

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Woolverstone Parish Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.30pm at Berners Hall

1 Apologies: Mrs E Iskander, Mr M Bostock, Derek Davis, Peter Patrick

Present: Mr S Pearce (Chair), Mrs A Glading (RFO), Mr L Mayer, Mr S Quantrill, Mrs A Block (Clerk), Mr D Wood, Mr P Mayhew,

The Council was advised that advertisements for another Parish Councillor had been undertaken for the requisite time with no response. Adam Douglas was therefore co-opted onto the Parish Council.

2 Declaration of financial Interests Mr S Quantrill declared that he was acting for the Parish Council and had a financial interest.

3 Minutes from last meeting: The addition of the declaration of financial interest was requested to be added as point number 2 for the minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> May. This was proposed and seconded. The dates of the judicial review need to be amended to the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2016.

4 Matters arising:

Extending Speed limit: The correspondence received by the Council was handed. Mr D Wood reported that he had had a long meeting with highways which covered all the relevant points. They had been out to look at the extension to the 30 mph limit area. Initial opinion was that they were unsure whether it would fit the criteria. It would not come under the 30mph limit under the traffic act. However, it might fall under an extended 40mph limit all the way to Chelmondiston. The Government website gives all the criteria. At the AGM, there were lots of other questions. These were dealt with these under this heading as they were all linked.

- Why not average speed cameras? Problems would be encountered over funding, maintenance costs would be ongoing, the difficulty of collecting fines. This makes it doubtful that the revenue from the cameras would cover the costs. Although speed surveys show that there is a problem, it is not enough of a problem for average speed cameras. In addition, Woolverstone's status as a Conservation Village and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty make this a very obtrusive and unsympathetic option. The final issue is that these would need a power source.
- Speed surveys. The highways department looked at data from 'all surveys'. Which data was actually used was queried. It became apparent that there was some uncertainty over which data and which survey had been used. The opinion of the highways department was that historical data showed a problem but that in the scale of things it was not huge.
- Chicanes/speed bumps. These would need to be added as an asset of the Council. They would not be provided by Suffolk County Council. SCC is aiming not to add assets due to the maintenance costs. In addition they would require lighting as they are deemed a hazard. Funding is again an issue.
- Education within Woolverstone and the Peninsula is required. It is mostly locals that speed, not visitors. Community watch helps.

In summary, Woolverstone doesn't come under the criteria for the Road Safety Accident Scheme, as SCC says that no one has been seriously injured or killed. The only way is from a

section 106 or CIL (community infrastructure levy). Highways are still waiting for the highways monies from Ganges if it goes ahead. There is still a battle for a solution at Freston cross roads but can't get money for the scheme, so unless significant fatalities, funding is unlikely. This means Woolverstone Parish Council are down to self help. It is proving difficult to pin down the speed survey. What was sent was not what was asked for. No reply to email requesting a comprehensive survey so that Community Speedwatch can target 'hotspots'. The results of the police survey were communicated as a summary.

It was discussed that there is a need to make Woolverstone feel like a village – removing white lines etc. This was listed for discussion in September's meeting, when ideas for working together to find solutions would be discussed.

Fundraising and Ganges left to the closed part of the meeting

Babergh Alliance the Parish Council is reserving judgement on this.

Queen's birthday It was very difficult to find people to organise or fundraise. However, the event at the Royal Harwich went ahead as planned with some residents attending.

Chelmondiston speed watch Some members attended Chelmondiston's annual Parish Council meeting. They are discussing setting up their own community speedwatch and funding their own equipment. They have asked for an estimate for the cost of sharing the equipment equally. They are discussing the options of sharing vs buying.

5 and 6 discussed after point 12

7 Berners Hall No information. Moved to meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> September.

8 Correspondence: There is now an official email for the Parish Clerk. This is [woolverstonepc@gmx.co.uk](mailto:woolverstonepc@gmx.co.uk). Planning applications are circulated by the Parish Clerk as a summary. Documents will be brought to the meeting if within 21 days, or can be inspected by contacting her to view paper copies of the plans. All documentation is available on Babergh's planning portal. Councillors are recommended to register under Babergh for planning alerts. The issue of payment and job description for the Clerk was put on the Agenda for September.

9 Finance VAT has been claimed back so funds are slightly in credit. Balance is £614.82. The Parish Council paid SALC £126.97. The question was asked 'What do SALC do for us?' This is to be investigated and reviewed at the next meeting. Our insurer is Zurich. We do have legal expenses insurance. A phone call will be made to see if there is any benefit that may be useful. No forecast as yet. With the second half of the precept we'll probably be ok. Maintenance of Horse ponds green was discussed. Grass cutting has been reduced to £11/hour. Requested cap at 4 hours per month – additional hours need authorisation. Invoices to be submitted every two months to allow monitoring of spending on this.

10 Planning: no further applications as at 13<sup>th</sup> July. It is suspected that the extension to opening of the Caravan Park has been refused. The licensing application by Ipswich High School for girls has had stiff conditions on duration, times and frequency. The most recent event was for 17 day school trust schools and caused serious noise pollution to parts of the village.

11 A.O.B The Council received an update on Natural England's intention to extend the area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This would cover more of the area near Holbrook, Tattingstone, Freston,

Stutton and Brantham. Consultation is under way on an upper Orwell crossing point to relieve congestion in town/on the A14. The information is at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/upperorwellcrossing](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/upperorwellcrossing) . There is also consultation about devolution and a mayor (London style) for East Anglia.

12. Meeting closed.

Discussion of the arguments for the judicial review took place.

Next meetings: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and 14<sup>th</sup> October?