

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mrs Ewans, Mr Howard, Dr Geake, Mr Aldis, Mr Hardiman, Mrs Moore, Mrs Jenkins and 4 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence. There were none.

2. Public comment: Mr Hardiman has further information on the tree planting planned by Mr R Baker. He is to plant 1000 trees on his land at the end of Warren Lane abutting the A14. Mr Baker has contacted the primary school to see if the children would like to be involved. The car in Steeles Road has been reported to MSDC. The vehicle is on SORN and registered to a property in Steeles Road and therefore not abandoned. MSDC has passed the information to the DVLA. Street Light 30 The Street by the entrance to Meadowland path is currently on all night. SCC has been contacted and asked if we wish to have it on all night as it is along The Street. The Clerk advised that a resident has complained that the light is on all night and therefore SCC will be asked to correct the telecell so that it goes off at 11.30 p.m. Mr Hardiman asked if a letter of thanks should be sent to the Health Centre and Co-op for what they have been doing during Coronavirus restrictions. This will be made an agenda item for the next meeting.

Mrs Moore advised that the post stump and concrete from the Give Way sign in Old Stowmarket Road has been dumped in the hedge. Mr Hardiman will talk to David Wilson Homes as it was likely removed during the recent work to put in the mini roundabouts but needs to be disposed of correctly.

Mrs Ewans advised that the Judicial Review hearing against the decision to grant planning permission at Bury Road has been set for 11 February. The group is waiting for contact from the solicitor as to how the hearing will be conducted virtually.

Mr Aldis advised he is not receiving a copy of Woolpit Diary. This will be rectified.

Dr Geake advised that permission has been granted for the Goldstar extension site. A condition of the approval is that no stacking of containers is permitted between 12 midnight and 6.00 a.m. There are some concerns as to what can take place during those hours and the effect it will have on nearby residents. Mr Guyler advised that a footpath is part of the approval and a map showing this will be circulated, Dr Geake has taken up the complaint regarding noise from Goldstar overnight with MSDC Environmental Health.

Covid vaccination clinics are taking place this week at the health centre and a drive through on Sunday at the business park.

3. County & District Councillors reports.

County Councillor's report. As of the 27 January Suffolk Coronavirus infection rates are going in the right direction. There have been 25,142 total lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Suffolk. In total there have been 3,302.3 cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 people. This is the lowest overall COVID-19 case rate in the East of England. A number of local vaccination hubs have been in operation – Woolpit Health Centre has been at the forefront of vaccinations for most people in the Thedwastre North area. A new campaign has been launched to help people get their recycling right. Each year more than 10,000 tonnes (about 20%) of recycling from Suffolk homes is rejected due to the wrong items being placed in Suffolk's recycling bins. This is the same as 1 in 5 lorries full of recycling going to waste. The cost of sorting and disposing of this spoiled recycling is more than £1million. Suffolk County Council has announced it will use the installation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras alongside an automatic entry system at its recycling centres to improve customer experience and plan for future demand. The council's scrutiny committee considered the budget at its meeting on January 7th and made recommendations which were approved by the Cabinet at its meeting on January 26th. Many of these recommendations were based on encouraging the Council to look at the ways of working and maximise the savings from working

at home. There was also a recommendation to encourage data sharing between Adult Social Services and the Health sector (CCG's etc). The budget for 2021/22 will now go for full council decision on February 11.

District Councillors' report. MSDC has purchased 97 homes on new housing developments in Haughley, Woolpit and Stowmarket. These new homes form some of the S106 affordable homes contributions from these new developments. These will help to redress the loss of council houses which have been sold under the Right to Buy scheme. MSDC has approved and adopted a Strategic Asset Management Plan for 2020-2025. This is a document outlining how the Council uses and manages all the land and buildings in order to support the strategic priorities. The main objectives include generation of income, asset management and development of long term housing procurement. The half yearly Treasury Management report was discussed at Full Council in January. There was full compliance with the CIPFA code of practice. The COVID pandemic has had effects on the global markets. MSDC's overall debt reduced by £6.5M due to some repayments being made on PWVB loans and short-term loans. CIFCO has recently invested £5.7M in a Basingstoke business centre. Mid Suffolk Council has agreed to adopt the definition of antisemitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, and pledged to combat anti-Jewish racism, in line with the Government ahead of Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January. Council Officers are working with Woolpit Health Centre and David Wilson Homes to create space for a temporary carpark to enable Woolpit Health Centre to deliver vaccines more efficiently.

Mr Guyler asked if the purchased council housing stock will be subject to right to buy. This is likely to be the case. MSDC has purchased 17 homes on the Green Road development.

4. To receive declarations of interest

Mr Aldis declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application 21/00152.

5. To approve the minutes of the meetings 4 & 19 January 2021.

Both sets of minutes were approved.

6. Planning – to consider current applications and receive MSDC decisions.

21/00152 New beer garden area formed to the rear of the site. Works include door opening, timber framed canopy, paving and planting area. The Bull, The Street – support.

20/00779 Use of land for the storage and distribution of containers including lighting, hard surfacing and landscaping. Goldstar Transport, Elmswell Road. MSDC Decision – permission granted.

20/05853 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/20/04754- Condition 3 (Glazing Bars, Putty and Glazing). Evergreen House, The Street. MSDC decision – satisfied.

20/05141 Non Material Amendment to 2112/16 to enable revised siting of technical utilities adj Plot 48, to improve curtilage layout/fencing to plots 1, 3, 4 & 11 and to adjust landscaping plan consequential to these proposed changes. Land On The East Side Of, Green Road. MSDC decision – plot 1 refused not considered non-material, plot 48, 3, 4. & 11 approved.

20/05433 Change of use of land and buildings for the creation of a temporary sales area with associated landscaping and parking for the period February 2021 - December 2023. Land South Of, Old Stowmarket Road. MSDC decision – permission granted.

20/05220 (Approved Plans and Documents) of Reserved Matters Approval DC/20/01707 dated 29/06/2020 (Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Outline Planning Permission DC/17/03582 - Details of Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for Plot 1) Land Opposite The Grange , Green Road. MSDC decision – granted.

20/05755 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/20/03406 - Condition 3 (Agreement of Materials) and Condition 4 (Fenestration). Sunnyridge Cottage, Rags Lane. MSDC decision – acceptable.

20/05094 Application under S73 for removal or variation of condition relating to Outline DC/17/03582 dated 03.05.2018 and subsequent Reserved Matters DC/19/03971 dated 24/09/2019 Town and Country Planning Act 1990. - to vary Condition 3 (Approved Plans and documents) of the Reserved Matters DC/19/03971 to facilitate the retention of the approved dwelling and facilitate an alternative garage car port structure and materials. Substitute Proposed Plans and Elevations PA-04 Garage - Received 10/08/2019 for Proposed Plans and Elevations PA-04 rev A Garage, Substitute drawing Proposed Site Plan 5451 B for Proposed Site Plan 5451 PA-02 C.Land To The South Of Green Road. MSDC decision – approved.

7. Clerk's Report

Zip wire – there is conflicting advice from the manufacturer and insurers regarding putting up a notice to say for use of one person only. The Clerk was asked to contact our insurers for suitable wording of the sign to ensure insurance cover. Action: the Clerk

Playing field –this is already covered by our insurance but needs a weekly inspection. Mr Hardiman will do this at the same time as the play equipment inspection.

Green Road development – there has been no further communication from MSDC Enforcement regarding the alleged breach of planning condition 23. District Cllr Mansel and Geake have received an email from the investigation officer advising he is liaising with the planning team and County Council Highways to discuss the finer detail of what has caused the delay to road improvements and confirm scheduled dates for the required highway improvements to be made. He is seeking an appropriate resolution to the breach but says that no punitive action can be taken.

Post box, Steeles Road – Royal Mail is looking into replacement of the box but have suspended installations due to Covid rules.

8. To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.

MSDC Address Management has advised that School Road will not be used for the Old Stowmarket Road development. The Clerk will ask if the main road can be Melvin Way and the side road Clay Pit Lane. *Action: the Clerk.* **Resident** regarding vehicles above weight restriction going through the centre of the village. This was likely caused by the road closure near the pump area. **Resident** objection regarding highways improvements Green Road was sent to SCC Highways. The response received from SCC is that the design has had a Stage 2 Safety Audit carried out by independent professional Auditors and any problems raised within the report have been addressed. The developer is entering into a s278 agreement with SCC and as part of this agreement, SCC insists a Stage 3 Audit is carried out on the completion of the construction to ensure any unforeseen issues are addressed. This response has been forwarded to the resident. **Resident** David Wilson Homes are promoting Elmswell Primary School as opposed to Woolpit Academy on their website for the Old Stowmarket Road development. The Clerk will write too David Wilson Homes. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs:** **MSDC** 2021/22 tax and precepts, Suffolk Waste Partnership recycling leaflets, Grassy Lane to have a street name sign, Babergh & Mid Suffolk JLP update, response to cars parked overnight in the car park. **SALC** ebulletin 11, 18, 25 January, 1 February, NHS Suffolk virtual community event –COVID. **Rural Services Network** Rural Bulletin 5, 12, 19, 26 January, Funding Digest January. **Suffolk Police** survey – PCC's proposals for the policing element of council tax. **County Cllr Storey** Suffolk Community Foundation grants update January, SCC new fund launch – Equity in Mind Fund, 1000 COVID-19 deaths in Suffolk, grants update – Anglian Water Positive Difference Fund, response from SCC regarding resident's concerns on Green Road highways improvements. **Jo Churchill** MP we are aware of COVID-19

vaccine scams. **Haughley resident** copy of objections regarding Stag Café application.

9. To approve accounts for payment.

Mr K Harknett £55.96 litter picking January, Mrs P Branham £55.26 editing February/March Woolpit Diary, Gipping Press £214.76 printing February/March Diary, CleanPro £500.00 road sign cleaning, Glasdon Ltd £159.62 dog litter bin, Parkers Pitches £2412.00 annual fee for grass cutting and half year maintenance of the playing field boundary, Woolpit Institute £416.00 office rent February-April, Suffolk County Council £286.96 pension payment, Laura Bayly £44.00 Millennium Garden January. All accounts were approved. Payments by Standing Order Mrs Fuller £893.96 January salary, Mr Balk £186.13 January salary, BT £189.00 telephone and broadband quarterly bill.

10. To receive a monthly financial report.

The Community Account stands at £158,970.50. This has not yet been reconciled with the bank statement.

11. To consider and agree how CIL funding will be used and take any necessary action.

Discussion took place regarding producing a Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan. We have been contacted by Rachel Leggett & Associates who produce these and this could be investigated further. It was proposed, seconded and carried that we seek a detailed comment and quote from Rachel Leggett & Associates and seek other quotes for a similar service.

Action: the Clerk

12. To consider quotes for a bus shelter and take any necessary action.

Three quotes have been received for the installation of a 3 panel (3m) length shelter outside Costcutters with half end panels, solid lower panels, full length perch seat and time table case for £4070.00, £4135.00 and £4513.00. A license will be needed from SCC at a cost of £100.00. Dr Geake proposed a bus shelter from Shelter Solutions be purchased for £4070.00. This was seconded and carried unanimously.

Action: Mr Hardiman/the Clerk

13. To consider management of the Lady's Well site and take any necessary action

Thanks were expressed to Angus Wainwright for producing a management plan which it was agreed was needed at Lady's Well. Work could be carried out by volunteers, a professional company or a mixture of both. Woods for Woolpit who have been maintaining the area have not got enough people to do all the work. Mr Aldis volunteered to lead a group with the practical help of Mr Wainwright. JA and AW will get together and then come back with a brief for work on hedges.

Action: Mr Aldis

14. To consider the additional hours required by the Clerk to load Scribe accounts package and take any necessary action.

The Scribe accounts have been loaded. The total Clerk's time taken was 17 hours of which WPC has already approved 10. The remaining 7 hours were unanimously approved.

15. To consider whether councillors' voting decisions are recorded by name in the minutes for all future meetings and take any necessary action.

Mr Aldis feels this should happen for all votes for transparency. Mrs Ewan stated that as a corporate body this is unnecessary. It was proposed and seconded to defer this item to the next meeting to look into the advice of SALC and the LGA. A vote was taken with the 7 in favour, including Mr Aldis the proposal was carried.

16. To consider how to respond to hate crime messages received by Woolpit Parish Council and take any necessary action.

Mr Aldis advised that any correspondence should be handled correctly under the Communications Act 2003 and he proposed he take the lead in this as he has experience in this field in previous employment. This was seconded by Mr Howard. Dr Geake felt that WPC should carry out a skills audit of Parish Council members so we can use each person’s expertise. Mr Aldis decided to withdraw his proposal so an audit could be carried out. Mr Howard as seconder agreed to the withdrawal.

Action: the Clerk

17. To consider limiting the decisions of Woolpit Parish Council on planning applications to no comment unless there is a unanimous vote for or against a planning application.

This motion was proposed but not seconded and therefore fell.

18. To receive a report on the allotments and take any necessary action.

Nothing to report.

19. To receive a report from the Village Hall and Playing Field Committee.

Nothing to report. The next meeting will be held on 25 February 2021.

20. Date and time of the next virtual full Parish Council meeting – Monday 1 March 2021 at 7.30 p.m. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.46 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....