

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR: Cllr IVOR FRENCH

MINUTES of the Meeting of Wickham Market Parish Council held on
Monday 16 September 2024 at 19:00



- FC24:65 Present from the Council:** Cllr Chenery (Chair) Cllr Horsnell A Besly (Clerk)
Cllr Cooke Cllr Huggins
Cllr Dempsey-Gray Cllr Jenkinson Cllr Noble (East Suffolk Council [ESC])
- FC24:66 Present from the Public:** None
- FC24:67 Open Public Forum session** (2 minutes per person): None
- FC24:68 Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Creasey, Cllr Day, Cllr Fowler, Cllr French, Cllr Gray
- FC24:69 Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda:** None
- FC24:70 It was proposed that the draft minutes** of the Parish Council meeting on 15 July 2024 be approved. One abstained through non-attendance **All others Agreed. Carried**
It was proposed that the confidential minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 20 May 2024 be approved. **All Agreed.** These minutes will be signed by Cllr French at the next opportunity
- FC24:71 Receive the minutes** of the last Committee and Working Group meetings: Key points from these minutes were noted and there were no questions.
- 71.1** Finance & General Purpose Committee no meeting since last full council
- 71.2** [Planning Committee 5 September 2024](#). It was noted that the Spring Lane application has not yet been approved and that the Solar Farm application developers are continuing with the application and are likely to re present it.
- 71.3** [Sizewell C Committee 19 August 2024](#)
- FC24:72 Actions carried forward from previous meetings.** This has been circulated to Councillors and is intended as an aide memoire to ensure that actions and agreements do not get lost.
- FC 24:13.8: Discharged pending incorporation into new website
- FC24:14: Cllrs Creasey and Dempsey-Gray to organise Electronic Access
- FC24:17: It was agreed that the Clerk would attempt to source appropriate roadside quality signs and a post with vandal proof bolts. It was also agreed that an article be placed in the October newsletter.
- It was proposed that WMPC use ESC inspection routine
- FC24:59: To be taken back to E&L – Cllrs Cooke & Chenery
- FC24:73 Suffolk County Councillor's Report.** None Received
- FC24:74 East Suffolk Councillor's Report.** [Published](#). Cllr Noble highlighted the new recycling proposal and the tree and hedge strategy.
- There was a vote of thanks for Cllr Noble's cleaning of the bus shelter.
- FC24:75 Chair's Report:** None Received
- FC24:76 Clerk's Report:** There were no questions
- FC24:77 Finance Reports September 2024:**
- 77.1** Review Finance Report and Payments Schedule: [Published](#). No questions
- 77.2** Review Bank Reconciliation: [Published](#). No questions
- 77.3** Review Summary Financial Statement: [Published](#). No questions
- 77.4 Proposal to reallocate budget** to support item 79 should this be agreed: Move £3k underspent budget from Maintenance Operative to Website and £900 from Miscellaneous to Website. **All Agreed**
- 77.5** Proposal to engage Suffolk Digital for Wickham Market Parish News and use a lower cost option of FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) Carbon capture paper: [Confidential quotes circulated](#). **All Agreed**
- FC24:78 Proposal to Review and Approve** the External Audit Report: [Published](#). **All Agreed**
- FC24:79 Proposal to approve £3,875** for a new village website: [Project summary circulated](#)
- It was noted that the supplier was a trusted supplier for ESC who are providing £3k of the total funding. It was therefore proposed that WMPC should not seek like for like quotes as this would invalidate the ESC funding. The proposal to approve £3,875 was approved. **All Agreed**
- FC24:80 Markets Report:** None Received
- FC24:81 Emergency Plan Report:** Nothing to report

*Cllrs
Creasey &
Dempsey-
Gray
Clerk
Cllrs Cooke
& Chenery*

- FC24: 82 **Village Hall Modernisation Report:** There were no questions. There was a vote of thanks for Cllr Horsnell for taking the lead with this project. Cllr Chenery will draft a press release regarding the ESC funding **Cllr Chenery**
- FC24: 83 **Climate Action Group Report:** A meeting will be organised soon to consider an event.
- FC24: 84 **Cemetery Report:** There were no questions. It was noted that the report highlighted a need to spend £200 which should be drafted as a specific proposal for the funds to be approved.
- FC24: 85 **Footpaths Report:** There were no questions. It was noted that the Clerk had circulated information regarding volunteers and Insurance
- FC24: 86 **Allotments Report:** *Published* It was noted that the E&L Working Group need to prepare a recommendation regarding the future management of Glebe plot 39A in conjunction with the Allotments Association. The Clerk will then action the recommendation on behalf of the Council. Cllrs Cooke and Chenery to take to E&L **Cllrs Cooke & Chenery**
- FC24: 87 **Proposal to approve up to £3,000** for structural changes to the cemetery to reduce future maintenance: *Initial outline proposal circulated*
 There was a discussion and general agreement that the proposal was the right way forward for the cemetery. The following was agreed: **Cllr Cooke**
Proposal to approve spending up to £3k on improvements in 24-25. **All Agreed**
 It was agreed that a schedule of works is now required as a matter of urgency and that the outline proposal be shared with the E&L WG and the Cemetery WG. Cllr Cooke will circulate the proposal before the next E&L WG meeting.
- FC24: 88 **Proposal to add a clause in the Cemetery Regulations to phase out artificial tributes**
 This supports the emerging parish bio-diversity policy by reducing plastics in the environment, reduces litter in the cemetery because the deer spread these plastics around and reduces maintenance costs. There was a discussion regarding how this clause could be implemented with an agreement that the clause needs to be in the Cemetery Regulations before any change can be implemented. **All Agreed.** **Clerk**
 It was noted that the E&L WG were requested to propose such a clause but in the absence of this, the Clerk will draft an appropriate clause based on other cemeteries' regulations and update WM Cemetery Regulations.
 It was agreed that the clause should disallow any artificial tributes with no delayed start date. However, it was also agreed that a sensitively phased implementation would be carried out in conjunction with the E&L and Cemetery Working Groups..
- At this point the meeting had run for 2 hours.** It was proposed that standing order 3) x. be suspended to allow further business to be transacted. **All Agreed**
- FC24: 89 **Proposal for WMPC to agree** to affiliate with the East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership, to agree to being a co-signatory to the proposed letter to Milliband MP and to agree who will represent WMPC. **All Agreed**
- FC24: 90 **Reporting items for the next meeting**
 Tree works requests
 Cemetery Work Request
- FC24: 91 **Date of next meeting:** Monday 18 November 2024

Meeting Closed at 21:12

Signed.

Cllr David Chenery, Chair. Date.

.....

.....