



### WIX PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Emma Cansdale  
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Emmajane Cansdale  
Clerk to Wix Parish Council

### Minutes of meeting dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

16/008 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Pilling

16/009 **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 Nelson-item 16/016- non-pecuniary. Item 16/012-expenses

Cllr Bowers- item 16/012- expenses.

16/010 **Minutes**

The minutes of Parish Council meeting dated 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and the minutes of the extraordinary meeting to set the 2016-2017 budget on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January were accepted as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman, Cllr Nelson.

16/011 **Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest**

**Gary Donaghue of Harwich Runners** gave an overview of the 2015 race, where there were just under 400 runners.

Next year's race will be held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016. The road closure will be in place at 10.15-10.35 with the race starting at 10.30. Details of the closure will be displayed on posters around the village 2 weeks before the race. Harwich Runners will invite the council to attend the awards ceremony at the end of the race.

**Items raised by members of the public:**

- **Street lighting.** The clerk advised that five lights have been replaced with LEDs, another 5 will be done between now and March, and a further 5 will be replaced in the 2016/17 financial year (subject to budget approval- item 16/014).
- **Village sign. Does the Parish Council own it, and if so can they maintain it.** It was agreed the Parish Council most likely do own it, and will maintain it in the future.
- **Could we have a day to meet up with other residents in the village and discuss things?** This is the point of the Annual Parish Meeting. The PC will make this clearer this year.
- **In March there is a national 'Clean for the Queen' event. Could we tie the annual Wix litter pick in with this?** Date agreed as Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. **The Parish Council** will also hold a play area scrub on the same day.

- **Public footpaths.** The path behind the school has a broken stile. There is slate missing from the bridge on the footpath which starts in the front garden of 'Chamberlains' on Harwich Road. . Clerk to report to ECC.
- **Dog fouling.** This continues to be an issue. Residents advised to advise TDC Dog Wardens with any details they have.
- **Issues with speed of traffic on Harwich Rd.** Clerk to investigate the possibility of another VAS (with a smiley face).

- 16/012 **Finance** (appendix 1)\*\* *Cllrs Nelson and Bowers have an interest in the item.*  
 a) To receive a finance update and approve cheques for payment  
**Proposed: Cllr Lusher**  
**Seconded: Cllr Murray**  
**Agreed by all (excluding Cllrs Nelson and Bowers)**
- 16/013 **Planning:**  
 To receive the planning applications and make recommendations for approval/objection.  
 None received
- 16/014 **Budget and Precept** (appendix 2)\*\*  
 a) To resolve to accept the budget proposals set at the finance meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
**Proposed: Cllr Lusher**  
**Seconded: Cllr Mitchell**  
**Agreed by all.**  
 b) To resolve to set the 2016/17 precept at £17,228 (+ LTCSS grant @ £1,272= total £18,500.00) This results on a 0% increase on last year's parish precept.  
**Proposed: Cllr Lusher**  
**Seconded: Cllr Murray**  
**Agreed by all.**
- 16/015 **Parish Magazine**  
 To report deadline for copy is 7<sup>th</sup> February.  
 Items for the magazine to include an article on the proposed new play equipment, on the desire for a 'building' on the playing field, a croquet lawn, interest in starting a table tennis club, annual litter picking day, dog fouling, adult gym equipment,  
  
 Cllr Murray will approach existing advertisers and the Parish Clerk will attempt to secure additional revenue from sponsorship or advertising in the magazine. If anyone has any ideas for copy, please send to Cllr Murray or the Clerk by 7<sup>th</sup> February.
- 16/016 **Diesel for Council Mower- Cllr Nelson & Cllr Bowers**  
 To discuss and agree options for purchasing diesel for the Council Mower  
  
 Options- go to Morrisons in Ipswich, the Halterman Carless refinery in Parkeston (25l cans of marked diesel), or a supplier of marked diesel in Beauumont. It was agreed to defer until February when Cllr's Bowers and Nelson would have up to dates quotations.
- 16/017 **Harwich bound bus stop location**  
 To discuss the location for the Harwich bound bus stop on Harwich Rd.  
 Following a discussion it was agreed to suggest to ECC placing the flag and pole between 1 and 2 Minters Cottages (within the layby, but on the footway) ECC should carry out the consultation.
- 16/018 **Transparency fund**  
 Following a discussion it was agreed to apply for the Transparency Fund, which will reimburse the Parish Council certain expenditure incurred by becoming compliant with the Transparency Code  
**Proposed: Cllr Nelson**  
**Seconded: Cllr Townley**

**Agreed by all.**

**It was also agreed to 'opt in' to the new external audit appointing body, should we need an external audit in the future.**

16/019

**Correspondence**

Lighting issues- covered above

Playground cleaning- covered above

State of field during and after wet weather- Hopefully to be resolved through the drainage work agreed for 2016 in the budget.

Fireworks- The fireworks working group is to investigate other suppliers and bring back recommendations to the June meeting.

16/020

**Playground:**

The clerk signed the playground log book

16/021

**Reports and updates**

- **Highways-** Clerk- Nothing to report
- **Village Hall-** Trees around the perimeter of the village hall car park .Cllr Nelson asked Cllr Bowers to raise keeping the oak trees along the field edge (nr the car park) but Cllr Bowers thinks there is a better place for them.
- **Playground Light-** Cllr Murray- Reset the timer again, and repositioned 2 of the lights which were facing upwards. Cllr Bowers and Cllr Murray to test whether losing power causes the timer to fail.
- **New play area-** Clerk reported that the Parish Council was successful in being awarded a £20,000 grant from ECC CIF. We are now waiting for Veolia's Judging Panel to meet in March to find out if we have received the grant from them.

16/022

**Items to be added to next Agenda**

**Diesel**

**Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> (official) birthday celebrations in June.**

**Meeting closed at 20:57**

**The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall**

**Signing of cheques**

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.