



MINUTES

of the WEST ROW Parish Council meeting held on 15th March 2023
at 7pm in THE CHURCH HALL, WEST ROW

Present:

Cllr R Hamill
Cllr A Fisher
Cllr C Bebee
Cllr T Gooch-Taylor-Balls
Cllr A Goodenough
Cllr J Goodenough

In attendance: Sharon Vale - Parish Clerk, Sqn Ldr A Bell, and 3 members of the Public.

1. Chairman's Welcome

Cllr R Hamill presided and welcomed all to the meeting. Everyone present was informed that the meeting was being recorded under data protection policy.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M Peachey, Cllr L Doyle, C/Cllr L Stanbury and D/Cllr C Noble.

3. 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.



4. Public Participation (10 minutes in total)

A member of the public asked if WRPC could contact Suffolk Highways to see if they can dig out the grips on the West Row to Freckenham Road, Chapel Road, Pott Hall Road and Mildenhall Road. Hopefully this will alleviate some of the flooding problems we have had recently. Clerk to contact Suffolk Highways.

5. Approval of Minutes

- (a) To approve the minutes of the meeting on the 15th February 2023 (**Paper A**).
A motion to **APPROVE** the previous minutes was made and proposed by Cllr A Fisher and seconded by Cllr A Goodenough.

6. External Reports

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

(a) Sqn Ldr A Bell – RAF Mildenhall

- Base remains busy: in addition to operations from 352 SOW, and 95 RS, 100 ARW has flown (Feb 22 – Feb 23) 185 sorties and provided 240,000 kgs of fuel to 562 aircraft from 10 countries in addition to remaining committed to ops in support of Ukraine.
- Depending on approval, the US plans to spending over \$500m in FY25-29 on infrastructure which demonstrates the long-term plans for the base.
- Work on West Row Gate been delayed, and we are working with Suffolk Council/Highways to limit disruption when it does go ahead.
- Anglian Water are planning flood alleviation works on A1101 near east-end of the base: trial holes to be dug in Jun 23 and work itself forecast Mar-Sep 24.
- Col Jacobus and many other senior leadership change this summer: Col Ryan Garlow assumes command of 100 ARW in July 23. The New Deputy Base Cdr (Col Joseph Wall) arrives late May/early Jun.
- Next Base Ex is 24-28 April incl: expect to see people running around in CBRN suits.

(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.

7. Planning

- (a) Re-Consultation in Respect of a Planning Application – a. front porch b. two storey rear extension (following demolition of existing extension) c. new vehicular access. 9 Pott Hall Road, West Row IP28 8PL **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr J Goodenough proposed, and Cllr A Fisher seconded.
- (b) Re-Consultation in Respect of a Planning Application – a. one dwelling following demolition of existing village hall 6. 1.8 metre boundary fence and landscaping, as amended by plans received 03 March 2023. The Old Hall, Beeches Road, West Row IP28 8NY **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr C Bebee proposed, and Cllr A Goodenough seconded.
- (c) Re-Consultation in Respect of a Planning Application – a. single storey side extension (demolition of existing extension) b. single storey rear extension (demolition of existing extension) c. detached garage d. 0.6 metre wall to front boundary with entrance gates. Captiv, Chapel Road, West Row IP28 8PA **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr A Fisher proposed, and Cllr J Goodenough seconded.
- (d) Household Planning Application – a. alterations to existing storage area to form annex b. replacement roof with raised eaves to the rear elevation. 19 Beeches Road, West Row IP28 8NP **OBJECT** for all the same reasons submitted to WSC - Cllr T Gooch-Taylor Balls proposed, and Cllr C Bebee seconded.

8. Matters Relating to Governance

Appointment has been made for the Clerk to deliver the election nomination packs to WSC on Friday 31st March at 10:00 am.

9. Financial Matters

- (a) Approval of Accounts – Payments – 1st to 31st March 2023 (**Paper E**) – **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr T Gooch-Taylor Balls proposed, and Cllr J Goodenough seconded. Additional payments were added on the night.
- (b) Approval of February 2023 Bank Reconciliation (**Paper F**) **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr C Bebee proposed, and Cllr A Goodenough seconded.



10. Matters Relating to Street Furniture/Amenity Provision

- (a) Update on Footpaths/Bridleway Projects – Route from Friday Street to Playing Fields. The landowner (Mildenhall Parish Charities) is now not willing to sign the footpath agreement without further legal consultation, which they requested WRPC pay for. This cost would not be something we could control, and ultimately there is no guarantee that they would be willing to sign the agreement at the end of it. Therefore, after discussions between Cllr M Peachey, Cllr R Hamill and Cllr A Fisher, it was thought best to pursue getting the path recorded through a DMMO application, which although would take a lot longer would avoid the above costs. Cllr M Peachey relayed this information to the landowner, but they have agreed not to proceed with the DMMO application until after the trustees meet next month in case the position changes.
- (b) Report on Speed Indicator Device Findings – It was discussed whether another solar panel would be an investment. This will be looked into further in the new financial year.
- (c) Update on Footpath 30 along river at bottom of The Gravel – Waiting on update from SCC.
- (d) Update on Footpath from Cricks Road into Church Road – Waiting on update from SCC. Cllr M Peachey will chase D/Cllr C Noble.
- (e) Update on Brown Tourist signs along Cow and Sheep Drove – A construction order has now been raised to install Mildenhall Stadium signage in West Row with a deadline date of 29th March 2023. Close.
- (f) SCC Development – No major updates this month. There is apparently some internal debate within SCC as to which side to put the new Pott Hall Road pavement, and where people are best to cross the road, but this is something for them to resolve. Cllr A Fisher and Cllr M Peachey gave some feedback and options during a recent Zoom meeting.
- (g) Update on defibrillator – Gaynor Fisher has now taken over responsibility for the defibrillator. Close
- (h) Storage facilities –Defer.
- (i) Notice Board – Church Green. Defer until next year.
- (j) Blue Plaques – Defer until next year.
- (k) Shop Drove Footpath –Clerk to contact Suffolk Highways. Update next month.
- (l) Building site at the entrance to Pott Hall Road – Waiting on planning environment. Clerk to chase.
- (m) Reflective Verge Posts/Village Green – Clerk to purchase 6 posts.
APPROVED AND AGREED Cllr C Bebee proposed, and Cllr J Goodenough seconded.
- (n) Spare Bench – Along the riverbank by Park Farm. Cllr A Goodenough to speak to Mark Harris the landowner.
- (o) Safety Mirror junction of Eldo Road/Ferry Lane/Bargate Road – Clerk to look at costings for safety mirror.



- (p) Cemetery - The groundwater level at the proposed new cemetery site continues to rise as expected during the winter months, and last month stood at 5.1 metres below ground level. (In September last year when the well was installed it was 6.4m bgl, and last February when we did the initial one-day testing it was slightly higher 4.5m bgl). So long as it stays below 3m, we should be ok. Monitoring will continue until the level maxes out and begins to fall again, which is expected to be around May. So long as the groundwater conditions continue to look favourable, our consultant will begin to make a start on the next steps for us - which is producing more reports for the Environment Agency. All being well, hopefully we will be in a position to submit an outline planning application for the cemetery later this year.
- (q) Clerk to speak to R H Landscapes re verges on cycle path.

11. Other Working Party Updates/Reports

- (a) Echo/Parish Magazine – Cllr C Bebee has found someone to take over the publication of the magazine. We will also move the printing back to Riverside Print Services.
- (b) Neighbourhood Plan – Design guidance meeting took place of Friday 24th February to discuss housing needs. A follow up site visit took place on Friday 3rd March. Meeting planned for Tuesday 30th March to discuss the survey outcomes. A drop in event to be organised for mid-May to present the progress on the plan development and the results of the survey.
- (c) Warm Places – Separate meeting to be arranged to discuss moving forward.
- (d) 100 Club – Draw to take place next month
- (e) Litter Pick – Saturday 25th March 2023 at 10:00 am play park car park.

12. Allotment Matters

- (a) Cllr A Goodenough put forward a request for two new boreholes at a cost of £1,000.00 and new fence posts at a cost of £225.60. Cllr A Goodenough will get a quotation for 18 tonnes of plannings. **APPROVED AND AGREED** Cllr C Bebee proposed, and Cllr T Gooch-Taylor Balls seconded.

13. Events 2023

- (a) Coronation – Fish & Chip van has been booked and the entertainment booked. The Choir and West Row Academy have confirmed they will be attending. Separate meeting to be arranged to discuss moving forward.
- (b) Annual General Parish Meeting to be held on Wednesday 24th May 2023 alongside the Parish Council monthly meeting.



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

Cllr R Hamill confirmed that she will not be attending the April meeting.
Cllr A Goodenough reported that the dog mess signs have been erected at the Lock House and Bargate. Cllr A Goodenough also reported a faulty street light on the bend at Pott Hall Road and Bargate Road. Clerk to contact K & M Lighting.

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

The meeting then closed at 9:00pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Hamill', written over a horizontal line.