

WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING THE UNITED REFORMED CHAPEL, WATTISFIELD MONDAY 18th March 2024 AT 7.30 PM.

PRESENT:

Councillor Geoff Wade (GW) Chair
Councillor Mick Elflain (ME) Vice Chair
Councillor Rick Meyer (RM)
Councillor Matt Vaughn-Williams (MVW)

IN ATTENDANCE:

District Councillor Richard Winch (RW)
Mick Elflain acted as Clerk and took the minutes.

Also present; 3 members of the public.

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Rev. J Price informed the meeting a new priest had been appointed, curate Kat Brinkley and she would take up her post as the priest for the six parishes during this summer.

Rev J. Price went on to explain her plans for holding a United Christian Music Festival on 27th May at the village hall & recreation ground. She is seeking the PC's support for the project which the chairman explained would be properly considered next month. Some discussion was made about the parking arrangements and how the village hall committee & facilities would be used.

2. REPORT FROM AND QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Winch presented his report which included: the MSDC budget, local buses, survey of village services, insulation grant and planning issues (the Copart site). Following a question about progress regarding planning enforcement re. the land opposite Kudu Lodge, RW reported this was being taken to the next stage. Both ME & Cllr Telford support the Walsham le Willows local bus initiative.

Cllr. Fleming was unable to attend and gave her apologies, her report was noted.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from; - Parish Clerk Wendy Alcock, Councillor Cynthia Penn, Councillor David Dyer and Councillor Ann Telford.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2024 were approved.



15/4/2024

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Regarding the problem with waste bins, further correspondence had been exchanged with Mid Suffolk Waste Management Officer who has stated they are unable to take further action.

RM confirmed, the Nature Group are on track to refurbish the bus shelter in The Street.

8. WATTISFIELD VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND

Chris Allen explained the Redevelopment Group had liaised further with Purcell Architects and planned to hold an Open Day on 20th April at the village hall to display the refurbishment plans and answer questions. RW will draft a leaflet/flyer to invite all parishioners. Printing will be in-house. Following the outcomes from this open-day recommendations will be made to the PC about the way forward. Councillors agreed to assist with the delivery of the leaflets.

9. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- a) Councillors approved the five payments as circulated. (Appendix A)
- b) Bank reconciliation@ 29.02.2024. Noted. (Appendix B)
- c) Budget report to 11 March (document missing).
- d) Report from Clerk on powers to clear ditches. Noted, Cllrs. agreed this is SCC and landowners' responsibility.
- e) Internal Control Statement. Discussed by Cllrs. and agreed in principle. Some more discussion needed prior to signing.
- f) Asset register @ 31.03.2024. Discussed by Cllrs. and agreed in principle. Some more discussion needed prior to approval.

10. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) DC/24/01124 – 1 Chapel Road. Application for lawful development. After some discussion the council agreed no further comment or objections will be made.
- b) DC/24/00632 – Wagtails, Walsham Road. Noted.

11. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a) Speeding cars through Wattisfield. Council agreed the speed monitoring device should be positioned close to the church green in The Street Wattisfield IP22 1NS. Thanks to Cllr. Fleming for meeting the costs.
- b) Consultation of Parish Services. Discussed and agreed, ME to complete questionnaire.
- c) Request for donation to SARS. After some discussion the council decided not to donate this time.
- d) Request for support for Hedgehog Highway Project. After some discussion the council decided not to purchase the equipment.
- e) Suffolk C C Local Transport Plan Consultation. Discussed the present local transport arrangements, ME agreed to make a response on behalf of the PC.

12. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

- i) ME reminded all about the village litter pick scheduled for 7th April at 10am.
- ii) Add agenda item for next month: Christian Music Festival – financial support.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed the next PC meeting will be on Monday 15th April 2024 at 7.30pm.

Mick Eflain – Vice Chair - Wattisfield Parish Council



15/04/2024

Appendix A

Appendix B

Wattisfield Parish Council
Listing of payments approved on the 18th March 2024

Voucher	Cheq No	Description	Supplier / customer	Account name	Total
103	001056	Repair to gate post	Prentice Groundcare	Cemetery maintenance	250.00
104	001057	Final instalment for feasibility study	Pucell Architecture Ltd	Village Hall surveys etc.	1,032.24
105	001058	Warbler Jan & Mar 24	M Elflain	Office Expenses	35.20
106	001059	P12	Wendy Alcock	Staff costs	260.05
107	001060	P12	HMRC	Staff costs	65.00
					1,642.49



15/4/2024

Appendix B

Appendix A

Wattisfield Parish Council

Listing of payments approved on the 18th March 2024

Council name **Wattisfield Parish Council**
 Bank account **Main Current Account**

Balance per bank statement at 29/02/2024	35,715.38
TOTAL NET BANK BALANCES AT 29/02/2024	<u>35,715.38</u>
Opening_balance	30,943.35
Total receipts	32,559.42
Total payments	-27,787.39
Total transfers	
Closing balance per cash book (must equal net bank balances above)	<u><u>35,715.38</u></u>

Earmarked Reserves	
Election Fees	2000
Trees	3300
Community Transport	2000
Village Hall	3000
CIL	21990
Pride in Your Place Grant	250

Total earmarked reserves 32,540

General Reserves 3,175



15/04/2024