

**WIX PARISH COUNCIL**

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Colchester Road

Wix, Manningtree

Essex CO11 2PD

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at the Village Hall on Monday 21st November 2016

**Present:** Cllr Guy Nelson (Chairman), Cllr Gary Bowers (Vicechair), Cllr Steve Pilling, Cllr Sue Lusher, Cllr Mark Townley, Cllr Kerry Mitchell.

Mrs Emma Cansdale- Clerk

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| 16/196 | **Apologies for Absence**  **Cllr Ray Murray** |
| 16/197 | **To receive members’ declaration of interests in items on the Agenda**  Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other pecuniary interests, and non-pecuniary interests not already declared.  Cllr Lusher- Pecuniary interest in item 16/216. Expenses.  Cllr Pilling- Pecuniary interest in item 16/201. Expenses.  Cllr Bowers- Non-pecuniary interest in item 16/223. Employer quoting. |
| 16/198 | **Minutes**  The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 24th October 2016 was accepted as a correct record and duly signed by the chairman. |
| 16/199 | **Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest** |
| 16/200 | **Clerks Report**  The clerk gave her report on the activities carried out since the last meeting, including post fireworks activities, general correspondence, and new the new play area. The clerk also reported on the TDC finance meeting, where budget cuts, precept capping and preparing for future years were prevalent. |
| 16/201 | **Finance** \*\*  The list of cheques for payment were approved. Total £785.39 plus the Playquip payment of £46066.51 **Proposed: Cllr Nelson**  **Seconded: Cllr Townley**  **Agreed by all, except Cllr Pilling and Cllr Lusher due to their pecuniary interests.**  The play area payments will be released subject to an inspection of the play area by WPC, and as grants funds are released to WPC. |
| 16/202 | **Planning:**   1. To receive and make recommendations on the following planning applications:     16/01664/OUT | Detached 3 bedroom house. | Land off Bradfield Road Wix Essex CO11 2SG  *Recommendation: Refusal. Should retain amenity and agricultural land, and opens the site for future development.*  ***Proposed: Cllr Pilling***  ***Seconded: Cllr Townley***  ***5 in favour, 1 abstention***  ***Carried***  *To note representation from a resident was read out.*  16/01644/FUL | Variation of conditions 2, 5 (Part C), 6 and 16 of the planning permission 15/01354/FUL for the "Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission 15/00147/FUL for amendments to the general panel layout and internal access track, amendments to the elevations of the associated equipment buildings, a reduction in the number of CCTV security cameras and poles and the installation of an aerial satellite and pole." | Green Farm Oakley Road Wix Essex CO11 2SE   1. To agree to write to TDC regarding the screening around 15/01354/FUL, which does not appear to have been planted.   This work has now been started. |
| 16/203 | **Grant fund application**  Wix PC have received a request from Wix and Wrabness Preschool, for grant funding towards an interactive whiteboard.  Following a discussion, it was resolved to award Wix and Wrabness Preschool £250 from the grant fund, and also £250 from the fireworks profits. Other village organisations may also be considered for a donation from the fireworks profits.  **Proposed: Cllr Nelson**  **Seconded: Cllr Pilling**  **Agreed by all**. |
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|  | **Village amenities**  **Field** |
| 16/205 | **Signs on Village Field**  Following a discussion, it was resolved to approve the expenditure for the replacement of the sign by the entrance to the field, with a budget £100.00. It will be placed on the gate and the other sign will be removed. |
| 16/206 | **Field Drainage.**  Following an update on available grant funding for the pitch drainage, it was agreed to submit a request for the field drainage to CIF Response. If CIF Response is unsuccessful, WPC will apply to full CIF next year. Other field drainage grants are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.  **Proposed: Cllr Pilling**  **Proposed: Cllr Nelson**  **Agreed by all.**  **MUGA Security**  To discuss options for MUGA security and to prevent vandalism. This item was moved to the closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies Admission act 1960, under items that are in the public interest to held in a closed session. |
| 16/207 | **Adult Gym Equipment**  To discuss options for adult gym equipment, including:   * Grant options- * Location * Budget * Type   To agree working party representatives to develop the project.  **It was agreed to defer this item until the field drainage is resolved.** |
| 16/208 | **Extending the pathway in the play area. To the MUGA**   1. To agree to extend the pathway from the existing one, to the MUGA, and from the pedestrian field gate, using the stones on the village hall overflow car park. 2. To agree a budget for additional sundries to complete the work.   **It was agreed to defer this item until budget setting.** |
| 16/209 | **Double pedestrian date ono field from car park**   1. To agree to use the redundant play area gate to form a double pedestrian gate from the carpark onto the field, and to replace the gate post. 2. To agree a budget for the work.   **It was agreed to that quotes for the work should be brought back next meeting.** |
| 16/210 | **Additional Play Area Fencing**  To approve the installation of the extra play area fencing; from the new gate to the MUGA, on the village hall side; at a cost of £3053.00  Following a discussion this project was agreed in principle, and further quotes should be obtained (other play companies, Derek Taylor). Funds from the fireworks may be used for the project. |
|  | **Trees** |
| 16/211 | **Tree issues**  To note and discuss tree issues on the playing field, as necessary.  All formal tree decisions (unless an emergency arises) shall be taken after the tree survey is completed.  The clerk raised concerns over the removal of the tree in the play area on behalf of other parents and residents. The council responded that it was a council decision, that type of tree was not suitable there. They would be happy for another tree to planted elsewhere.    Cllr Bowers suggested all the trees should be taken out behind the mound, and replace with specific trees for conservation such as disease resistant elm and ash. Replacement trees could come from behind the container and be replanted. It was also agreed that the three poplar saplings immediately to the north of the container should be removed.  **It was agreed that all tree decisions should be brought back after the tree survey has been completed.** |
| 16/212 | **Storage shed**   1. To fully discuss the options forthe shed with protected electrical distribution box for field users including:  * Building type, brick, metal, container, wood. * Building uses * Proposed dimensions 2.5mx2mx1.5m * Location   There was a detailed discussion regarding whether a building is required with the following key points made:   * Any football equipment could be stored in the container once the mower has been sold. * An electrical box is still required * Is it worth it for the few events that use electricity on the playing field (Wix Fayre)? * It was suggested Wix fayre may pay for the unit?  1. To agree the next steps   Following the discussion, it was agreed to use the container for football storage and obtain quotes for a small outdoor electrical unit.  Proposed: Cllr Pilling  Seconded: Cllr Mitchell  Agreed – 5 in favour and one abstention |
| 16/213 | **Allotments**  To receive an update on the allotments. This item was deferred. |
| 16/214 | **Fireworks**  To receive a report on the 2016 fireworks display from the clerk and any additional comments from the council.  The clerk gave the finance report for the 2016 display and the overall financial position of the display. The net profit for 2016 was £1743.08 The full report is available on the WPC website.  Following a discussion, it was agreed to hold the display on the closest Saturday to the 5th November as long as there are enough volunteers. Further issues will be discussed by the fireworks working group, on 28th November 7:30pm |
| 16/215 | **War Memorial.**  It was resolved to apply to list the war memorial on the Historic England’s National Heritage List for England (NHLE)  **Proposed: Cllr Lusher**  **Seconded: Cllr Townley**  **Agreed by all.** |
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| 16/216 | **Village sign**  It was resolved to pay for the paint used on the village sign at £117.86 under item 16/201  **Agreed by all excluding Cllr Lusher due to her pecuniary interest.** |
| 16/217 | **Correspondence** |
| 16/218 | **Playground:**  Signing of playground log book |
| 16/219 | **Reports and updates**   * **Highways- Clerk.** * **Village Hall- Cllr Bowers.** Call from the Village Hall booking secretary saying that last week the away football team were attempting to smash up the toilets, had broken a soap dispenser, opened disabled toilet windows, put mud up the walls and that someone was changing in the kitchen. The VHC are taking this up and will keep the PC informed. * **Playground Light- Cllr Murray.** This has been installed and WPC are awaiting the reimbursement **of the installation fees** from the company who supplied the faulty fitting * **TDALC- Cllr Mitchell.** Meeting next week**.** * **New Play Area-** This is now complete**. All councillors were asked to inspect the finished play area by 28th November before the project is signed-off and the invoices are settled.** |
| 16/220 | **Items to be added to next Agenda**  Budget and precept.  Village gateways faded.  Traffic calming on Harwich Road.  Streetlighting- Cllr Bowers raised concerns over the colour and brightness of the new LED’s. The clerk will enquire into the issues with TDC and investigate the possibility of ‘warmer’ lights from the supplier  Dragons teeth lining on Harwich Road. |
| 16/221 | **Items of interest and note.**   * The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 16th January 2017 at 7:30 pm   The following items will be held in a closed session. The public are excluded in accordance with the public bodies admission act 1960, due to information being discussed which is of a commercially sensitive nature. |
| 16/222 | **Grass cutting**  To receive quotes from grass cutting contractors, and to appoint a contractor  **It was agreed to make the appointment of a contractor for the 2017 grass cutting season. However, since the meeting revelations about the quality of work by appointed contractor have come to light which suggest that the choice of contractor should be reconsidered and therefore this agenda item will be added to the next meeting agenda for a new debate.** |
| 16/223 | **Earth Removal**  The quotes for the removal of the various earth mounds and spoil from the village field were received and it was resolved to appoint Silverton’s at a cost of £190.00 +VAT per load  Proposed: Cllr Nelson  Seconded: Cllr Pilling  Agreed by all, except Cllr Bowers due to his non-pecuniary interest, and Cllr Lusher who had left the meeting. |
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|  | Members of the public please be advised that, in order for the council to give an effective response, matters they wish to raise must be brought to the notice of the Parish Council at least seven working days before the date of the meeting in writing or by email to the clerk- Thank you. |

Emma Cansdale 1st December 2016 \*Denotes attachment available from the Clerk