

Wickham Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the above Council held at Wickham Community Centre on Monday 16th February 2009 at 7.15pm.

Present: Angela Clear (Chairman), Sue Roger-Jones (Vice- Chairman), Mike Bennett, Mike Carter, Thérèse Evans, Di Frost, Justin Gamblin, Jenny Hollis, Michael Sadler-Forster

County Councillor Freddie Allgood, Nic Holladay WAHG, Sgt Chris Stanton, four members of the public, Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver

- 1. To receive apologies for absence:** Colin Roke
- 2. To receive declarations of interest regarding agenda items:** Thérèse Evans advised that in respect of agenda item 6.6.1 a planning application relating to her house was discussed.
- 3. To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public**

3.1 Report from Meon Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team and to receive concerns from the community

Sgt Chris Stanton asked members to remind residents to check the security of sheds and garages. The run of thefts on cars has stopped, no fresh leads have been received.

3.2 Report from County Councillor: a report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Allgood advised that the No 38 bus that runs from Wickham to QA Hospital is being retendered, a substantial cost increase is expected and the viability of the service is likely to be scrutinised. The possibility of combining the service with the No 94 Knowle – Wickham - Fareham route may be considered. Knowle residents are asking for the bollards in Mayles Lane to remain permanently up which would prevent bus access.

Members stressed the importance of the bus service to Knowle and QA. A number of families at Knowle have no alternative but to rely on the bus.

It was noted that the bus currently does not use the bus gate as it is too unreliable, so no service around Knowle Village is provided.

A request to change the bus route from Mayles Lane – Knowle – Wickham to avoid the Wickham end of Mayles Lane using the A32 instead was made. The traffic calming on Mayles Lane makes the route very uncomfortable for bus users.

3.3 Reports from District Councillors

Cllr Evans advised that the LDF Preferred Options would be decided by Council in April (not Cabinet as noted in the January minutes). The planning application for Phase 3 at Knowle will be considered by the Planning Committee 17th February. Both District Councillors will make presentations of their objections alongside the PC. An update on the yellow line proposals has been requested

but not received. The Knowle Community Building confirmation of funding will be considered by Cabinet shortly. Cllr Evans nominated Carol Duckworth and Dick Warwick for the Mayor's Award. Carol for her numerous fundraising events and Dick for his lifelong contribution to the village.

Cllr Clear advised that a new system of allocating housing, Home Choice, would be in place in April, this is a choice based letting system which allows potential tenants to 'bid' for a property. Cllr Clear nominated Mike Carter and Barry Marson for the Mayor's Award for their extensive contribution to village life.

3.4 Questions from members of the public

Nic Holladay apologised that the CLT team was unable to make its presentation as planned. WCC and Hyde Housing have asked for additional information which is causing delays. The survey carried out in December showed about 30 applicants interested in intermediate rent and shared equity houses, interviews with interested applicants are currently being carried out. The Chairman thanked Mr Holladay for attending the meeting and providing an update on the proposals.

Resident Morgan O'Connell supported the proposals to carry out additional grass cutting and hoped the contractor would be local and open to audit. Damage to verges caused by off road parking was also raised. The Chairman thanked Dr O'Connell for his support and advised that it was hoped the PC's existing groundsman Paul Collins would carry out the additional grass cutting. Sgt Stanton advised that there was no legislation to prevent parking on verges at present.

3.5 Chairman's announcements: none.

4. **Meeting resumed to approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting 19th January 2009** minutes approved and signed.
5. **Matters properly arising from those minutes** none.
6. **Meeting resumed to consider the following agenda items:**

6.1 *To receive a report on Knowle issues . (Cllr Evans/Cllr Roke)* **See 3.3 above.**

6.2 *Forward Planning Committee report (Cllr Sadler-Forster)*

6.2.1 *To receive report from meeting held 13th February 2009*

Rookesbury Estate provided an update on the availability of its land for development north of the village, details on housing numbers are required before plans can be progressed. Other land owners are likely to be making similar plans. Rookesbury is looking to sell an area of land to provide a further exception site adjoining Gwynn Way. The deal would secure access to the area of land allocated for recreation in the Local Plan.

WAHG is still hoping to make a planning application for its community land trust housing in April.

A second draft of the Village Design Statement is in progress; a draft strategy document for the Parish Council is also being developed for Full Council to consider in April / May.

Cllr Sadler-Forster was asked whether the current proposals for exception site housing in the village could be offset against requirements for future new development. Cllr Sadler-Forster advised that WCC Strategic Planning Dept has informed the Committee that would not be possible. It is hoped there will be more flexibility in this policy as the LDF process progresses.

Concerns that the existing sewage system will be unable to accommodate further development were raised. The Committee is mindful of the recent problems at Riverside Mews and will be discussing the issue further.

6.3 Youth Club Committee report (Cllr Carter) The Youth Club is going well, nothing further to report.

6.4 General Purposes Committee report (Cllr Gamblin)

6.4.1 To receive minutes of meeting held 9th February 2009 Minutes received.

6.4.2 Proposal to carry out additional grass cutting to improve village amenity and potentially reduce litter and fly tipping, supplementing HCC's/WCC's 11 cuts per year. Areas proposed: The Circle, Warwick Way, triangle in front of garages, Buddens Road, Garnier Park next to school, School Road, for an annual cost of £3600, to start 1st April 2009 with a review of effectiveness and value for money after one year. (£3600 included for additional grass cutting in 2009/10 precept) Resolved.

6.5 Lighting Committee report (Chairman) Maintenance and repair requests are ongoing.

6.6 Planning Committee report (Cllr Hollis)

6.6.1 To receive minutes of meeting held 9th February 2009 Minutes received. Cllr Hollis will be presenting the PC's objection to the plans for Phase 3 at Knowle to WCC Planning Committee 17th February.

6.7 Recreation Committee report (Cllr Roger-Jones) Good weather has allowed all the planned football matches to be played this month.

6.8 Traffic and Highways Representative's report (Chairman). Ongoing requests for repairs and drainage problems in Mill Lane, Hoads Hill and Mayles Lane are being pursued.

6.9 Water Meadows Trust report. (Cllr Roger-Jones/ Clerk) No report this month.

6.10 Finance Committee report: (Chairman/Clerk)

6.10.1 Proposal to increase Clerk's salary as National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services agreement 2009/10 to take effect from 1st April 2009 Resolved.

6.11 Cemetery Committee (Chairman) No report this month.

6.12 Report on recent meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk

Cllr Sadler-Forster attended WCC's Culture Conference on 21st January. The speakers were excellent and opportunities for Wickham to take part in the development of a new cultural strategy for the District, and also the proposed District 'Cultural Olympiad' should be encouraged.

7. **Recent correspondence:** list circulated prior to meeting.

8. **Accounts for payment** it was resolved to pay the following accounts:

| No | Chq no | Recipient | Amount | Notes *reimburse Clerk |
|----|--------|---|------------------|--|
| 1 | 1909 | Paul Collins £180.00 £200.00 £200.00 £300.00 | £880.00 | December Village cleaning Play area maintenance Verge/flowerbed maintenance Rec ground maintenance |
| 2 | 1910 | RG Warwick | £9.00 | Cleaning materials (dog poo from The Circle play area - thank you Trevor for sorting this!) |
| 3 | 1911 | Winchester City Council | £74.40 | Empty dog bins |
| 4 | 1912 | Wickham Community Centre | £49.63 | Room hire |
| 5 | 1913 | HALC | £100.00 | Power of Well Being training |
| 6 | 1914 | Cannon | £638.25 | Play area safety checks October - December, £45 for extra cut on Rec 2nd Oct |
| 7 | 1915 | Viking | £39.61 | Stationery |
| 8 | 1916 | Barry Samways | £66.00 | Repair handrail to railway line, replace slide treads on rec play equipment |
| 9 | 1916 | Wickham Post Office | £36.00 | Postage |
| 10 | 1916 | Nicki Oliver £1,460.42 -£191.40 -£93.69 -£94.92 | £1,080.41 | February salary tax NI Pension |
| 11 | 1916 | Home as office | £31.50 | *Clerk's expenses February |
| 12 | 1916 | Telephone and internet | £30.00 | *Clerk's expenses February |
| 13 | 1917 | HCC | £359.26 | Employee and employers pension conts |
| | | Total | £3,394.06 | |
| | | Water Meadows | | |
| 1 | 230 | Paul Collins | £160.00 | Maintenance January |
| | | Total | £160.00 | |

9. Questions and comments from Councillors

Cllr Carter advised that the Stan Woodford Photographic Competition was very successful this year, 28 entries were received with over 80 photos. Three extra categories are proposed: best composition, most amusing and highly commended. An exhibition in the village is planned with a further display and prizes awarded at the Annual Parish Assembly.

All members are concerned about the drainage problems suffered by the residents of Riverside Mews. The role of the PC in assisting with an analysis of the problems and seeking a solution was discussed. The Forward Planning Committee will discuss further.

A new headteacher has been appointed for Wickham Primary School to start on 1st September.

Meeting closed 8.50pm

Signed

Date