission being granted. The site could possibly accommodate a pair of 2 bedroom, semi detached homes and 1 detached home but this not confirmed at this stage. The community questionnaire has not yet been printed but this will be organised soon.

14. To receive a report from the external auditor for 2018/19 PC accounts - The report was circulated prior to the meeting and received by all councillors. The clerk explained why there was an issue with the exercise of public rights being less than 30 consecutive days.

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15. To receive and discuss items from Committees / Working Groups

15.1 Playing Field Committee (PFC)- The PFC decided on a supplier of new play equipment. Cllr Bradley is investigating funding options for the £35000 required and she will report at the next meeting.

15.2 Commons Committee - Nothing to report

15.3 Finance Representative - Nothing to report

15.4 Employment Committee - The PC Chairman and the Employment Committee Chair received a resignation letter from the Clerk. The post will have to be advertised but the clerk has confirmed that she will remain until the end of March 2020 if necessary. 15.5 New Village Hall Working Group- Report as per item 13.

16. Accounts

16.1 Accounts Balances as at 15/10/2019

16.1.1 Current Account £8269.20

16.1.2 Reserve Account £35492.09

16.1.3 Commons Account £1995.04

16.2 Account payments

16.2.1	Netty Verkroost	Salary Oct	£416.85
16.2.2	Netty Verkroost	Expenses Sept	£84.33
16.2.3	Niki Hinton	Salary Oct	£87.75
16.2.4	Netty Verkroost	Salary November	£416.85
16.2.5	Niki Hinton	Salary November	£87.75
16.2.6	Safe & Sound	Moles Sept	£48.00
16.2.7	St Mary's Church Hall	Hall Hire Sept	£15.00
16.2.8	CGM	Grass Cutting	£180.00
16.2.9	PKF Littlejohn PLC	Audit	£240.00
16.2.10	SALC	Training - Cllr Weaver	£38.40
Additional Payments prior to meeting			
16.2.11	MSDC	Litter / Dog Bin Emptying	£26.40
16.2.12	Mr C Gooderham	Village maintenance	£480.00

It was unanimously agreed to make all payments.

The Parish Council received the following information :

Direct Debit Payments

Eon Electricity £200.00 ICO Data protection Fee £35.00

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16.3 Account Receipts

MSDC CIL £6863.78 WLTC Rent £440.00

EON Reimbursement £395.96

UK Power Networks Wayleaves £238.49

17. To receive and discuss items / reports from Committees, Groups and Councillors:

17.1 VHMC – There is a Jumble Sale on Saturday 26th Oct at 2pm and Village Quiz on Saturday 16th November

17.2 Rights of Way – None

17.3 Councillors: - It was reported that Dog Fouling is again an issue of the Playing Fields where there are regular adult football matches, junior football coaching and other sports user groups. It was unanimously agreed that it may be necessary to stop the exercising of dogs on the playing fields. The clerk to get quotes for 6 x signs and posts and report at the next meeting. Cllr Bradley has secured funding of £500 from MSDC for the purchase of Litter Picking Equipment.

18. Correspondence received – An email received from a Wortham resident regarding the use of land next to the track at the village hall. Clerk to contact the resident

19. To receive items for the next agenda - VE Day Event, PIIP

20. Date & time of next meeting –Dec 3rd 2019 at 7.30pm in Wortham Village Hall

Meeting Close

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