

**WEST WICKHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday**  
**25th November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Those present were: Councillor A. Schuilenburg (Chairman), Cllr D.Sargeant (Vice Chair), Cllrs. A. Hazelhurst, C Mulley-Richards, G. McNeillie, R. Temple. County Cllr. H. Batchelor, the Parish Clerk and 4 members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. R Ling, Dist.Cllr G. Harvey.
- 2 **Declaration of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 23rd September 2024 were signed as correct.
4. **Correspondence:**
  - a. Letter from Lloyds Bank re changing account to Community Account: The contents were noted.
  - b. Email from Phil Jordan to Christine Brady re inclusion into the local Heritage List: The contents were noted.
5. **Planning:**

<i>Reference</i>	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>PC Response</i>	<i>Status</i>
24/02819/HFUL 24/02468/LBC	A Smith	29 Burton End	int.alt.	26/7/24	support	granted
24/03336/HFUL	J Miles	95 High St. WW	demo.exist. outbldg. & erection of sgl.storey resid. annexe ancillary to the main bldg.	11/9/24	support	refused
24/03435/FUL	M Bennett	33 Burton End	Change of use from agric.land to gdn use.	17/9/24	support	
24/04074/FUL	Horseheath Lodge Estate	Horseheath Lodge Dean Road Horseheath	Conversion of existing agricultural buildings , demolition of six buildings and erection of four	14/11/24	support with concerns	

- a. 24/03336/HFUL - this was refused but it was noted that the application was supported by the Parish Council. The official response from the Parish Council had not been received.
- b. 24/03435/FUL - No response as yet.
- c. 24/04074FUL - Demolition, Development and Change of Use. The Parish Council did not receive the planning application so not everyone has seen the plans. The Cllrs who attended the presentation by ARB Estates of the proposals earlier in the year were supportive overall of the project, but there were concerns regarding the proposal which it is hoped would be addressed within the application. Support but with concerns regarding traffic on Dean Road and its junction with A1307. The Chairman will contact John Howard, Chairman of Horseheath P.C. to determine their position.
- d. *Streetly Hall Biodigester plant* – Chris Covey reported that a survey had been carried out at the proposed new access off the A1307 into the Streetly Hall AD plant which went well. There are still other surveys to be carried out.
- e. *Kingsway Solar Park* - There has been a fair amount of interest shown in the village about the proposed solar park and there was a lengthy discussion about the pros and cons of this application. Firstly it was unlikely that all the land at present proposed will be used but as it does not require local planning permission but goes direct to the government inspectorate, who are eager to have solar panels installed everywhere, one needs to look at what could be improved, e.g some solar panels are almost right up to the boundaries of houses; some land, e.g. along the Fulbourn Road is

much poorer quality than land round West Wrattling. The question as to whether the cost of creating these solar panel sites is justified, regarding the amount of electricity it will supply and who will benefit from this needs to be asked. Why were not derelict airfields used? The impact it will have on the community? It was suggested that perhaps it would be best to concentrate on how the community will benefit through Trusts, similar to the Wadlow Wind Farm Trust.

**6. Finance:** Accounts spreadsheet distributed to Councillors.

a. *Authorised payments:*

- £174.20 HMRC Paye for 2nd qtr. of 2024 **BACS payment** 26/9/24
- £ 58.00 E&E Plumridge Inv.4079 - **BACS payment** 14/10/24
- £252.00 PKF Littlejohn for cost of external audit now completed. **BACS payment** 14/10/24
- £ 25.97 Printers Inks (ink cartridge for printer) Inv.22362396 **BACS payment** 28/10/24
- £ 36.00 Crystal Payroll Service Inv.16258 **BACS payment** 25/10/24
- £ 81.00 E&E Plumridge Inv. 4140 **BACS payment** 4/11/24
- £464.40 J.Richards salary for Oct/Nov. chq. 1101.
- £100.00 Mrs D Licence - 10 cuts of wildlife area paths. **BACS payment.**
- £ 63.07 West Wickham Village Hall - cost of water supplied to allotments for 2023/24  
**BACS**
- £ 15.00 Royal British Legion for Poppy Wreath for Remembrance Day. Chq.1102.

b. *Monies received:*

£280.60 Allotment rents for 2024/25.

c. *Audit:* Audit for 2023/24 completed successfully, notices put on NBs

d. *Grass cutting etc:* Rob Giles had told the Chairman that an increase of 5% was possible this coming year.

**7. Traffic & Parking issues:**

- a. *Potholes & Flooding:* The repairs will not be done until January but the Chairman mentioned one particular complaint about pot-holes at the bottom of a residents drive - could anything be done? County Cllr Batchelor will chase this up and also asked that the Council keep reporting to CCC although Bradley was now working in a different area.
- b. *LHI-MVAS Grant:* Cllr McNeillie reported that this grant has been approved and has also checked that there will be no increase in the cost of the equipment.
- c. *LHI application for signage in Webbs Lane:* Confirmation of receipt of this application has been received. The wording "SINGLE TRACK" was approved.
- d. *Dean Road Junction onto A1307:* Several issues of the safety of this junction have been raised by a local resident who has corresponded with Cllrs Harvey, Batchelor and Schuilenburg on this matter. Cllr Batchelor has again raised these long-standing concerns with the GCP who will be further investigating the safety of this junction.

**8. Maintenance:**

- a. *Footpaths:* Cllr Temple reported that on Footpath 5 a tree had fallen during the latest storm but was not impeding the use of footpath. The burnt-out van had now been removed and debris scraped up. One field remains to be reinstated and he will contact the landowner.
- b. *Hedging & Wildflower areas:* Two complaints have been received of overgrown hedges on to the pavements. The Parish Clerk will put a note about overgrown hedges in the Village Voice..
- c. *Defibrillator at Streetly End:* Cllr McNeillie reported that the first application for a grant was refused. Another company had quoted £1125 for the Telephone Box Installation which was almost the whole cost so thought it best to leave for the moment. The reasons for refusing the

application was proximity to an existing AED (1.5miles), the preferred location of the AED against a wall, and the location was in a well-off area. Cllr Sargeant suggested that this item could be considered in the 2025/2026 budget.

- d. *CCC Verge maintenance survey*: This had been completed by the Parish Clerk.
- e. *“Six free trees” offer from SCDC & English Woodlands*: The Chairman said one of the trees planted in 2021 alongside the playing field had died so thought it a good idea and it was agreed to request 1 larger Wild Cherry sapling to replace it.

#### **9. Village Hall & Recreation Ground:**

- a. *Post Office van visits*: The Chairman had responded to the refusal to visit and it appears they did not understand what was being asked. He explained to Laura Tarling that we just wanted a 1/2hr stop as the van already drove through the village. Cllr Mulley-Richards said she would provide Laura Tarling with the information she requested..
- b. *Goal posts and 5-a-side proposal*: The Parish Clerk had been in touch with the Parish Clerk of Balsham P.C. but was asked to contact the Groundsman for the Football Club, which she did but has heard nothing back so far. She later received an apology from Gordon Fiddy, the Chairman of Balsham P.C. saying that in fact the line-marker belonged to the Football Club. The Parish Clerk will try again to contact the groundsman.
- c. *Raised Flower Beds*: These are being made by the Village Hall.

#### **10. Meetings attended by councillors:**

- a. *Unlocking the Potential of Your Parish: How the Planning Team Can Support Your Parish*: Cllr Sargeant.
- b. Cllr Mulley-Richards had attended a meeting regarding the lack of any bus services and learned that there are no plans to improve this situation and was advised that people should get together to provide private bus services, going between the villages. However the amount of rules and regulations etc. might rule this out.

#### **11. Reports by County Cllr Batchelor & Dist.Cllr Harvey. (Oct/Nov. reports on website) Cllr Batchelor had nothing to add.**

#### **12. Any Other Business:**

- a. *Keith Jolly, Home Close Housing*: He is at present in shared temporary accommodation and English Rurals have given no indication as to whether he can be allocated the house in Home Close, which had been his home whilst looking after his Mother.
- b. *Precept fr 2025/2026*: The documentation has been forwarded to the Council who will be looking at the budget for next year before deciding on what Precept to ask for.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 27th January 2025 at 7.30pm. The final date for the year 2024/2025 is 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025.**