

# WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR: Gemma Dempsey-Gray



**MINUTES** of the Meeting of Wickham Market Parish Council held on  
Monday 20 November 2023 at 19:00

- FC23: 97 **Present from the Council:** Cllr Dempsey-Gray (Chair) Cllr Day Cllr Horsnell  
Cllr Chenery Cllr Fowler Cllr Huggins  
Cllr Cooke Cllr French Cllr Jenkinson  
Cllr Creasey Cllr Gray A. Besly (Clerk)
- FC23: 98 **Present from the Public:** 2
- FC23: 99 **Open Public Forum session** (2 minutes per person):  
A member of the public showed the council her book of memoirs including all the activities in the Village Hall, many of which were to raise funds for a rebuild. She understands there is nearly £100k earmarked for work on the Village Hall. She expressed concern that there still seemed to be no decision regarding rebuilding or modernisation. Cllr Jenkinson explained that the Council are working closely with the Village Hall Trustees and East Suffolk Council to find a way forward. The constraint is funding with an estimated £1m required for modernisation and £2.5m for a rebuild.  
Cllr Dempsey-Gray will follow up on progress with ESC
- FC23: 100 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Noble (East Suffolk Council) [ESC]
- FC23: 101 **Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda:** None
- FC23: 102 **It was proposed that the draft minutes** of the Parish Council meeting on 18 September 2023 and Extra meeting on 16 October 2023 be approved. **All Agreed**
- FC23: 103 **Suffolk County Council (SCC) Councillors Report:** None Received
- FC23: 104 **East Suffolk Council (ESC) Councillors Report:** *Published*, there were no questions
- FC23: 105 **Chair's Report:** *Published* There were no questions
- FC23: 106 **Receive the minutes** of the last Committee meetings: *Now Published* There were no questions
- 106.1 Finance & General Purpose [F&GP] Committee meeting. Draft Budget was notes
- 106.2 Environment and Leisure [E&L] Committee Meeting. Christmas Tree arrangements were noted
- 106.3 Sizewell C Committee Meeting. Cllr Chenery briefed on the meeting as the minutes had not been published at the time.
- 106.4 Planning Committee, Cllr Jenkinson reported that application DC/23/3003/FUL had been approved without going to committee despite WMPC objections that it contravened the Neighbourhood Plan.
- FC23: 107 **Clerk's Report:** *Published* There were no questions  
There was a question on the CCTV. The Clerk confirmed that it was working but remote access issues still need to be resolved
- FC23: 108 **Markets Report** *Published* There were no questions
- FC23: 109 **Finance Report** *Published*
- 109.1 Review Finance Report and Payments Schedule - There were no questions
- 109.2 It was proposed that scheduled payments above the delegated authority of Chair and Clerk be approved pending confirmation of the Kybotech Ltd payment. **All Agreed**
- 109.3 Review Bank Reconciliation - There were no questions
- 109.4 Review Summary Financial Statement - There were no questions
- FC23: 110 **Review 2023-24 full year forecast:** *Published*  
The Clerk presented the full year Forecast for 2023-24 which had been reviewed by the F&GP Committee. There were no further comments.
- FC23: 111 **Review 2024-25 draft budget:** *Published*  
It was noted that there may be a cost for implementing Bio-Diversity legislation but the implications to WMPC are currently unknown. It was therefore proposed that the budget be agreed as a first draft to be finalised in January. **All Agreed**
- FC23: 112 **Consider grant application** from Wickham Market Primary School £250  
It was proposed that the grant application from Wickham Market Primary School Parents Association for £250 be approved. **All Agreed**
- FC23: 113 **Consider grant application** from All Saints Church regarding the Clock £250

It was proposed that the grant application from All Saints Church for clock maintenance for £250 be approved. **All Agreed**

**FC23: 114 Consider a community emergency plan** with support from SALC and ESC

It was noted that guidelines and a template will be made available. It was therefore proposed that a working group be set up to create an Emergency Plan for Council approval. Members appointed are: Cllrs Huggins, Chenery, Creasey and Cooke with Cllr Dempsey-Gray joining when available in her capacity of Council Chair. **All Agreed**

**FC23: 115 Bus Network Improvements:** No Report received

Cllr Creasy talked through the event of 14 December noting the following:

- There are grants available for improvements to transport networks if supported by properly costed plans. Deadline is 20 December 23
- Two marketing professionals have been recruited.
- Current Department of Transport schemes were noted.

Issues included:

- No late services on current 64 Woodbridge route
- Connectivity between transport routs and operators such as Greater Anglia

**FC23: 116 Antisocial Behaviour update:** Nothing to report

Cllr French provided a briefing on the new policing model.

It was noted that some young adults now has access to their own transport and Youth Workers are finding groups of younger people.

**FC23: 117 Proposal to spend up to £750** for legal advice regarding a licence to occupy for the bowls club

It was proposed that £1k be approved to investigate whether a standard "License to Occupy" would provide the Bowls Club with sufficient security of tenure for them to apply for grants, and then prepare and sign the same if appropriate. **All Agreed**

Cllr Chenery will ask SALC for advice and Cllrs Chenery and Dempsey-Gray will pursue the matter.

**FC23: 118 Date of next meeting:** Monday 15 January 2024

Meeting Closed 21:08

Signed.

Cllr Gemma Dempsey-Gray, Chair.

Date.

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