

Wickham Bishops Parish Council

Parish Councillors

I S F MacGregor (Chairman)
 Mrs A Mickelsen (Vice Chairman)
 H M Bass
 P J Bates
 Mrs R Johnson
 S J Nicholas
 Mrs R M Pink CBE
 B F Sayers
 I D Wardrop



Winner Best Kept Village 2009, 2015
 3rd Place Essex Village of the Year 2015

www.wickhambishopsparishcouncil.org

Parish Clerk

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MINUTES	
Of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Boardroom	
Item	Subject
15/182	<p>Those Present and Apologies for Absence In the chair: Cllr MacGregor Present: Cllrs Bass, Bates, Johnson, Mickelsen, Nicholas, Pink and Wardrop; the Clerk. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr Sayers. There were three members of the public present.</p>
15/183	<p>Declaration of Interests and Compliance with the Ethical Framework There were no Declarations of Interest. Cllr Johnson requested guidelines to clarify when a non-pecuniary interest should be declared. Action: Cllr Bass to obtain up-to-date rules from the District Council for distribution by the Clerk.</p>
15/184	<p>Approval of Minutes Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st September 2015 be approved as a true record. Proposed Cllr Mickelsen, seconded Cllr Wardrop. Resolved: that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 11th September 2015 be approved as a true record. Proposed Cllr Mickelsen, seconded Cllr Johnson.</p>
15/185	<p>Reports on Progress of Previous Minutes' Items 15/016 Trimming has been requested for the Tiptree road hedge but not yet commenced. Hedges along Maypole Road and Great Totham Road are also now causing obstruction. Action: Cllr Bass to progress with the Highways Rangers. 15/098 Refurbishment of the village's benches has begun and the parishioner wishing to fund the maintenance and a plaque for the bench at Box Iron Corner has been informed. 15/163 The date for the Snows Corner Development Exhibition has been tentatively scheduled for 7th November, pending confirmation of the availability of all participants. Action: Cllr Sayers to confirm arrangements for inclusion in the Parish Magazine and on the website. 15/165 The overgrown vegetation along Back Lane has been trimmed. Item closed. 15/167 The NHGS Community Liaison Panel is due to begin meeting in the autumn and the Clerk will be included in any communications. 15/169 There was no progress to report on the Frail Persons Register. Action: Councillors to provide information regarding those individuals who would benefit from the outreach activity to Cllr Johnson, for collation by Councillor area and to be processed and kept in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.</p>

15/186	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>The Chairman began by thanking Cllr Wardrop for entering the Council into the Council of the Year competition, which was ultimately won by Messing cum Inworth Parish Council.</p> <p>Thanks were also expressed to Cllrs Wardrop and Johnson for participating in an early morning bus stop survey as part of an on-going initiative to reduce the obstruction to other road users. The Chairman reported that all school buses except for one are now picking up from the preferred location.</p> <p>The new Wickham Bishops tree warden will be attending the next meeting to be introduced to the parish.</p> <p>Two complaints in the month were received: one relating to the white fence at Hamara on Maypole Road and the other to the parking congestion near The Mitre.</p> <p>Action: the District Councillor to request the Enforcement Team ensure conditions are being adhered to.</p>
15/187	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>The clerk stated that the Annual Financial Return had arrived back and had since been publicly displayed for the requisite period. The Annual Return process was therefore complete.</p> <p>To meet CiLCA requirements the Clerk had drafted further procedures and policies covering Grant Funding, a Publication Scheme, Procurement and Payments and updates to Standing Orders and the Financial Regulations. These will be presented for Council's consideration in due course.</p> <p>A Finance Committee meeting had been arranged for November 13th to consider the 2016-17 budget and precept proposals.</p> <p>MDC's Parks Team is continuing to look into funding towards the parish's grass cutting costs.</p>
15/188	<p>Public Forum</p> <p>A member of the public spoke in favour of planning application <i>FUL/MAL/15/00723 Land Adjacent to Fieldway Station Road</i> on behalf of the applicant. A member of the public spoke against the same planning application.</p> <p>A member of the public spoke in favour of application <i>HOUSE/MAL/15/00931 6 Birch Rise</i>.</p>
15/189	<p>Planning Applications and Decisions</p> <p>Cllr Bass refrained from voting on the following planning applications due to the potential for him to vote at the District Council planning meeting.</p> <p>Applications:</p> <p>HOUSE/MAL/15/00931 6 Birch Rise Wickham Bishops</p> <p>No letters of objection had been received.</p> <p>Councillors considered the application to be similar to and smaller than plans already approved.</p> <p>Resolved: the Parish Council recommended APPROVAL. Proposed Cllr Johnson, seconded Cllr Pink.</p> <p>FUL/MAL/15/00723 Land adjacent to Fieldway Station Road Wickham Bishops</p> <p>No letters of objection had been received.</p> <p>It was noted that a previous application and appeal had been refused on this site for reasons of lack of sustainability and insufficiently-outstanding design. Councillors considered the revised application did not address the lack of sustainability of the location and therefore would be contrary to Submission LDP Policy S8 – <i>Settlement Boundaries and the Countryside</i> and to Adopted RLP Policy S2 – <i>Development Outside Development Boundaries</i>.</p> <p>Resolved: the Parish Council recommended REFUSAL. Proposed Cllr Johnson, seconded Cllr Nicholas.</p>

	<p>Two members of the public left the meeting.</p> <p>HOUSE/MAL/15/00956 High Hall Blacksmiths Lane Wickham Bishops No letters of objection had been received. Councillors considered the chimney caps, due to their size and distance from any viewing points, would not cause a visible intrusion to the locality. Resolved: the Parish Council recommended APPROVAL. Proposed Cllr Johnson, seconded Cllr Mickelsen.</p> <p>Appeals: OUT/MAL/14/01257 Land Adjacent to Shamrock Cottage Tiptree Road The Parish Council had no further comments to make on this application.</p> <p>The weekly decision lists were noted. It was further noted an appeal against refusal of application OUT/MAL/15/00220 Barn Hayes Beacon Hill Great Totham had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>The remaining member of the public left the meeting.</p>
15/190	<p>Correspondence Requiring Decisions: Resolved: the Parish Council agreed the response to MDC's Development Plan consultation with additions. Proposed Cllr Johnson, seconded Cllr Pink. Action: <i>the Clerk to submit the amended response.</i></p>
15/191	<p>General Correspondence to Note: The consultation on Essex bus services, with no changes to the local #90 service, was noted. The Clerk read out the response sent to Telefonica following their search for a mast location. The letter from a developer proposing to develop land at Church Road was noted. It was also reported that, despite the Council being of the opinion that the Snows Corner development would satisfy all local housing demand, the developer is believed to be holding an exhibition of their proposals on October 29th in the Village Hall. Action: <i>the Clerk and Cllr Bates to publicise the proposal and the view of the Parish Council.</i></p>
15/192	<p>Policing & Neighbourhood Watch There were no street meets or Community Engagement meetings scheduled in October. Cllr Wardrop reported that PCSO Hayden planned to attend an upcoming Speedwatch session.</p>
15/193	<p>District Council Report Cllr Bass reported that the upgrade to the swimming pool was nearing completion. Refurbishment works to Maldon District Council offices were progressing and would bring together the tenants of the building –being the external public services such as CAB, the DWP and MOAT Housing Association – to one area. There is increasing confidence that, whilst the Traveller Provision in the submitted LDP is known not to be up-to-date, the rest of the LDP will be judged sound by the new Inspector. The District Councillor will be holding a series of visits to Year 6 pupils at primary schools throughout Maldon over the upcoming year.</p>
15/194	<p>EALC Report The 70th AGM of the EALC was held on the 24th September and was attended by Cllr Wardrop. Presentation topics included proposed cuts to policing and devolution.</p>

15/195	<p>Finance</p> <p>The balances were noted and the list of payments agreed.</p> <p>Resolved: in accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1953 s.4, and on satisfactory completion of the bench refurbishment, the Council would pay for the bus shelter to be repaired. Proposed Cllr Wardrop, seconded Cllr Bass.</p> <p>Resolved: in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 s.137, the Council would pay for the catering for the Chairmen’s Board unveiling. Proposed Cllr Mickelsen, seconded Cllr Bass.</p> <p>Cllr Johnson thanked Cllr Pink for donating wine to the event.</p>
15/196	<p>Monthly Councillor Surgeries</p> <p>There was one visitor to the September surgery with two queries – regarding the Tiptree Road access to the Snows Corner development and a possible location for the nearby bus stop. Due to public interest in the location of the bus stops in this area, this item will be discussed during the 3rd November meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <p>The attendees on 24th October were noted: Cllrs Bates and MacGregor</p> <p>The attendees at the 21st November Surgery were agreed: Cllrs Johnson and Mickelsen</p>
15/197	<p>Air Raid Shelter</p> <p>It was noted that the County Council’s proposed terms required the Parish Council to incur costs to open up the shelter and fit a door in order to make an internal survey of the structure and also exposed the Parish to paying various costs regardless of survey results.</p> <p>Resolved: that the Parish Council could not continue with the project under these terms.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr MacGregor, seconded Cllr Nicholas.</p> <p>Action: <i>the Clerk to write to ECC advising the decision of the Parish Council.</i></p>
15/198	<p>Drainage Survey Project</p> <p>During the month Cllrs Mickelsen and Bass and a member of the public attended ECC’s drainage surveying training. Cllr Mickelsen presented the surveying pack and process that will enable the team to map out the local watercourses and any repairing issues over the upcoming winter.</p>
15/199	<p>Scheduled Meetings of the Parish Council</p> <p>Resolved: the Parish Council would not schedule a full council meeting in January and would review the meeting schedule during the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May 2016.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Johnson, seconded Cllr Wardrop.</p>
15/200	<p>Progress Reports from Committees and Councillors – No Decisions Required</p> <p>Cllr Johnson advised that a new public bus service from Chelmer Valley Park and Ride to Broomfield Hospital will begin on December 15th.</p> <p>Cllr Nicholas reported that a pothole in Blacksmiths Lane and a pavement in Longmead had been repaired, and the grass along Footpath 17 had now been trimmed. Great Totham’s Footpath 4 linking Kelvedon Road to Goat Lodge Road would be closed for six months due to safety concerns brought about by the construction site straddling the route. ECC Highways was unconvinced that the new driveway onto Langford Road was unsafe and was unlikely to take action over the flooding drain on Church Road. Cllr Nicholas would next be progressing an HGV sign for Wickham Hall Lane and the 30mph sign currently missing from near The Mitre.</p> <p>Cllr Wardrop stated that the Local Highways Panel had met on 25th September and he would report back on the progress of the parish’s traffic calming requests when known.</p>
15/201	<p>General Village News</p> <p>The Mitre will re-open on 14th October.</p> <p>Final numbers were requested for attendance at the Chairmen’s Board unveiling ceremony at 12.30pm on 24th October.</p>

	<p>Action: the Clerk to follow up with those who had yet to respond.</p> <p>Remembrance Sunday service will be on 8th November.</p>
15/202	<p>Dates of Next Meetings</p> <p>Friday 16th October 2015 Planning Committee Meeting at 11.30am Tuesday 3rd November 2015 Full Council Meeting at 7.30pm Friday 13th November Finance Committee Meeting at 10.30am</p>
15/203	<p>Close of Meeting 10.06pm</p> <p>Items for November agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of the new volunteer Wickham Bishops Tree Warden, Mr. Chris Cooke. - Policy adoption: Handling Complaints - Snows Corner Bus Stop - Further agenda items for consideration to the Chairman and Clerk by Friday 23rd October <p>Items for future agendas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2016 Budget and Precept (December) - Neighbourhood Plan

Notice is hereby given that, should there be plans to discuss, a Planning Meeting will be heard on **Friday 16th October 2015** at 11.30 am in the Village Hall Boardroom. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Please Note plans to be discussed will be listed on the Parish Council notice board (outside One Stop) prior to the meeting.