

**WICKHAM ST PAULS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF WICKHAM ST PAULS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MAY 2020, AT 7.30pm**  
**(Owing to the Coronavirus this was a virtual meeting and votes were taken and recorded by e-mail).**

In the Chair: Cllr. D. Stokes  
Present Cllrs. Cllr M. Cooper, Cllr. D. Sear, Cllr. B. Trew, Cllr. J. Barlow, Cllr. A. Johnstone  
Clerk: Mrs D. Jacob

**20/062 Welcome and Apologies for Absence.**

None.

**20/063 Declaration of Interests.**

None.

**20/064 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**

None.

**20/065 Ward and County Councillors to address the members if present.**

Ward Councillor, County Councillor.  
Not present.

**20/066 Minutes.**

To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020.  
Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed

**20/067 Accounts 2019/20.**

This item deferred until Wickham St Pauls Parish Council holds virtual or face to face meetings. To be on the July agenda.

**20/068 Planning Matters.**

**Ref: 20/00713/HH**

Description: Proposed pitched roof to replace flat roof and weatherboarding to existing utility side projection.

Location: 13 Church Road, Wickham St Pauls, Halstead, Essex. CO9 2PL

No objections were received by councillors via emails.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

**Ref: 20/00760/HH**

Description: Proposed new residential access

Location: Park Farm, Park Road, Wickham St Paul, Halstead, Essex. CO9 2PX

No objections were received by councillors via emails.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

**20/069 Matters Arising – Updates.**

Item 1. Previous Minute Number 18/042 Item 2. Village Pump – update.

Pump requires two persons to fix to slab, not possible owing to Corvid-19 restrictions.

A quote for £126.00 +VAT for the stainless-steel plaque was received from the supplier of previous plaques to the P.C. The wording would be:-

Wickham St. Pauls Village Pump

This well and pump has served the residents of Wickham St. Pauls since Victorian times and it was kindly donated in memory of Joyce and Gordon Harding-Payne.

Restored by the Parish Council in 2020 A.D. and funded by The Essex Heritage Trust

We are still within budget for the grant given us by the EHT. Cllr. Stokes suggested we accept the quote in principle, but if we can get a much better price and if necessary, in brass, we should go for that.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

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- Item 2. Previous Minute Number 18/161 Church Road additional parking and traffic calming – (Highways) no update.
- Item 3. Previous Minute Number 19/092 Trees Planting on the Village Green – Work in progress. Cllr. Johnstone has joined the group and will propose and source trees. Cllr. Stokes is in contact with the five residents who requested dedicated trees with regards to the planting dates and inscriptions.
- Item 4. Nature Trail – Update as follows by Cllr. Trew:  
This is finally complete. The noticeboard has been put up, the bird and bug boxes are in situ and the leaflet maps have been printed and will eventually reside in the Farm Shop by prior arrangement, (obtainable by monetary donation). I have also put lilies in the pond, however, I wonder if the fish have nibbled on them as they have not appeared at all! NextDoor.co.uk and Look Out Magazine have had articles submitted. I have also sent out personal thank you notes. I have also provided photographic evidence to ECC Micro-Grant.
- Item 5. Village Hall Report – No meetings have taken place owing to the Corvid19.
- Item 6. Wickham St Pauls Consolidate Trust – formally known as The Herrington Trust – No meetings have taken place owing to the Corvid19.

**20/070 Shellards Lane.**

Potholes and banks – update by Cllr. Trew as follows: -

I initially contacted Highways and officially logged a report due to two residents asking me what was going on with the verge at the top of Shellards Lane and also the numerous potholes as you drive into the lane. Purely by chance, I then encountered an ECC employee who was marking out the lane with red spray paint. He admitted that he was unaware that part of the lane was ECC responsibility and agreed that this had been an oversight by them for a long while. Unfortunately, we then went into lockdown and so nothing has been repaired. They will no doubt need to be chased, but the top of the lane to the beginning of Del and Theresa's home is Essex Highway's responsibility.

In respect of the verge at the top of the lane where the posts have been run over, Peter Trew has spoken to Richard who owns the barn conversion and between them, they will make the verge and posts good again, but not until all building work has been completed, otherwise it will be a fruitless exercise. Peter was going to remove the posts and keep them safe for the time being, until such time as they can be reinstated. I don't think he has approached and asked the question yet as to whether he can remove them. Cllr. Stokes agreed that was a good idea to remove them and keep them safe.

**20/071 Salt Bag Partnership 2020/2021.**

To consider if the Parish Council would like to take part in this scheme.

Cllr Stokes reported that we have 12 bags left over from last year and the two salt bins are full. Cllr. Stokes felt that we do not need anymore, but proposed to stay in scheme, but no new bags.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed

**20/072 The Village Green.**

To discuss and confirm wild flower areas.

The proposal in March was to rotavate specific areas so the wild flowers could be planted / seeded. It is too late to do this in this season, so better to leave until either later in the year or next spring.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

**20/073 New Sign.**

To consider new signage to read 'Please park vehicles at the Village Hall when using the recreational equipment. Thank you'. Request to be made to the VHMC for permission.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

**20/074 Play Equipment.**

To discuss the steps on the slide, to also consider the warranty and insurance if these are modified in anyway.

We have had several concerns raised by residents about the slide, that the gap between the stairs is excessive and that the slide does not have a sufficient run off. We have been in touch with the manufacturers to ask for their comments and proposals. Cllr. Johnstone and Cllr. Stokes will work on this issue.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

## 20/075 Financial Matters.

### 1) Financial Statement for (Items to be approved for payment and signed as per payment schedule).

	CHEQUE NO.	TOTAL
EALC (Subscriptions for EALC & NALC) Inv. 12716	002196	101.20
HM Revenue & Customs (For April)	002190	103.20
B. Rippingale (Salary for April)	002191	86.32
D. Jacob (Salary for April)	SO	430.00
D. Jacob (Adjustment to Salary for April)	002202	3.90
Came & Company Insurance	002197	383.15
JPB Landscapes (Inv. Nos. 1034,1036 April/May)	002198	528.00
Wickham St Pauls Cricket Club (Grant)	002204	1,000.00
D. Jacob (Salary for May)	SO	430.00
D. Jacob (Salary Difference for May)	002203	3.90
HM Revenue & Customs (For May)	002192	103.20
B. Rippingale (Salary for May)	002193	86.32
J.C. Reddington (Internal Auditor)	002205	100.00
Derek Stokes (Reimbursement for receipts)	002206	87.15
D. Jacob (Expenses for April/May)	002207	41.44
Peter R. Trew Limited Inv. No. 338	002208	62.40
Cardiac Science (to be confirmed awaiting invoice)		

Cardiac Science to appear on the next agenda, once price is known.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

### 2) Monthly Budget Statement.

Received and noted.

## 20/076 The Victory Inn.

When the Victory Inn re-opens in order to follow social distancing rules would the Parish Council allow tables and chairs onto the village green.

We understand that when the Victory Inn reopens, that restrictions may still apply for social distancing and that the grounds of the Inn may not be sufficient for the volume of custom needed to make the business viable. Would the Parish Council allow the Inn's customers to 'picnic' on the Green and be allowed to put overflow tables on the Green.

Cllr. Sear has raised concerns about policing any regulations and I feel that this responsibility should fall on the proprietor.

Note: This was not a request from the landlord, but came from my discussions with him.

The proposal is to give permission, but with the condition that any government advice is adhered to.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, Cllr. Trew, Cllr. Barlow and Cllr. Johnstone in favour, Cllr. Sear objected; resolution passed.

## 20/077 Future Parish Council meetings - Virtual Meetings.

In order for Wickham St Pauls Parish Council to hold virtual meetings the Parish Council laptop would need to be upgraded at a cost of approx. £600.00 plus software cost at approx. £80.00 per annum.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, Cllr. Johnstone, Cllr. Barlow, in favour, Cllr. Sear, Cllr. Trew objected this item to be deferred and on the next agenda.

## 20/078 A131 Long Gardens.

A speeding issue has been raised.

Residents have raised concerns about speeding vehicles and particularly because of the sharp bends. The proposal is to contact Highways to see what can be done.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

## 20/079 Grass cutting.

Public footpath adjacent to Spencer's caravan park.

A quote has been received by our grass cutting contractor for £450.00 purely for one initial cut and thereafter further cuts would be required, but at a lower rate. Cllr. Stokes said he believes this is a too higher figure and also we have not budgeted for it. Proposal is that we look for another quote and if no more than say £200.00 for the initial cut, we go ahead as this needs to be

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done fairly soon. Other suggestions are that we look to form a volunteer working party to cut it and a third option to see if our Handyman is capable of cutting it.

Proposed by Cllr. Stokes, seconded by Cllr. Cooper, all in favour, resolution passed.

**20/080 Date of Next Meeting.**

Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July (7.30pm)

Meeting Closed at 9.45pm

Signed (Chairman).....

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