

WESTHORPE

PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the Council
Street Farm, Westhorpe
Tel: 07926 223042

Minutes of the meeting of Westhorpe Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 19:30 in the Village Hall.

In attendance:

Mr D Barker (Chairman), Mr S Caley, Mrs H Wilkinson, Mr S Christian, Mr R Lambert and Mr I Cotgrove

Present:

Roy Barker, District Councillor

C Kennedy (Clerk)

Public participation

There were two members of the public present: Vanessa Bilonick and Patrick Barker.

17.47 Apologies and approval of absences.

Apologies were received from Mrs D Gladders.

17.48 Declarations of interest

Cllr. Cotgrove's interest in planning application DC/17/04391 was declared on his behalf.

Cllr. Barker declared an interest in the Joint Local Plan as landowner of a potential selected site.

Cllr Caley declared an interest in the Joint Local Plan as his land adjoins a potential selected site.

Cllr Lambert declared an interest in the Joint Local Plan as his land is opposite a potential selected site.

17.49 To consider requests for dispensations

Dispensation was granted to Cllrs. Cotgrove, Barker, Caley and Lambert by Cllrs. Wilkinson and Christian.

17.50 To approve as accurate, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held of 5 September 2017

The minutes were unanimously declared accurate and approved by all and signed and dated by Cllr Barker.

17.51 Progress reports arising from the meeting of 4 July 2017

17.37.1 Dog Waste Bins

Application for funds has been submitted to Westhorpe Trust, once the Trust confirm the grant of funds the Clerk is to order two red bins. The supplier, Glasdon, confirmed that they can open an account for the Council with payment terms of 60 days as long as they have an address for the invoice and delivery. Once these have arrived, Cllr. Barker will purchase posts and post mix from Clarkes of Walsham.

The location of the bins was discussed. Cllr. Barker is to talk to Marcus Gosling and the residents of Town Yard about locating one of the bins on the south side of Church Road between their properties. The other bin is to go on the left hand side of Westhorpe Road, close to the hedge just before Little Tatch. The prospect of having a further bin on the start of the footpath to Westhorpe Hall was discussed, but it was agreed to wait until the viability of these two location was apparent. It is possible to move the location of the bins, as long as the council collection service is informed, so there is the potential for moving one of the bins given time.

17.37.2 Street signage

The Clerk had not heard anything from the Building Control Department of Babergh & MSDC. District Councillor Barker suggested that this could be due to the office move and number of staff that have left. He will chase this up for us.

17.37.3 Village sign

Cllr. Barker will approach Paul Smith to paint the sign.

17.38 Considered planning matters:

17.38.1 New applications

None.

17.38.2 Decisions or other planning matters

DC/17/04391 – consent granted to carry out works to fell one Corsican pine protected by tree preservation order MS58/G1 | Thornglade, Church Road, Westhorpe IP14 4SY

17.38.3 Bacton Middle School

Nothing further reported at this time.

17.39 Babergh & Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan

District Cllr. Barker assisted the Parish Council in pinpointing the questions in the plan that related to items that were of importance to the village. It was noted that all of the plan suggestions for future implementation had the same impact on Westhorpe, namely that countryside villages would have to contribute to 5% of the housing requirement.

The stance of the Council was agreed as follows and the Clerk will complete the consultation accordingly.

Westhorpe Parish Council consider SS0735 and SS0084 to be larger than reasonably expected in the countryside (we're not a hamlet). It is not infilling, but back development on greenfield sites. We therefore do not agree that the settlement boundary for Westhorpe is appropriate. Any consideration for Westhorpe must be proportionate and appropriate, reflecting, and being relevant to, the needs of the community. Infrastructure must be in place prior to development, which must be sustainable, maximise renewable energy with maximum insulation. Biodiversity is of great importance, and County Wildlife Sites (for example Westhorpe's Village Green) require utmost protection, as well as protected species.

17.40 Local government Boundary Commission – Draft Recommendations for future Electoral Arrangements

District Cllr. Barker explained that there would be no change to SCC, but that MSDC would be reducing from 40 councillors to 34. Westhorpe, Wyverstone and Finningham would be joining Bacton and Cotton. Cllr. Barker asked if the other councillors were happy with that or wishes to protest. Cllr. Christian could not see any objection as we still have a councillor. It was unanimously agreed that Westhorpe Parish Council were content with the proposal as natural and logical, and as such supported it. The Clerk is to respond accordingly online to MDSC.

17.41 Clerk's Report, account balances and requests for payment

17.41.1 The Clerk reported balances as of 4 September 2017 of £2062.69 in the current account and £1342.88 in the savings account.

17.41.2 The Clerk requested approval of payment of £40 to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, being PAYE for the Clerk's salary for the third quarter October to December 2017. Signature was proposed by Cllr. Christian, seconded by Cllr. Caley and approved by all. Cllrs. Barker and Caley duly signed the cheque.

- 17.41.3 The Clerk obtained signatures from Cllrs. Barker and Lambert to a letter to the Eye Branch of Barclays Bank informing of the change of address.
- 17.41.4 The Clerk confirmed that the Insurance premium had been paid and that cover ran until 30 September 2018.
- 17.41.5 The Clerk confirmed receipt of the MSDC Locality Award funds.

17.42 Correspondence for information

17.42.1 Thedwatre North – October Report

Cllr. Barker is to request an updated regarding the broadband from Cllr. Jane Storey.

17.42.2 Approval and acceptance of Annual Return Certificate

Let the minutes show that Cllr. Barker proposed the approval and acceptance of the Annual Return to 31 March 2017. Cllr. Caley seconded and it was approved by all. The Clerk is to post the full Audit on the website.

17.43 Clerk's report on urgent decisions since the last meeting.

17.43.1 Risk Assessment Review

The Clerk admitted that she was a little uncertain exactly what this entailed, but had found an assessment from another Parish Council that she could use as a guide. It was agreed that she would draft one for Westhorpe for circulation to the councilors.

17.44 Questions to the Chairman

17.44.1 Village Hall Lectern

The Village Hall wishes to purchase a lectern with the MSDC Locality Award at a cost of £148.19 + VAT. Cllr. Christian proposed, Cllr. Cotgrove seconded and all were in favour.

17.44.2 Speeding

Vanessa Bilonick raised the problem of speeding in the village. A consistent offender, but by no means the only one, was the refuse lorry. District Cllr. Barker said that the registration, date time and location should all be recorded and reported to MSDC. It was also noted that visitors to events at Lodge Farm sometimes do not heed the speed limit and Cllr Barker said that he would ensure all visitors in future were aware.

The notion of a community speed watch programme was mooted and the possibility of joining forces with Finningham and Wyverstone (whom already have Community Speed Watch programmes in place). The Clerk is to contact both these Parishes. It was noted that the Community Speed Watch programme is not within the Council's remit and that it is a separate venture requiring volunteers.

17.45 District Councillor's Report


District Cllr. Barker reported that MSDC were moving from Needham Market to Endeavour House, Ipswich. There will be an open day on 23 November 2017 in Needham for charitable organisations to collect all the old furniture.

17.46 Date of the next meeting

9 January 2018 at 19.30 in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21:03.

Camilla Kennedy, Clerk to Westhorpe Parish Council.


9/1/2018-