

**Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held 31 October 2016**

Present: Cllrs R Anscombe (Chairman), T Alston, Miss J Canham, B Lacey, J Leadbetter, Ms S Payne  
County Cllr A Stringer and District Cllr G Horn.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Mrs E Aldred, Mrs A Arnold and M Baker.
2. **To receive declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda**  
Item 4.1 – Cllr Miss J Canham  
Item 10 – Cllr T Alston
3. **To elect Vice Chairman**  
Cllr Ms Payne proposed Cllr Miss J Canham, seconded Cllr Leadbetter and unanimously agreed.
4. **To receive the following reports:**  
Police – a copy of the Eye Safer Neighbourhood Team report had been circulated and noted.  
County Councillor – Cllr Stringer presented his written report – copy attached to the Minutes. Items raised included the request for a 40mph speed limit in Station Road. Cllr Stringer reported he hoped to have further details available for the next meeting.  
District Councillor – Cllr Horn reported on the new MSDC website; the District wide meeting for parish councillors to be held on 22 November between 6 – 7pm at the District Council offices; the Mid Suffolk Light Railway planning application was likely to go to the Planning Committee at the end of November and Cllr Horn asked for feedback from members as to use and popularity of the bar. Members were of the view the bar was a good hub for the community to meet; and the probability of the MSDC offices moving to Ipswich.
5. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** – no comments
6. **Minutes of the Meeting held 3 October 2016**  
Cllr Leadbetter proposed approval of the Minutes, seconded Cllr Lacey and agreed.
7. **Matters arising from the Minutes for report** – none
8. **To consider planning applications for recommendation to MSDC** – none received
9. **Planning Decisions received from MSDC**
  1. 2494/16 : The Old Forge, Mendlesham Road, Brockford – replace rotten wooden frames on the eastern side of the 16<sup>th</sup> part of the property with wooden framed replicas.  
LBC Granted
10. **Planning Correspondence**  
A letter had been received from a Mr Thomas Gray expressing astonishment at the Parish Council's change of decision on the recent Mid Suffolk Light Railway planning application to extend the track and provide the Wilby Halt. Mr Gray put forward his support of the application and the benefits to the Wetheringsett community. Members noted the comments in the letter and suggested that Mr Gray should forward these to MSDC Planning Dept.
11. **Wetheringsett Village Hall report**  
Cllr Leadbetter reported that November was due to be busy over most weekends. Eastern Angles would be performing during April/May next year. Financially the Hall was in a good position with over £1000 in the bank but there would be some maintenance work required on the outside rear wall and a quotation for this work had been requested. Regarding Legionnaires testing, Cllr Leadbetter was looking to incorporate this in the village hall risk assessment testing with regular running of water taps and flushing wc's. District Cllr Horn stated he would look into Enviromental Health at MSDC providing details on the requirements for the checks.
12. **New Village Hall report**  
Cllr Ms Payne reported that due to the production costs there would be an increase in the amount required to underwrite the village calendar from £300 to £600. Cllr Miss Canham proposed approval of the increase, seconded Cllr Alston and agreed. The village hall application for funding was progressing.
13. **Proposed VAS speed awareness scheme**

Suffolk CC Highways had confirmed the five posts for the VAS equipment had been installed. The Parish Council would now need to decide on the recommended models it wished to purchase.

14. **Request for 40mph speed limit – Station Road**

County Cllr Stringer progressing.

15. **Wetherup Street – report on excessive vehicle speed**

The speed checks carried out had shown a slight excess of the 30mph speed limit – data circulated to members. The traffic volume had been low but the Safe Cam Team would be carrying out speed checks in the locations requested although this would not be as frequently as with busier parishes.

16. **Report on Defibrillator progress**

A written report from Cllr Baker stated there had been a delay with installation of the equipment due to the cabinet being out of stock. Cllr Baker would arrange installation with the electrician as soon as the cabinet was available.

17. **Play Area report including installation of waste bin and grass cutting – deferred**

18. **Proposed formal footpath map – deferred**

19. **Wetheringsett Emergency Plan**

A written report from Cllr Baker stated the document could not be progressed until information had been received from councillors as to those with specific skills or professions, ie medical or those willing to use plant or equipment in times of extreme weather or in times of emergency.

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from Cllr Baker stating that due to his changing work conditions from January 2017 when he would commence training as a paramedic, he would regrettably not be able to continue as a parish councillor and would be stepping down at the end of December. Members appreciated the difficulties this would pose in attending parish council meetings and thanked Cllr Baker for the huge amount of work he had put into the parish council and community during his time as a councillor and wished him every success with his new career.

Cllr Alston stated that he would be willing to take over the role of Emergency Plan officer and the actions required.

20. **Finance**

1. To consider Section.137 requests – none

2. Accounts for Payment

Clerk sal/expen Oct 2016 - £261.94

Proposed Cllr T Alston, seconded Cllr Miss Canham and agreed.

3. Finance Report – items raised in Internal Audit report 2016/17

Cllr Leadbetter produced and went through a written report on items raised (copy attached to the Minutes). These mainly related to review of policy issues and would need to be dealt with over the coming months when documents were due for review and adoption. Members thanked Cllr Leadbetter for his report.

21. **Clerk's report/Correspondence**

Notification of MSDC Parish Liaison Meeting 10 November – Cllr Anscombe to attend.

SALC – notification of a change to Government rules for referendums for parish and town councils.

22. **Chairman's urgent business**

The Chairman reported on a letter he had received from Miss J Pullan of Mill Cottage, Church Street regarding ownership of land next her cottage and the churchyard – plan provided and attached to the Minutes. The area in question was unregistered and ownership not known. The Willow tree on the land was causing root damage to Mill Cottage and the height of the tree by the roadside could pose a threat to pedestrians or traffic as it was now overhanging the roadside. The PCC had confirmed the area of land was not in their ownership, Miss Pullan was therefore enquiring whether the land was owned by the Parish Council. Members confirmed that the land was not owned by the PC and that they had no knowledge of

ownership or objection to the land being registered in Miss Pullan's name.

The suggestion of registering parish council land, ie the War Memorial and Parish Pump was raised. Members were asked to put forward any land they believed was parish owned for consideration and registering at a future date.

The Chairman also raised comments he had received from parishioners regarding the recent clearance work carried out in the cemetery. Some parishioners were of the view this had left the cemetery too open and exposed. It was agreed that a letter was sent to the PCC commending them for the work carried out but asking whether hedging would be replanted and that any future work left the hedgerow in tact. An offer was made by a councillor to supply hedging should it be required.

Remembrance Service – the Chairman stated he would be unable to attend the Remembrance Service on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Leadbetter stated he would be attendance and offered to lay the Parish Council Wreath.

**23. To consider Twitter items**

Availability of the Village Calendar 2017 to be included.

**24. Any other business for information exchange/agenda requests – none.**

**25. Date of next meeting – Monday 5 December 2016**

Meeting closed 9.28pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date: