
Wentworth Parish Council

Minutes of meeting : 1st February 2016

at 7.30pm in the Church Hall

Present Cllr D Lee (Chair) Cllr C Stone
 Cllr G Lowes Clerk – Mrs A Lowes
 Cllr S Springthorpe District Cllr Steve Cheetham
 1 Parishioner

1.	Apologies were received and accepted from – DC M Hugo, DC S Smith, Cllr E Atkin. Cllr G Lowes joined the meeting at 19.55
2.	Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.
3.	Matters arising. The street light on Main Street appears to be working correctly. A seminar about the LATC will be held on 3 rd March. Cllr Springthorpe and Cllr Lowes will be attending.
4.	County Councillors report: Cllr Hunt will report at the March meeting
5.	District Councillors report: DC Cheetham reported on the following: 7 th January 2016 – East Cambs – Full Council Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Draft Local Plan approved for public consultation during February 2016 & March 2016 • LATC recommendations approved • Asset Development Committee approved to act as LATC Shareholder Committee 13th January 2016 – Commercial Services Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Spaces Protection Order – Ross Peers Sports Centre – Soham – Adopted • Projected Budget Capital Underspend - £831k (Mainly Related to Addition Car Parking – Ely Station – more detail will be available about parking within the next 2 months) 14th January 2016 – Regulatory & Support Services Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Unauthorised Encampment Gypsy & Traveller Policy Approved 20th January 2016 – Licensing Committee Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of proposed Taxi and Private Hire fees approved with immediate effect. <p>Cllr Springthorpe commented that in his opinion the licensing committee should be raising fees yearly rather than on an ad hoc basis.</p>

	<p>Cllr Springthorpe asked if Neighbourhood panels were being re-instated. DC Cheetham replied that he was unaware of this but that he would look into the situation.</p> <p>Post meeting note: <i>The reply from DC Cheetham is as follows:</i> My understanding is that these panels were ceased in January 2014 with a view that 'Shape Your Place' would become the community engagement tool along with Parish Council conferences covering specific projects. As you are aware 'Shape Your Place' has subsequently been closed, however ECDC is currently reviewing its website with a view to a redevelopment with an improved user interface, alongside of improved engagement. This will also look to improve information communication to residents and parish councils and we will keep you up to date with the progress of the plan for the website development.</p>
	<p>DC Cheetham left the meeting.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Correspondence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter was received from Jane Major (School Crossing Patrol Supervisor) and circulated to all Councillors. • Planning 15/01415/ARN – Granted. Change of use from Agricultural building to dwelling house – Agricultural building west of Horse and Gate, Ely Road, Witcham Toll. • Planning 15/01410/FUL – Approved – Single storey extension and internal alterations – Denbigh House, Ely Road, Witcham Toll.
<p>7.</p>	<p>Planning application – Sunny Acre ref 15/01567/FUL. There was a long discussion about this application which lead to Councillors agreeing unanimously that it should be rejected. The following comments were sent to Ms Greengrass at East Cambs planning department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The backland development of this site is not in-keeping with the character of the village. • This area of the village is characterised by large detached properties on sizeable plots - whereas the proposed development is the complete opposite of this general style. • The site is not one that was approved by residents in the Village Vision. If further development were to be permitted within the village Parish Councillors would like to consider the originally submitted plots first. • The Village Vision approved up to 5 additional houses in the village, planning has already been granted for 6. • There are plenty of infill plots available in the village which should be fully developed before backfill is considered. • The existing planning permissions on this site (13/00183/FUL and 13/00808/FUL) mean it is impossible to determine the overall intended development. • The proposed gravel driveway will cause noise pollution and disturbance to Sunny Acre and the neighbouring properties. • Recycling may be an issue due to the length and construction of the driveway and the difficulty of moving wheelie bins over this distance. • There doesn't appear to be any discreet wheelie bin storage area for the left hand property assuming there will be a fence dividing the two proposed dwellings. • The privacy of Sunny Acre will be compromised by the proximity of the proposed driveway. • The width of the proposed driveway doesn't allow vehicles to pass each other.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land at the rear boundary is already susceptible to seasonal flooding, and so a full drainage survey should be undertaken so as to ensure that neighbouring land is not adversely impacted by the development. • The proposed new bungalows will be overlooked by properties in Church Farm Close, and the proposed bungalows may overlook Sunny Acre due to the contours of the land. • There is no landscaping plan associated with the development. • The "new access" for the driveway will require changes to the existing boundary wall of Sunny Acre. The plans do not show how this is proposed, and how the opening will be complimentary to that of the existing driveway to the garage of Sunny Acre (the existing entrance and driveway is not shown on the plan). • There is no indication of how the properties (existing and proposed) will be divided in terms of fencing. • The plans don't appear to indicate any sustainable building technologies. • The proposed bungalows appear to be very large for the size of plot with very little access to the sides of the bungalow on the left. • The turning area for the proposed bungalow on the right of the development takes a substantial proportion of the garden allocated to the permitted planning application for the original garage conversion.
8.	<p>Requests for donations. This will be agreed at the March meeting.</p>
9.	<p>Playpark maintenance. The paths in the playpark need some remedial work. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact RoSPA to find out how the paths should be laid. The Clerk will also contact ECDC to see if there are any grants available for playpark maintenance.</p>
10.	<p>Accounts for payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wentworth Parochial Church Council (Hall Hire 1st February 2016) £15.00 • Wentworth fundraising (Publication of minutes 1st February 2016) £10.00 <p>Proposed by Cllr Springthorpe and seconded by Cllr Stone</p>
11.	<p>Any other business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Springthorpe noted that the walnut tree opposite Lee Meadow, Main Street, might need some attention. The Clerk will contact the tree officer for advice. • Karen Springthorpe has offered to send details of Parish Council meetings to all her village contacts to try and make more people aware. • Cllr Stone asked if the Parish could purchase some 30mph signs for the wheelie bins. The Clerk will get details for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 20.55.

The next meeting will be Wednesday 23rd March at 7.30pm in the Church Hall