



**MINUTES**

**of the WEST ROW Parish Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023**  
**at 7pm in THE CHURCH HALL, WEST ROW**

**Present:**

Cllr A Fisher  
Cllr C Bebee  
Cllr T Gooch-Taylor-Balls  
Cllr A Goodenough  
Cllr J Goodenough  
Cllr L Doyle

In attendance: Sharon Vale - Parish Clerk

**16. Chairman's Welcome**

Cllr A Fisher presided and welcomed all to the meeting. Cllr L Doyle was agreed as Vice Chair. Everyone present was informed that the meeting was being recorded under data protection policy. Cllr A Fisher congratulated all the Councillors for standing again to be re-elected.

**17. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr M Peachey, Cllr R Hamill and D/Cllr C Noble.

**18. Councillors' Declarations of Interest**

- (a) To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda – None.
- (b) For declarations of interest received, Councillors to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter during public participation and/or at the agenda item prior to discussion - None.
- (c) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any) – None.
- (d) To grant any request for dispensation as appropriate – None.



**19. Public Participation (10 minutes in total)**

**20. Approval of Minutes**

- (a) To approve the minutes of the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 (**Paper A**). A motion to **APPROVE** the previous minutes was made and proposed by Cllr AC Bebee and seconded by Cllr J Goodenough.

*AC*

**21. External Reports**

To receive reports from both the County and District Councillors and RAF Mildenhall.

- (a) Sqn Ldr A Bell – RAF Mildenhall. No report submitted.  
(b) D/Cllr D Waldron – Non-attendance. No report submitted.  
(c) C/Cllr L Stanbury – Non-attendance. No report submitted.  
(d) D/Cllr C Noble – Non-attendance. No report submitted.

**22. Planning**

**23. Matters Relating to Governance**

Internal Control Statement for Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 (**Paper B**).  
**APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr L Doyle proposed, and Cllr T Gooch-Taylor Balls seconded.

**24. Financial Matters**

- (a) Approval of Accounts – Payments – 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> April 2023 (**Paper C**) – Additional payments were added on the night.  
(b) Approval of March 2023 Bank Reconciliation (**Paper D**).  
(c) Approval of Quarter 4 Accounts (**Paper E**).  
(d) Approval of Quarter 4 Payments over £500 (**Paper F**).  
(e) Approval of March 2023 Deposit Account (**Paper G**).  
(f) Approval of VAT Return (**Paper H**).  
(g) Approval of 2022/2023 Budget Comparison (**Paper I**). All the above **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr L Doyle proposed, and Cllr A Goodenough seconded.



## 25. Matters Relating to Street Furniture/Amenity Provision

- (a) Update on Footpaths/Bridleway Projects – Registration of footpath between Friday Street and Playing Fields. Unfortunately, we were unable to reach an agreement with the landowner for a voluntary dedication but have agreed with them to proceed with a DMMO application to try and get it registered that way. Cllr M Peachey will submit the required documents to SCC in the coming weeks and expect no further updates for at least a couple of years, as SCC has a big backlog of cases.
- (b) Report on Speed Indicator Device Findings – Average speeds have slightly increased. Cllr A Fisher making enquiries about purchasing a repeater speed indicator.
- (c) Update on Footpath 30 along river at bottom of The Gravel – Cllr M Peachey has chased SCC for an update.
- (d) Update on Footpath from Cricks Road into Church Road – Trying to get responses from Suffolk Highways remains a very frustrating business. D/Cllr C Noble has also been chasing up for us, without success. However, Cllr M Peachey believes that someone has been out to do some measuring with a view to quoting for the works, so hopefully things are moving. (This is for the short section of path linking the existing Church Road pavement to the nearby public footpath entrance.)
- (e) SCC Development – Awaiting on a meeting to be introduced to the company (Lovells) who will develop the site, which we believe will be next month. If anyone other than Cllr M Peachey, Cllr R Hamill and Cllr A Fisher are interested in this meeting, please let Cllr M Peachey know ASAP. Nothing further this month.
- (f) Storage facilities – Village Hall container being emptied on Saturday to be replaced with a new contained. It was suggested that WRPC contribute half towards the cost of a new container.
- (g) Notice Board – Church Green. It was decided that a new notice board would be too costly and therefore it was decided to remove this item from the agenda. **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr A Fisher proposed, and Cllr A Goodenough seconded.
- (h) Blue Plaques – Defer until next year.
- (i) Shop Drove Footpath – Clerk contacted Suffolk Highways and the footpath is too wet now to do anything. Clerk to follow up next month with Suffolk Highways.
- (j) Building site at the entrance to Pott Hall Road – Waiting on Planning Environment. Clerk spoke to Planning Environment who are in talks with site owner. Clerk to keep chasing.



- (k) Spare Bench – Along the riverbank by Park Farm. Cll A Goodenough to speak to Mark Harris the landowner.
- (l) Safety Mirror junction of Eldo Road/Ferry Lane/Bargate Road – Clerk to write to Donna Spraggins and Maggie Clowes who raised the issue. Suffolk Highways refuse to allow these mirrors, and we feel that if WRPC installed one, we would be held responsible if an accident happened.
- (m) Cemetery - Our consultant is hoping that the groundwater monitoring can end next month, after which the necessary reports for the EA can be produced. With regards to a planning application, Cllr M Peachey has asked WSC for some pre-app advice, as this is not a common type of planning application, to make sure we know exactly what documents they will require.
- (n) Clerk awaiting response from R H Landscapes re verges on cycle path.
- (o) Quotation received from Paul Gammon to lay concrete base and bolt for bench on the allotment – cost £296.50. **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr L Doyle proposed, and Cllr C Bebee seconded.

#### 26. Other Working Party Updates/Reports

- (a) Echo/Parish Magazine – Magazine is currently at the printers and will be out for distribution next week. Banking details for payment of invoices has been changed to WRPC.
- (b) Neighbourhood Plan – A drop in event to be organised for mid-May to present the progress on the plan development and the results of the survey. Clerk to liaise with Ian Poole.
- (c) Warm Places – The next Fish and Chip Lunch to be held Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April at the Village Hall
- (d) 100 Club – Draw took place, and the winning number was Paul Gammon (number 26).

#### 27. Allotment Matters

Cllr A Goodenough advised that the fence has been erected and another lot of posts have been installed awaiting the fence. Boreholes will be done within the next month. Two picnic benches to be purchased.

#### 28. Events 2023

- (a) Coronation – Meeting took place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April, and all is going to plan.
- (b) Annual Meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023 alongside the Parish Council monthly meeting.



**29. Chairman and Councillors' Reports/Suggestions (on the night)**

Cllr A Goodenough has obtained a quote for 2 concrete posts to be installed at the junction opposite Plantation Farm. These posts will be more secure for displaying banners/posters. Clerk to check with WSC re permission to install the posts.

**30. Correspondence and Exchange of Additional Information (at the discretion of the Chairman)**

Cllr A Fisher read out a report from Cllr R Hamill in her absence. Cllr R Hamill thanked the Councillors for all their hard work over the last 4 years and for standing again to be re-elected. Cllr R Hamill made a special note of thanks to Cllr C Bebee who is standing down.

The meeting then closed at 8:30pm