

WICKHAM BISHOPS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM 5 TH NOVEMBER 2013	
Item	Subject
13/117	<p>Those present and apologies for absence In the chair Cllr MacGregor. Present; Cllrs Bass, Bates, Johnson, Mickelsen, Pink,Sayers, Jacob and Wardrop.</p> <p>10 members of the public were present</p>
13/118	<p>Declaration of interests and compliance with the ethical framework.</p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p>
13/119	<p>Approval of Minutes. Minutes for 1st October were approved with the following amendments: 104 – Q1 Majority incorrectly spelt on original.</p>
13/120	<p>Police report No police report received</p>
13/121	<p>Chairman’s report Cllr MacGregor attended the chairman’s reception at Maldon District Council and the opening of the Tennis Club Pavilion. Cllr MacGregor thanked all the Cllrs for checking on vulnerable parishioners during the power cuts caused by the storm.</p>
13/122	<p>Clerk’s report The youth council recruitments posters have gone into the local secondary schools, youth club and notice board. Clerk to pass the poster to Cllr Bates to put in the village Newsletter. The clerk passed on an initial suggestion from a local youth, the Cllrs act as business mentors for aspiring politicians.</p>
13/123	<p>Public Speaking Wickham Hall Lane – What is the procedure for dealing with drainage? Cllr MacGregor has informed Essex Highways of this problem as other residents have brought up the issue. Discussed Oak tree in the parish getting badly damaged by passing traffic. The road it is situated on is narrow and overgrown from hedges. Cllrs agreed to put a request into the parish magazine about the over grown hedges for residents to tackle. The road sweeper is unable to get down the road causing more problems with the road surface and appearance. Regarding the damage to the Oak Tree the Clerk to contact Jackie Gilbert, Tree Officer. Cllrs discussed making the lane access only or unsuitable for large vehicles. Clerk to investigate options with Essex Highways and report back.</p> <p>8 Wooldridge Place – Objections were heard to the planning application. Key points were: Disproportionate size of garden room – contravenes 15/18 Village Design Statement Development proposal aggravates a parking issue. Entering and leaving the village Hall can already be hazardous. –contravenes 14/26 Village Design Statement. The privacy to the home adjacent to the proposed development would be hindered. Refuse lorries struggle to get down Wooldridge Road without additional cars being parked on the road.</p> <p>OUT/MAL/13/00919 – The applicant came and discussed the plans. The application number was not</p>

	on the agenda as it was not received in time to be advertised.
13/124	<p>District Council report. Caravans remain at Hamara on Maypole Road . MDC will require another planning application if they want to remain. Cllr. Bass made enquiries regarding Beacon Hill Garage and the number of cars allowed on the forecourt. In planning at MDC no number is specified. Cllr Bass is still making more enquiries as the vehicles have over spilled into the Mitre Car Park. MDC have appointed a contractor to deal with over hanging hedges on main roads in the district. MDC are contracting specialists to look at the planning department and are considering several options including asking for help from ECC and neighbouring authorities.</p>
13/125	<p>Neighbourhood Watch Report No representative from NBW present. Cllr Bates informed the council that NBW details are on our website however individuals have refused to have their specific details displayed on the site. Cllr Bates said that we should have a representative from NBW at the December meeting.</p>
13/126	<p>EALC report – any urgent information Cllr Pink informed the council that EALC have two vacancies which they are interviewing potential candidates for. The EALC have a Greens, Commons and Open Spaces talk on the 14th November 9.30 – 4.30.</p>
13/127	<p>Salt Bag Partnership The Council only received 3 offers to store Salt bags in under covered areas throughout the winter. With the anticipated delivery of 50 bags and no place to keep them the order had to be cancelled for this year. The council would like to extend thanks to all those volunteering storage space. In anticipation of the storage issue for next year the council agreed to think more about storage solutions for next year.</p>
13/128	<p>Planning.</p> <p>WTPO/MAL/13/00950 APPROVE SUBJECT TO WORKS TPO 3/89 – T1 Horse Chestnut – repollard COMPLETED BY A QUALIFIED TREE SURGEON Location Edengarth 18 Tiptree Road</p> <p>WTPO/MAL/13/00941 PP-02933406 APPROVE SUBJECT TO WORKS COMPLETED BY A QUALIFIED TREE SURGEON TPO 15/03 T8 Oak (marked T1 on app.) Reduce lower lateral branches in southern aspect by up to 3 meters to prevent over extension and maintain tree in manageable condition. Location Glenridge, Witham Road</p> <p>FUL/MAL/13/00827 PP-02840227 TO BE DISCUSSED AT PLANNING COMMITTEE Amendment to previous planning permission given to FUL/MAL/12/00516. Change external finishes to brickwork ground floor level only, and widen cart lodge/garage to take two cars. Location Frensham Caravan Witham Road</p> <p>OUT/MAL/13/00694 OUT OF AREA Erection of 5 No. four bedroom houses with garages and associated groundworks. Location Land Rear of 76-80 Maldon Road, Great Totham Drawing No(s): LOCATION PLAN 2173:01AB</p> <p>Village Homes Update – Cllr Sayers has spoken to James Taylor, the Tree Survey on the site has been completed and a Traffic expert has been appointed to look at issues raised by residents. No information as yet about when to expect any planning application. The land owner is currently happy to wait until the detailed investigations are done before he submits plans. There have been talks about the possibility of another exhibition before planning permission is applied for.</p>

	The gypsy site application in Captains Wood Road was raised. Cllr Sayers agreed to check details and bring up at Planning Committee if appropriate
13/129	<p>Speed Watch Update.</p> <p>Cllrs thanked Cllr Wardrop for the excellent work negotiating the cost of the speed gun. The gun is now in Cllr Wardrop possession. New volunteers have been trained and are now out completing checks. No more volunteers are being actively sought. For the time being we still have the radar gun and the Laser gun. Cllr Wardrop is discussing with Essex Police about getting info from our checks i.e. are the worst offenders' local residents of neighbouring villages? At the moment the Police are refusing to collate this data for us however Cllr. Wardrop is still exploring other avenues. 1 formal complaint has been received by Essex Police about Speed Watch citing that there was no clear warning signs and that the volunteers were hiding. Cllr Wardrop explained that all volunteers must wear high visibility jackets at all times when completing speed checks as they are close to the road edge.</p> <p>Cllr Wardrop proposed that the council express gratitude to the volunteers for speed watch. Agreed volunteers welcomed to join the Council at The Chequers on 3rd December at 9pm.</p>
13/130	<p>Finance</p> <p>Report Received and cheques signed. Cllrs asked the Clerk to hold onto the cheque for the Speed Gun until the outcome of the funding bid is heard from MDC as this may not need to be sent. Cllr Bass to check and report back to the Clerk.</p>
13/131	<p>Budget 2014/2015</p> <p>Brief outline of the budget lifted from last year was presented to the Cllrs to consider. At Decembers meeting Cllrs to come back with suggestions to the clerk.</p>
13/132	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Southend Airport has made an application to extend their airspace to deal with the expansion of commercial flights at the Airport.</p> <p>The recent storms caused large power outage across the village leaving vulnerable people without power or on low voltage power for several days. Each of the Cllrs were trying to make contact with the power grid with varying success. This highlights a need to have a clear response from the council should this occur again. Previously all Parish Councils were asked about having a means to contact the Power grid and report a power down. This never happened. Clerk to investigate this.</p> <p>It would be helpful to have an outline of power grids so that we know if our vulnerable residents are without power.</p> <p>Buildings can be registered as an emergency place for electrical supply, The Village Hall needs to be registered.</p>
13/133	<p>Committee reports: -</p> <p>The village hall was entered in the Village Hall of the year comp, but did not win. Rowhedge won a financial prize to develop the Hall further.</p> <p>The Village notice board was discussed as it is looking tatty. Cllrs MacGregor and Sayers to do a brief refurbishment. A member of the public has agreed to maintain the notices on the board and has requested that residents wishing to advertise on the board laminate the notices as they get damaged by rain and become illegible.</p> <p>Cllr Johnson requested that all Cllrs complete the questionnaire regarding the future of the Bus service. Urging Cllrs to be in favour of the public transport service for the local residents. Cllr Johnson also reminded Cllrs to notify her of anything they wish her to bring up at the Transport meetings.</p> <p>Highways – A resident has discussed with Cllr Johnson the school bus drop off points in the village, particularly noting some dangerous spots where young people are departing from behind the bus blind to the traffic. The Clerk to contact ECC to request all school drop of points are moved to Valarie Loveland where the danger is reduced.</p>

	The Layby outside Top Signs is supposed to have a parking restriction of two hours however a large Red Van has been seen parked there for extended periods on a number of occasions. Yellow Lines have not been painted here. Clerk to investigate.
13/134	Date of next meeting 3 rd December 2013
13/135	Close of meeting 9.40