

WICKHAM ST PAULS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2017

- Present:** Councillors: Derek Stokes (Chair) Martin Cooper (Vice-chair), Angela Johnstone, Liz Moore and Pamela Nuttall
- 2017.161 WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN**
The Chairman welcomed two Wickham St. Pauls residents and Dianne Jacob (Parish Clerk elect) to the meeting.
- 2017.162 APOLOGIES**
None
- 2017. 163 PECUNIARY INTERESTS**
Martin Cooper declared an interest in the Fireworks and Village Hall Management Committee
Pamela Nuttall declared an interest in the Village Hall Management Committee
Derek Stokes declared an interest in the Fireworks Committee.
- 2017. 164 MINUTES of MEETING of 18th October**
The minutes of the meeting of the 18th October 2017 were signed by the Chairman as a true record of events.
Proposed: Angela Johnstone. Seconded: Martin Cooper
- 2017. 165 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS**
Apologies were received from David Finch and Wendy Scattergood
- 2017.166 FINANCE**
The financial statement was agreed.
Councillors asked for greater transparency of the finances in terms of:
a) Monies received
b) Current financial situation
This will enable Councillors to have a long term vision for Wickham St. Pauls.
- 2017.167 PRECEPT**
The Committee acknowledged the phasing out of the Localisation Fund.
The precept will not increase for Wickham St. Pauls residents.
- 2017.168 TRAFALGAR DAY 21st. OCTOBER**
The Parish Council made a donation of £600.00 toward the insurance for fireworks event. Despite the fireworks being cancelled due to high winds, the celebration went well and the Victory Inn had some 50 or so more extra customers. The Belchamp Morris Men including the Wickham members performed two dances. The fireworks have been purchased by the Fireworks Committee and the event will be rescheduled for 2018. The insurance was paid for, but was cancelled in sufficient time to get a full refund. Following discussions with the Parish Council insurers, they indicate that if the event was organised direct by the P.C., then the present P.C.'s insurance may cover the event, with no additional premium.
PROPOSAL:
If the P.C. does have the appropriate cover then discussions could take place with the Fireworks Committee to take over the responsibility of the event and the remaining funds. Proposed: Liz Moore. Seconded: Angela Johnstone
- 2017.169 RESIGNATIONS**
It was with regret that Lynn Exley resigned on the 16th. November after having served 14-years as Parish Clerk. Our thanks go to Lynn for all her hard work and loyalty over that period and we all wish her well.
The position was duly advertised and following interviews and with the agreement of all members, a new clerk has been appointed and we will welcome Diane Jacob to our council at the next meeting.
It is with further regret that we have also received notice of immediate resignation from Cllr. Ros Hood, who leaves the village on the 29th. November. We also thank Ros for her hard work and loyalty to the P.C. and wish her well.
The position of a new Parish Councillor will be duly advertised.



2017.170 VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Quiz

A great quiz was put together by Phil Wood with food organised by Ann Robertson of the WI, bar by Billy Garrett and the evening organised by the hall team. Everybody had a good evening. We raised around a £1000 for general hall funds.

Lights

We replaced the fluorescent lights with softer coloured tubes to add some mood type lighting and have placed on hold introducing downlighters.

Notice board

A new very large notice board has been erected in the porch.

Decoration grant – Wendy Scattergood

We applied successfully for a grant of £800 from Braintree Council/Wendy Scattergood's fund for interior decoration and floor refurbishment.

External Christmas lighting

This has been added to try to advertise the hall and attract bookings

Best Kept Village certificates

These have been mounted on the wall in the hall and will be moved to the pavilion next year.

Village Hall Clock

The cost of the repair has been estimated at £550. The proposal was for the Cricket club, Village Hall and Parish Council to share the cost through one third each. The Cricket Club and the Village Hall Committee have agreed to provide a third each.

Proposal: the Parish Council contribute a third of the cost. This was agreed at the meeting. Proposed: Derek Stokes. Seconded: Liz Moore.

Storage

It has been identified that there is not enough storage space particularly for parish hall records etc. The proposal is to get another store, like the one which holds the tables and chairs, with the Village Hall and Parish Council sharing the cost. This was deferred until the next meeting.

2017.171 BANK MANDATE.

Currently the Chair and Vice Chair are signatories. Cllr. Angela Johnstone will fill in a mandate as will Diane Jacob (Parish Clerk).

2017.172 TRADE WASTE REMOVER

Essex County Council in their drive to curb fly tipping, have requested residents to ensure that waste removers have the appropriate license and a web site address has been given as <https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search/waste-carriers-brokers>

Flyers have been posted through the doors of all our residents. Our thanks to the W.I for helping to distribute.

2017.173 CHRISTMAS TREE.

This year's tree has been kindly donated again by Vernon Nott and will be collected on Friday 1st. December and erected and decorated on the same day.

The switch-on date will be Saturday 2nd. December, once it gets dark (around 4pm)

Mr and Mrs Sears our newest residents will be asked to turn the lights on.

2017.174 CHAPEL SITE.

Cllr. Stokes reported that with a team of volunteers, some 1000 indigenous flowering bulbs and been planted and the results will be apparent in spring and early summer.

2017.175 DEFIBRILLATOR.

Cllr. Stokes reported that the defibrillator training evening of the 17th. October was attended by some 14 parishioners and representatives from two other councils.

The battery was 4-years old, had reached the end of its life and therefore had to be replaced at a cost of £267.00.

The defibrillator does need regular visual checks and there is a log book held at the Victory Inn. Councillors were asked to undertake a visual check and fill in the log book when visiting the inn. The check to ensure the defibrillator is in place, has not been vandalised and the green light is on.



2017.176 VILLAGE HISTORY

It is with regret to announce that our Village Historian Beryl Knight has passed away. Beside all her other contributions to the village, Beryl was our Village Historian. Beryl's granddaughter Bethany Rippingale has kindly offered to take over the role.

2017.177 PLANNING.

Application No. 17/01862/full. Long Gardens.

The proposal is for a 4-bedroom, 2-storey detached house.

There has been one objection from a neighbouring property with concerns about access to the property with relation to speeding traffic and also comments that the building is not in keeping with the general design and appearance of the majority of the properties in that hamlet.

Road safety is of a concern, however each property does appear to have vehicle access to the main road and a further property may have very little impact on the volume of traffic.

With regards the design of other houses along that road, most are of the same format, however the adjacent property to the proposed development is unlike the majority.

Proposal: the decision is be left to BDC and suggests a neutral stance from our Parish Council. Proposed: Liz Moore. Seconded: Angela Johnstone

2017.178 AGENDA ITEMS FOR OUR NEXT MEETING.

- A) Condition of the pond water in the Fox Yard.
- B) New Councillor.
- C) War memorial.
- D) In remembrance of Beryl Knight

2017.179 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23rd January at 7.30

Minutes taken by Pamela Nuttall

