GREAT WAKERING PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th March 2025, in the Parish Council Offices, Little Wakering Hall Lane, Great Wakering, SS3 0HH, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present: - Councillors F. Baker, P. Bates, D. Efde, R. Efde (Chair), P. Hitchman, A. Porter, L. Rodger and B. Wilkins.

In attendance: - S. Hyatt (Parish Clerk)

1. **The Chairman to declare the meeting open.**

 Meeting declared open at 7.30pm.

**2. To receive apologies for absence.**

 Councillor Goodwin.

**3. To receive declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council’s Code of**

 **Conduct and with section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**

 Councillors R. Efde, D. Efde and B. Wilkins – Memorial Hall, P. Hitchman –

 Friends of Wakering Common, allotment tenant and Parish Council burial ground

 Exclusive Right of Burial holder and P. Bates Sea scouts.

 **4. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Full Council Meeting**

 **held on 29th January 2025.**

*Resolved* that the minutes be approved.

 **5. Financial Matters**

 a**.** To approve Payment Schedules for Jan/Feb 2025.*Carried*

 b. To approve Receipt Schedules for Jan/Feb 2025. *Carried*

 c. To approve the Financial Statement for the 11 months to 28th February 2025.

 *Carried*

**6.** **To note the internal audit report.**

Report noted and Councillors thanked Clerk for another outstanding report.

**7.**  **To receive the Chairman’s Report.**

No report.

**8.** **To agree Financial Regs/Investment Policy/Code of Conduct/Standing**

 **Orders.**

*Resolved* that these be adopted*.*

**9.** **To decide whether to hold the Annual Allotment Competition and to decide**

 **upon prizes to be awarded.**

Councillor Hitchman left the Meeting at 19:37

  *Resolved* that the competition proceed with prizes for 1st place - £50, 2nd - £30,

 3rd place - £20 and 4th place - £10 awarded by way of national garden vouchers.

 Clerk to arrange competition and judging.

Councillor Hitchman rejoined at 19:41.

**10.** **To consider Co-option applications.**

*Resolved* that the candidate not be co-opted onto the Council.

**11. To consider the letter from Great Wakering Parish Plan.**

*Resolved* that the offered donation be accepted for the Xmas parcels.

**12.** **To decide whether to have an official council photograph.**

*Resolved* that this be taken by Cllr Hitchman immediately before the next Full

 Council Meeting using Councillor’s own resources.

**13.** **At the Chairman’s discretion the exchange of relevant Council**

 **information.**

* Public Rights of Way update.
* Clerk granted funding for Tommy silhouettes from Locality Fund.
* Heritage workshop.

**14. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors on**

 **County and District Council matters only (5 minutes each at Chair’s**

 **discretion).**

 Councillor Efde:

* Devolution update.
* Housing allocation consultation now closed.
* Planning and Development Committee updates.

 County Councillor Steptoe:

* Locality Fund all spent.
* Devolution update.
* Public Rights of Way update.

**15. Time allowing the meeting will stand adjourned to permit Parishioners**

**of Great Wakering to address the Council only once in respect of**

**business itemised on the agenda (3 minutes each at Chairman’s**

 **discretion).**

None.

 **16. Exclusion of the Press and Public.**

 **To agree that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the**

 **remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in**

 **paragraph 3 and 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act**

 **1972 would be disclosed.**

*Resolved* that the public be excluded.

**17. To agree the fees for the Parish Council Burial Ground for the**

 **2025/26 financial year.**

Councillor Hitchman left the Meeting at 20:35.

*Resolved* that these be approved with an amendment for added inscription.

Meeting Closed 8.40pm Next Meeting 28th May 2025