

## WICKHAM BISHOPS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> 2013

**Present:** Cllrs Johnson (vice Chair), Pink, Mickelsen, MacGregor, Bates, Sayers, Bass  
Terri Ulrich (Clerk), 34 members of the public.

**1. Apologies:** Cllr. Durham, PC Lea Keene, Cllr. Jacob, NHW Chris Hudson

Cllr. Johnson opened the meeting by reporting with great sadness, that the chairman, Cllr. Dennison, had passed away on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, his funeral will be held at St Bartholomews church on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr. Johnson led the parish council in a moment of silence to remember Cllr. Dennison.

**2. Approval of minutes:** the minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013 were approved.

Cllr. Johnson adjourned the parish council meeting for the following item:

### **3. Presentation and discussion on proposed solar park at Little Braxted**

Cllr. Johnson reopened the parish council meeting

**4. Public Forum:** A resident of Wellands asked what decision the planning committee had reached regarding 31 Wellands. Cllr. Sayers confirmed that the parish council had recommended that the application be refused.

2 residents of Grange Road objected to the Summer House planning application.

A resident of Ischams Chase made further objections to those raised in the earlier discussion, to the Little Braxted Solar Park planning applications.

A resident of Handleys Lane asked the parish council what the clarification of the central section of Handleys Lane as a byway would mean – can motorised vehicles travel through this section. **Action:** Cllr. Mickelsen will respond directly to the resident once she has an answer. Cllr. Bass reported that he is doing some research in to Handleys Lane.

A resident of the Warrens asked what response from ECC the letter she sent to the parish council concerning standing water at the entrance to the Warrens, had received. The clerk confirmed that to date, the only response had been confirmation that the letter had been received.

A resident of Witham Road complained about the stench coming from the ditch outside her property. Cllr. Bass suggested she raise this with the environmental health department.

## 5. Planning:

Application No: FUL/MAL/13/00036  
 Proposal: Solar Panel Park  
 Location: Little Braxted

The parish council recommends refusal because of:  
 The detrimental visual impact on the landscape and views  
 Risks to drivers posed by glint and glare  
 Devaluation of local property

Application No: FUL/MAL/13/00139 PP-02457109  
 Proposal: Demolish old milking parlour and erect new dwelling  
 Location: Station Road Wickham Bishops

The parish council recommends approval

Application no: OUT/MAL/13/00118 PP- 02404627  
 Proposal: Demolition of 2 storey detached garage with workshop and  
 demolition of storage shed. Removal of hard surface tennis court, enclosure and  
 erection of single dwelling house  
 Location: The Summer House Back Lane

The parish council recommends refusal because:  
 The proposed dwelling would overlook neighbours  
 Is an example of garden grabbing  
 It would set an unwanted precedent for development  
 It contravenes the VDS

Minutes of the planning committee were received, reporting that the following  
 applications be recommended for refusal:

6 Birch Rise  
 31 Wellands

Terms of reference. Discussion was deferred until the next meeting.

**6. Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes:** Cllr. Johnson followed up  
 on all the actions allocated at the last meeting as follows:

Cllr. Jacob chase up the repair/replacement of the damaged dog bin in Grange Road  
 with MDC. **Action** Cllr. Jacob to check that this has now been done. This has been  
 carried forward as Cllr. Jacob is away on holiday.

Cllr. MacGregor escalated the potholes in Blacksmiths Lane and The Street. The  
 potholes in Blacksmiths Lane have now been repaired. **Action** - Councillor  
 MacGregor to report at next meeting with an update about the potholes in The Street  
 and to discuss the library triangle.

The clerk has obtained the weekly crime stats from Chris Hudson, these are in the  
 correspondence box.

The clerk has obtained a copy of the plan for the library triangle from ECC, this was  
 passed to Cllr. Macgregor.

The clerk escalated the drainage problem at the entrance to Warrens to the Highways department.

The clerk has emailed Great Totham PC to advise them that Cllr. Jacob will be arranging to have a dog bin installed in Back Lane.

The action for Cllr. Mickelsen to speak informally to the owners of the old Rectory regarding flooding in Station Road possibly caused by the dredging of their pond is carried forward.

**7. Chairman's report:** Cllr. Johnson called for the parish council to continue to streamline the agenda to reduce time wasting. The annual clear up day will be 13<sup>th</sup> April 2013, the parish council will meet at the One Stop at 9am. Cllr. MacGegor also do Heathgate, Wellands and Wellands Close. Cllr. Johnson suggested that a short summary of the parish council meeting be sent to the local press. This could be derived from the parish magazine. **Action:** Cllr. Mickelsen will find out what could be submitted for publication. Cllr. Johnson raised the subject of email protocol, it was agreed that all councillors would copy in the clerk on all parish council business emails. It was also agreed that all parish council letters will sent by the clerk. The clerk is to send a standard acknowledgement to all emails, allowing councillors to respond through the clerk in due course. It was agreed that only approved minutes would be published to the website. Cllr. Johnson asked the parish council not to engage directly with the public, but for the public to work with the clerk and the parish council at the meetings.

**8. Clerk's report:** The clerk reported the following:

February had been a very busy month. The clerk has completed the PC's first FOI request and is now working on a further request. An email storage file has been set up to store all emails in scope for the request and hard copies of any items posted as part of the request.

The clerk has compiled a list of regulations / statutes that the PC needs to comply with, the clerk asked the parish council to review the list, if they are in agreement the clerk aims to ensure that the necessary documents will be drawn up for approval at the next meeting in April.

The clerk has produced a draft summary recording why the PC made the decisions it did for the local highways panel submission in relation to speed calming. This will be emailed to the PC shortly.

The clerk asked the parish councillors if they had made a decision regarding WB domain email addresses at a cost of £90 per annum, a decision will be made at the April meeting.

The clerk reported that PC Keane was now able to arrange the speed watch training. **Action:** the clerk to advise PC Keane of dates the volunteers are available.

Cllr. Johnson asked the clerk if the declarations of interests need to be published to the website. **Action:** The clerk to resolve.

**9. No declarations of interest** were recorded.

**10. Police report** received and placed in the correspondence box.

**11. Neighbourhood watch:** No report received. MDC weekly crime stats are included in the correspondence box.

**12. Correspondence:** The clerk read out the following items:

Item	Date	From	To	Regarding
1	07/02/2013	Mr Chapman	The clerk	Thanks for the poppy donation
2	11/02/2013	TAS	The clerk	Decision required re email addresses
3	20/02/2013	Mr & Mrs Hopgood	Cllr. Mickelsen	Walkers appreciating footpath between Grange Road and Langford Road
4	21/02/2013	Mr Chard	The clerk	FOI reponse and further requests
5	21/02/2013	Mr Chard	The clerk	Overflowing drain in Witham Road and FOI request re road signs
6	23/02/2013	The Clerk	Highways	Standing water in the Warrens
7	26/02/2013	Mr Logan Wood	The clerk	Objections to solar park
8	27/02/2013	Mr Staines	The clerk	Objections to solar park
9	01/03/2013	Local Highways Panel	The clerk	Confirmation of LHP submission
10	03/03/2013	Mr & Mrs Richardson	The clerk	Objections to solar park
11	04/03/2013	Mr Pearl	The clerk	Objections to the summerhouse planning application

The parish council confirmed the following:

Item 4, the parish council cannot accept the number of petitions ECC received as that stated by Mr Chard, they have to accept the figure that ECC confirms it has received.

Item 5, **Action:** the clerk is to refer Mr Chard to MDC, they will complete the FOI request relating to street sign costs. Regarding meeting notes, draft notes are excluded from FOI requests. **Action:** the clerk is to decline the request for draft meeting notes. The parish council confirmed that a copy of the cover letter for the LHP submission is in scope for the FOI request. **Action:** the clerk is provide a copy to Mr Chard.

**13. District Council report:** Cllr. Bass had nothing to report that had not or would not be addressed in other agenda items.

**14. EALC Report:** An update is included in the correspondence box.

**15. Finance:** The cheques and finance report for March 2013 were agreed and signed.

It was agreed that a finance committee meeting would be scheduled, the agenda of which to include the role of internal audit.

A new finance signature is required following the sad passing of Cllr. Dennison.

**16. Committee reports:**

- (a) BHSA: Nothing to report
- (b) Environment: Handleys Lane, water is flowing slowly. **Action:** Cllr. Sayers to review.
- (c) PRoW: Nothing to report
- (d) Amenities: Nothing to report
- (e) Highways: Cllr. Johnson proposed a vote of confidence in Cllr. MacGregor, this was met with total agreement by all councillors. Cllr. MacGregor's contribution is recognised and appreciated by all.
- (f) Transport: New bus passes are sent automatically
- (g) Emergency planning: Nothing to report
- (h) Parish Plan: Nothing to report
- (i) Website: nothing to report

**17. General village presentation:** Cllr. Mickelsen highlighted the inaction of ECC to preserve the trestle bridge. Lorries delivering to One Stop are damaging the grass near to the Mitre. Cllr. Johnson suggested that the grass be removed as it is an eyesore. Cllr. Bass suggested picket fence be added to protect the grass, it was agreed this be discussed at the next meeting. **Action:** the clerk to add to the agenda for the April meeting.

**18. Close of meeting:** the meeting closed at 10.10

**19.** The parish council held a private meeting under section 1 of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 - the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business because of its confidential nature:

**To consider a possible Community Lead Development scheme**

Proposed by Cllr. Mickelsen

Seconded by Cllr. Pink

All agreed.