

# WIX PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Emma Cansdale  
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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting at the Village Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Present: Cllr John Mathews (Chair), Cllr Guy Nelson, Cllr Sue Lusher, Cllr Ray Murray, Cllr Ed Sutton, Cllr Anwar

**Emma Cansdale, clerk**

**15/044 Apologies for Absence** Cllr Hargreaves

**15/045 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 Murray- 15/054- parish magazine

**15/046 Acceptance of Minutes of Parish Council meetings:**

Dated Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

**Signed by Cllr Mathews**

**15/047 Progress Report from the Clerk**

**15/048 Progress Report from the Chairman**

**15/049 Guest Speaker- Gary Donoghue, Harwich Runners.**

**Gary Donoghue reported that there was a dip in numbers in 2014 as there were 2 other major events on the same day. Will be changed to 18<sup>th</sup> October, 10.30 this year. Harwich Runners won Essex 5 mile accolade this year.**

**There were about 400 runners on the day. Car parking was accommodated by the equestrian centre. There was a road closure for safety reasons on Harwich road 10.15, for 20 mins.**

**Harwich Runners are putting up a new website and will put a link to the Wix PC website They will look to ask a council rep to do the presentation on the day.**

**Any questions go back to Gary via the clerk.**

**Field cut prior to the event. Gary Donoghue and the Clerk liaise.**

**15/050 Purchase of a mower.**

WPC received a recommendation from working group for the purchase a HayterT424, 5 gang mower from KS Plant and Marine, at £7500 +VAT. (total £9000.00)

**Proposed:** Cllr Nelson

**Seconded:** Cllr Lusher

5 in favour, 1 against. Cllr Murray voted against as he felt the particular mower is over the top.

**Carried**

**15/051 Finance**

To receive a finance update and approve cheques for payment

**Proposed:** Cllr Anwar

**Seconded:** Cllr Lusher

**Agreed all**

**15/052 Planning**

Applications:

15/00147/FUL Hive Energy. Green Farm Oakley (not the site) Construction of a solar development, to include the installation of solar panels to generate electricity with associated plant buildings, perimeter fencing & other associated works.

Cllr Mathews felt this should be voted in favour of. Complaint against our district councillor who opposed it, without consulting the PC

Cllr Murray said location is misleading. It is not on Oakley Road at all, that is the applicant address.

**Recommendation no objection.**

**Proposed:** Cllr Mathews

**Seconded:** Cllr Nelson

**Agreed all.**

15/00199/OUT Mr & Mrs John Taylor. The Granary Barn, Bradfield Road  
Proposed detached dwellings & change of use of land from agricultural to domestic use.

Discussed before, previously in favour.

**Recommendation no objection**

**Proposed:** Cllr Murray

**Seconded:** Cllr Sutton

**Agreed all**

**RM**

15/00298/FUL Mr R Money Two storey side extension

**Recommendation no objection**

**Proposed:** Cllr Lusher

**Seconded:** Cllr Sutton

**Agreed all**

Determinations:

Application 14/01760/FUL 1 Ancient Cottages, Bradfield Road, Single storey extension with storage area in loft. Approved.

**15/053 Orchard**

a) Report from Cllr Nelson/the Clerk.

WPC received a brief report from the clerk, and Cllr Nelson reported that Ken Muirs can give us a discounted price. Recommend we wait until autumn.

b) Proposal to give dispensation to the Clerk to authorise the spending of TDC funding for the orchard, prior 31<sup>st</sup> March, is the money has to be pent by end of financial year.

**Proposed:**Cllr Nelson

**Seconded:**Cllr Lusher

**Agreed all**

**15/054 Parish Magazine**

Proposal to pay for a page in the Wix Fayre magazine, at a cost of £90.00

Following a report from Cllr Murray, as the WIALPTL representative, it was agreed to pay £90 for the final copy of the magazine, and to fill 6 pages of copy.

**Proposed:** Cllr Sutton

**Seconded:** Cllr Nelson

**4 in favour, 1 abstained**

**(Cllr Murray did not vote as he had an interest)**

Action. EC

Speak to the school and preschool

**15/055 Ditch clearance**

Proposal from Cllr Nelson to clear the ditch at the far end of the field, to prevent flooding.

It was agreed to:

- a) use a working party to clear it and
- b), employ someone to do it, if itoo large a job for a working party.

**Proposed:** Cllr Mathews

**Seconded:** Cllr Anwar

**Agreed all**

To speak to adjoining residents to see if they will assist the working party.

**Transparency Act- Publication of draft minutes and changes in legislation to allow distribution of agenda and summons vis email.**

a) Proposal to publish draft minutes on the website within 28 days of the meeting, in order to comply with new legislation.

**Proposed:** Cllr Mathews

**Seconded:** Cllr Nelson

**Agreed all**

b) Proposal to amend the standing orders to reflect the change in legislation, regarding agenda and summons via email.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nelson

**Seconded:** Cllr Sutton

**Agreed all**

**15/056 Social Media Policy**

Following a discussion it was proposed to accept the Social Media Policy, drafted by the Clerk.

**Proposed:** Cllr Lusher

**Seconded:** Cllr Anwar

**Agreed all**

**15/057 Safe and Sound statement on the website**

Following a discussion it was agreed to removed the statement referring to Safe and Sound on the Wix PC website, following their threat of legal action against the Parish Council.

**Proposed:** Cllr Murray

**Seconded:** Cllr Mathews

**All agreed**

**15/058 Annual Parish Meeting**

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on the same night as the April parish council meeting, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nelson

**Seconded:** Cllr Murray

**All agreed**

**15/058.2 Local Council Award Scheme**

a) WPC received a report from the Clerk on the new Local Council Award Scheme (which replaces the Quality Council scheme)

b) Wix Parish Council to resolve to complete the Local Council Award Scheme- Foundation Level.

Cllr Nelson made an amendment to the proposal, to complete Quality status.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nelson

**Seconded:** Cllr Mathews  
**Agreed all**

**15/059 Councillor Training**

Following a discussion, it was resolved that Wix Parish Council add to their Standing Orders, the following statement regarding councillor training.

'All new councillors should receive basic councillor training with 6 months of joining the council (or the next available training session)'

Additionally, this should be extended to all existing councillor who have not received any in their last term.

This also falls in line with the Local Council Award Scheme.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nelson  
**Seconded:** Cllr Mathews  
**Agreed all**

**15/060 Training**

It was resolved that the Clerk to attend the End of Year Accounting workshop £45.00

**Proposed:** Cllr Nelson  
**Seconded:** Cllr Lusher  
**Agreed all**

**15/061 Playground Light**

To receive a costed proposal from Cllr Murray in addition to the proposal received last month (below) Due to the fact that the Children's playground lights are of the Sodium type and cannot be used in conjunction with a PIR to control them and the solution offered by The Village Hall Committee is not satisfactory. I propose that we replace them with LED type heads similar to those used in the MUGA with PIR attached to operate as and when they are needed. The sodium heads can be then placed on new poles situated in the main car park if so desired

£425 each, fitting £350

Following a long discussion the original proposal was accepted.

In writing to the village hall committee.

**Proposed:** Cllr Murray  
**Seconded:** Cllr Nelson  
**Agreed all**

Actions- to request permission from the VHC, and to provide them with a calculation based on the money saved by updating the lights.

**15/062 Updates and reports:**

- a) Highway matters
- b) Streetlighting Colchester Rd no 8.
- c) Container/ Wix Fayre contract update  
Cllr Nelson has the paint for the container. Working party to paint it.
- d) Playground inspection book- sign

**15/063 Items for purchase**

**Keysafe-** Keysafe for the container key from Amazon. Combination lock. £16.99

**Proposed:** Cllr Nelson  
**Seconded:** Cllr Mathews  
**Agreed all**

**15/064 Public Speaking**

To allow 10 minutes of public speaking

Regularly service the parish lawn mower and strimmer. Harwich tool hire- quotes for next meeting

WiaPtL magazine. Sorry to see it go.

When will the annual meeting be?

Tidy up day 11<sup>th</sup> April

Highway matters and streetlighting.- list on website of what has been reported.

Remains of the fire will go as soon as a vehicle can get on

Fir has been dumped on the site. Wheel barrow into a skip.

Resident does not want oak trees on the field.

**15/065 Correspondence**

Fireworks, moved to next meeting due to time.

**15/066 Items for the next agenda  
(information only)**

Football team- talk to them, they're not happy. Not happy with the cost.

Parish website

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 three working days before the date of meeting in writing or by email to the clerk- Thank you