



WIX PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Emma Cansdale
2 Goose Green Cottages
Colchester Road
Wix, Manningtree
Essex CO11 2PD

Tel: 01255 871483
Email: wixparish@gmail.com

Minutes of the Parish Council at the Village Hall on Monday 19th September 2016

Emmajane Cansdale
Clerk to Wix Parish Council

16/147 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Murray

16/148 **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- 16/154 Pecuniary interest as property is opposite application 16/01302/OUT
Cllr Mitchell –16/154 Pecuniary interest as property is adjacent to application 16/01302/OUT
Cllr Townley- 16/163a. Pecuniary interest as the Waggon may be ask to provide the bar.

16/149 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meetings dated 18th July 2016 were accepted as a correct record and duly signed by the chair.

16/150 **Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest**

- **Pond issues- clerk to chase up.**
- **Trees at Witch cottage- clerk to chase up**
- **Reposition meeting agendas to the top of the parish council notice board- clerk to action.**
- **Brambles on the footway on Harwich Rd- TDC will be carrying out the work.**
- **Footpath sign on Oakey Rd, near Green Farm. Has been reported to ECC.**
- **Is there a map of the public footpaths in Wix? - OS maps show them, Townsends in Manningtree did sell a drawn version and there is a map available on ECC's website. Clerk to add a link to the ECC map to the WPC website.**
- **Football team are leaving litter on the field after matches. - clerk to write to them.**

16/151 **Clerks Report**

The clerk reported that much of the previous month's work has been taken up with the Local Plan, highways issues and general correspondence, as well as the general day to day council business.

16/152 **Finance**

The list of cheques was approved for payment

Proposed: Cllr Lusher

Seconded: Cllr Nelson

Agreed by all

16/153

Planning:

- a) Recommendations were given on the following planning applications:
 - 16/01306/FUL [Demolition of existing garage and construction of new garage and integrated annex](#). Longacre Bradfield Road Wix Manningtree Essex CO11 2SH

Recommendation: No objection

- 16/01302/OUT [3 x 3 bedroom detached houses](#). Land adjacent Clay Cottage Harwich Road Wix Essex CO11 2SA

The application states that the surface water goes into the sewer. It was agreed that this should not be allowed. It was also questioned whether it is allowable within planning regulations.

Recommendation: No objection as before, subject to previous comments and to request that the surface water DOES NOT drain into the sewer, as Wix already has capacity issues.

- 16/01247/FUL [Extensions and alterations to existing house together with erection of cart lodge](#). Green Farm House Oakley Road Wix Manningtree Essex CO11 2SE

Recommendation: No objection

All proposed: Cllr Nelson

All seconded: Cllr Pilling

Agreed by all (excluding Cllrs Lusher and Mitchell regarding application 16/1302/OUT, where they have a DPI.

16/143

Get Ready for Winter Event

Following a discussion on the Get Ready for Winter TDC partnership event Wix PC are hosting, a refreshments budget of £30.00 was agreed for tea and coffee.

Proposed: Cllr Nelson

Seconded: Cllr Townley

Agreed by all

Village amenities

16/155

Field

- a) Following a discussion, it was agreed to investigate costs to employ a contractor to remove the mounds of earth from the playing field. Cllr Bowers quoted one company at approximately £180 a load. It was also agreed to consider alternative uses for the spoil. All quotes/suggestions and rough costings should be brought to the October meeting for full discussion and agreement.

b)

Proposed: Cllr Pilling

Seconded: Cllr Townley

Agreed by all

16/156

Football

- a) Proposed 'shed' for football equipment storage.
- b) Protected electrical distribution box and the above 'shed' for field users.

Following a detailed discussion regarding both a) and b), it was agreed to continue with a storage area for the football, but it should be more substantial (brick built), and be able to house an outdoor electrical distribution box. It was agreed that rough plans and estimates be brought to the October meeting for full discussion and agreement.

It was also agreed that the clerk would be the main liaison with the football club.

Proposed: Cllr Bowers
Seconded: Cllr Pilling
Agreed by all

It was also agreed that all preparation work and formal agreements be in place by April so the work can be completed early in the new financial year.

16/157 **Mole Issue**

Following a discussion, it was agreed to employ pest control services to remove moles from the playing field.

Proposed: Cllr Pilling
Proposed: Cllr Mitchell
Agreed by all

16/158 **Mower/ grass cutting**

At the meeting on July 18th, it was stated that the mower had 19,000 hours (or 2 years' continuous use) on the clock which seemed excessive and resulted in a decision being made to sell the mower. After the meeting the true meter reading was confirmed to be just 1,900 hours as the meter had been read incorrectly. Due to this substantial change, it is necessary to re-debate the item and take the vote again.

To debate whether the agreement to sell the mower and to employ a contractor to carry out the grass cutting on the playing field still stands in light of the new information.

Cllr Bowers issued an apology for the mistake. A discussion followed, regarding the sale of the mower, but most councillors felt it should still be sold and a contractor hired to carry out the work. Concerns were raised by other councillors regarding the cost of hiring a contractor.

It was agreed that the original decision to sell still stands.

Proposed: Cllr Pilling
Seconded: Cllr Mitchell
In favour 4, against 2
Carried

Cllr Nelson requested that his vote against the sale is minuted.

16/159 **Trees**

- a) **To clarify the position on the removal of the large willow tree.**
The clerk reported this had been passed to UKPN as agreed at the previous meeting. Concerns were raised having had tree surgeons state it should be removed in the past, and one say it is safe. It was agreed to appoint an independent surveyor to survey all the PC trees. This survey will be brought to the October meeting.
- b) **To clarify the position on the removal of the horse chestnut adjacent to the beacon**
Following discussion, it was agreed to remove this tree by the November meeting in house, (subject to reasonable weather in November) or a contractor will be appointed to carry out the work.
- c) **To discuss and agree any proposals for additional trees in the village, following receipt of the TDC Tree Planting Grants Programme 2016/17 letter.** It was agreed no additional trees should be planted at this stage.
- d) **To discuss the removal of the fallen dead willow across the ditch.** It was agreed that this will be removed at the same time as the horse chestnut in b).
- e) **To discuss tidying two other part dead trees on the village field (Hawthorn adjacent to the MUGA and Alder(?) adjacent to the ditch.** It was agreed that this will be carried out at the same time as b) and d)

A vote of thanks was given to Tim Munson for the flailing the edges of the playing field. Clerk to write a letter of thanks.

- 16/160 **Bradfield Rd- Road Closure**
Wix PC have been advised that the work to repair the culvert on Bradfield road will commence in October. There is a planned closure from 3rd October for 16 weeks. There is an 8.3 mile diversion, and all bus companies/schools have been advised. ECC will be sending further information out, which will be placed on the website as it is received.
- 16/161 **Drainage issues on Colchester Rd**
To discuss and agree how to impress the severity of the issues on Essex County Council, and to investigate other authorities that may be able to help- Environment Agency.
It was agreed that the Flood and Water Management team at Essex County Council will be asked to investigate and pursue, as it is the landowner's responsibility.
- 16/162 **Fireworks**
- a) Councillor Nelson gave a report on the position regarding the 2016 firework display. The current situation is he looking at other suppliers, and display options.
It was agreed that Cllr Nelson and Bob Jemmett would fire the display, as they are qualified, and Cllr Murray and Adam Mitchell would assist.
 - b) To agree the position going forward for the 2016 display.

Following a discussion looking at whether to have a bonfire or not, it was agreed to have a small bonfire, with clean wood and straw only. Nothing shall be used that will leave behind debris of any kind.
The clerk will advise CW fencing and APC that we do not want any wood this year, and a notice will be placed in the parish magazine.

Fireworks delivery arrangements were agreed, and the timing, costs, prizes agreed after last year's display still stand. The Guy competition will with be on Friday 4th November at 9.30am The clerk to email the certificates to the school
The school and preschool to do the food.

Proposed: Cllr Pilling
Seconded: Cllr Nelson
Agreed by all.
- 16/163 **Correspondence**
- a) A request was received from a resident to use the playing field for their birthday celebration on 13th May 2017.
 - b) Following a discussion, it was agreed to allow the resident to use the field, however, they must supply their own PL insurance, and take responsibility for the clear up and to ensure the field is left in its original state. The clerk will also advise them of noise nuisance requirements.

Proposed: Cllr Bowers
Seconded: Cllr Mitchell
Agreed by all (excluding Cllr Townley)
 - c) To note query regarding the quality of the water in the Methodist Church.
Check whether the water is taken from the mains or tank. The clerk will write back advising they run water for 10 mins before use, as this may resolve the issue. The parish council are not in a position to be able to advise any further.
- 16/164 **Playground:**
Signing of playground log book. The logs have been maintained, however, the book was not at the meeting for counter signing.
- 16/165 **Reports and updates**
- **Highways- Clerk.**
 - Oakley Rd, footpath sign. This has been reported to ECC
 - Additional request for siding on Harwich Rd. The request has been made.
 - **Village Hall- Cllr Bowers** Lights have been done. Door issue is ongoing.
 - **Playground Light- Cllr Murray.** The clerk advised there is a further issue with the equipment, which Cllr Murray will deal with.

- **TDALC- Cllr Mitchell-** Meeting on Wednesday.

16/166 **Items to be added to next Agenda**

Hedge cutting 50ft strip

Allotments

Pitch drainage

War Memorial- finance for this years 'display'

Village sign- Cllr Lusher advised it will be finished by the end of the week, but will require some 'setting' time. A ceremony will be held, with the remaining members of the Friends of Wix unveiling it.

16/167 **Items of interest and note.**

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 24th October 2016 at 7:30 pm

Meeting closed 9.40

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 22nd September 2016