

**Wreningham Parish Council  
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
Margaret Preston Room, Wreningham Village Hall**

**Present:**

Sheldon Durant  
Michael Hill  
Barry Jarvis  
Anne Riches  
Graham Crummit

**In Attendance:**

Chrissie Baldwin – Clerk  
3 Members of the public

**161. Apologies**

Justin Grady

**162. Declaration of interest**

None

**163. Open Forum**

The members of the public present wished to discuss the clearing of the once glebe land at Church Road.

The land was cleared at a time when the road was closed due to the sewage project. Mrs Smith spoke to Sheldon (who was away on business at the time) to say that the trees around the site were being felled. Mrs Smith was very upset to see such clearance. A series of bonfires were lit and left to burn for about 3 weeks, causing a nuisance to the surrounding neighbours. Mrs Smith and Mrs Craig both noted that as far as they were aware no one returned to check the fires. Mrs Smith believes that this is a callous way to behave and is certainly not impressed with the developer.

Chrissie – Clerk, read out the letter sent to the planners from the parish council regarding the land of the most recent planning application. She also reported that C Trett a planning officer in South Norfolk felt that they could take no action as the land belongs to the developers and that they had withdrawn the most recent application, and were working on the 2007 application that had been previously approved with certain conditions that the developers would need to ensure before they could start developments. South Norfolk reported that although upsetting, the developers as they could see at the moment had broken no rules regarding the planning process.

Jean pointed out that the company that owns the site are based in the Isle of white.

Claire Stevens said that she would write a letter to the developers showing the disappointment of the village, as a district councillor this may help in the negotiations with the developer.

Claire also said she would contact South Norfolk to get them to visit the site for possible contraventions to hedgerow regulations

The parish council though they feel that they worked hard to make good decisions around this planning application (which has been going on for a considerable number of years) felt that some learning points could be made from this process.

In future any plans presented to the council need to be looked at in terms of trees and a request for Tree preservation orders should be brought to the attention of the Tree warden and South Norfolk District Council. It is a good opportunity to ask the tree warden to become more involved with the parish council. The councillors felt it disappointing that the tree warden seemed reluctant to be involved with the council.

Mrs Smith asked if there was anyone responsible for the environment. Sheldon said that all councillors have equal responsibility for council decisions.

Jean/Mrs Smith/Mrs Craig asked who is responsible for the environment. Sheldon said that each person has portfolios and Justin Grady is the environment person. He is well read on the issues. Sheldon also made the point that as parish councillors we are not specialists in the subjects in which portfolios are given.

Michael said that in the parish plan there are very strong feelings towards the preservation of hedgerows.

The councillors asked that if the developers are now working to the 2007 planning permission which had conditions placed upon it, have they been met. Anne was most concerned about the surface water runoff which has always been the concern of the parish since the Glebe land was first sold to developers a number of years ago. It was asked if South Norfolk would contact the parish council once they had been met. We could then report on this. Chrissie to find out.

There was some discussion about the herris fencing left up on the land and how long this is going to be left up for. Also the possible/likely disappearance of the two ponds which are considered important.

2. Mrs Wells asked about the existence of a lay-by that used to exist in Church Road by Treetops. There followed a discussion over the existence or not of such a lay-by there was some confusion surrounding this and the councillors asked Chrissie to find out.

#### **Action**

- 1. Chrissie to contact SNC regarding the conditions surrounding the glebe land development 2007 planning application and if they can let us know when they have been met.**
- 2. Claire Stevens to write to the developers to show the parishes concerns.**
- 3. Claire Stevens to ask SNC to visit the site to advise on hedgerow breaches**
- 4. Chrissie to contact SNC regarding ponds and the length of time the herris fencing will/can be in place**
- 5. Chrissie to contact the tree warden to try to get him more involved in the parish council.**

**164. Minutes of meeting 28<sup>th</sup> July and matters arising**

All actions are in progress

Action	Responsibility of	Action	Progress
	Chrissie	Turf to be done	In progress Norse are waiting for the right ground conditions.
	Sheldon	To contact Contractor to fell the tree in the corner of the playing field	Now that Barhale have completed their work on the playing field Sheldon will ask the contractor to take the tree down.
	David Reeve	To progress the funding for play area fencing.	Chrissie to contact David Reeve regarding the wait following the lengthy funding process we have had to endure with SNC.
	Chrissie	Mike Alfrey	Speed reduction and brought forward issues from the last meeting will be discussed with the new highways liaison officer.
	Michael	Funding bid – Village hall	See village hall
	Michael	To continue to progress the parish plan	See parish plan
	Sheldon	To liaise to discuss help with help for young people	In progress

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Barry and seconded by Anne

**165. District Council Report**

Claire gave a report (in minutes file) of the initiatives that South Norfolk has put into place to help people cope with the effects of the economic downturn.

**166. Gypsy and traveller site consultation**

The gypsy and traveller site was discussed.

Claire reported that a lot of research has been done on the issues there are two different sets of rules for planning, rules for travellers and normal planning rules.

The site is being built as a semi permanent site. The idea behind this type of site is as they are there legally and so will not want to move on so quickly.

Sheldon asked what is happening in terms in the local community being consulted. Claire reported on the wide consultation that is under way.

Michael asked if there is a criteria is it is published and can we see it. Graham asked why they are considering such a site near an oil storage depot have they not learned the lessons from London. Claire said that all these questions were asked at the consultation meetings and that there does not pose any problems with the site from a planning point of view, by giving gypsy

and travellers a semi permanent site it is minimising the risk to the community and anti social behaviour. Claire said that because it is a semi perm site they are more likely to look after their space. She went on to say that about 10 families would be on the site.

Sheldon asked Mrs Wells about her concerns. She commented that she is fearful as we live in a rural area what may happen as they will be living so close to our village. Mary also said that people in the village do not seem that interested in the site. It was decided put the consultation information in the mardle.

All councillors would look at the consultation document, available on the SNC website and we would have an interim meeting in October to make a parish response.

**Action****All councillors access document.****Chrissie to arrange meeting in October to make a parish response.****167. Playing field**

Graham gave a playing field update; Barry and Graham have cut back the hedge by the side of the footpath leading to the playing field.

Chrissie reported that the internal auditor does not require any payment for the internal work however, would like to be able to cut up the dead wood around the playing field and take away. All councillors felt this was a good agreement.

**168. Highways**

Chrissie read out an email from Maxine Wadlow regarding some large concrete blocks in the ditch just past the old railway bridge. The councillors discussed, the landowner is Justin Grady who unfortunately was not at the meeting, the councillors said that the bend is a dangerous bend however, personal responsibility should be taken on a public highway and the blocks are in as far as we are aware the landowners field. It was agreed to write back to Maxine with this information and contact highways to see if the corner is as clearly marked as it should be.

**Action****Chrissie to email Maxine in response to her query****Chrissie to seek Highways opinion.****169. Planning**

Planning notifications were read out.

Planning applications as follows:

High Farm Cottage Change of use of buildings for horses. Sheldon abstained from this vote all other councillors approved.

Green comp site – Bracon ash  
Approved with no comments.

The Spong

This application was withdrawn last time this was discussed. A new application was presented. Approved by all councillors with no comments

**Action**  
**Chrissie to submit planning consultations**

**170. Environmental issues – Justin**

In the absence of Justin no environmental update was given. Following the points raised in open forum. The councillors asked Chrissie to contact I Dobson regarding his role as tree warden

Chrissie reported that I Dobson has written to Anglian water about some personal issues and mentioned that as tree warden he was concerned about the damage to trees and hedgerows. Chrissie has spoken to Sarah Hill and Barhale about this and Chrissie felt that the village should draw up some sort of plan of damage done across the village so that the parish can ensure that Barhale leave the village how it was found. Sheldon proposed that this cannot be done by just the council and we should try to involve the village in this exercise. When Chrissie/Sheldon makes contact with I Dobson we will ask for him to help with this.

Chrissie read out the sewage project update to the council from Sarah Hill. It was suggested that the update which does go on the website should also be put on the notice boards.

**Action**  
**Chrissie to bring forward damage to roads and verges to a future meeting for action**  
**Sewage update to go on the notice boards**  
**Barry to put sewage update on the website**

**171. School**

Chrissie reported that the work to the hall floor is now complete and that the refurbishment and building to the kitchen area is nearly complete. Both alterations will be a considerable asset to the school, and will enable the children to do cooking in the kitchen, which has not been possible in the past. Also the floor is now smooth and not full of dips!

**172. Village Hall**

Michael gave a village hall update.

**173. Finance**

The receipts and payments summary was circulated, there being no further comment, it was proposed by Anne and seconded by Barry.

Company	Description	Cost	Proposed	Seconded
C Baldwin	Remuneration	£1145	Anne	Donald

**174. Parish Plan**

The print run of the parish plan has been completed and are in the process of being circulated to all residents. A questionnaire asking for residents to prioritise the actions has been included in the questionnaire.

Sheldon thanked Michael for his input together with the parish plan team. All councillors agreed that it exceeds what we had anticipated.

Michael and Sheldon have visited both Travis Perkins and Spratt's as there are some comments in the plan that needs some explanation.

Michael reported that he had visited Travis Perkins who were concerned about some of the disclaimer. He did say that TP would be happy to organise an open day for connecting to the sewerage system with overall costs and would like to be represented at the eco event being done by the village hall next year.

Sheldon visited Spratt's and explained the process to them. Sheldon explained to Spratt's that some residents had complained about the aesthetic nature of the premises. Spratt's reported that work to the buildings was going to be a costly process. They have the materials to improve the premises but the cost of the work due to the materials currently there is makes the job too expensive. Michael reported that in the parish plan there may be some volunteers who are willing to do some painting to help make the premises look nicer.

In terms of coaches on narrow lanes. Spratt's felt that as a coach is a big vehicle it looks like they are going much faster than they actually are.

Spratt's have no objection to the parish plan contents

Donald and Sheldon went to see the Bird in Hand – to progress at a future meeting

The next steps are for residents to respond to the questionnaire and for there to be a meeting to discuss which priorities can be progressed.

**Action**

**Michael, parish plan team/Sheldon to organise a meeting for residents as the next steps to the parish plan.**

**175. Correspondence**

To next meeting

**176. AOB**

Michael asked about the stench from poplars pond. Other councillors agreed that they too had noticed a bad smell from the pond. Sheldon suggested that before action is proposed he will speak to the property owner (Justin Grady)

**Action**

**Sheldon to speak to Justin re: pond at poplars**

Meeting closed at 22:34